



**URBAN ABORIGINAL PEOPLES' ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**January 23, 2013**

A meeting of the Urban Aboriginal Peoples Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, January 23, 2013, at 5:41 pm, in the Strathcona Room, Subground, Vancouver City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Lillian Howard, Co-Chair  
Steven Eastman, Co-Chair  
Mason Ducharme  
Verdann Evans  
Penny Irons\*  
Winona Stevens  
Kim Washburn  
Mona Woodward

**ABSENT:** Genoa Point  
Sheldon Robinson  
Mark Stevens (Leave of Absence)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Wendy Au, Assistant City Manager  
Brenda Proskan, General Manager, Community Services  
Baldwin Wong, Social Policy

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Nicole Ludwig, Meeting Coordinator

\* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

**Welcome**

Wendy Au, Assistant City Manager, and Baldwin Wong, Social Policy, introduced themselves as the new staff liaisons.

Diana Day, Vancouver Coastal Health, introduced herself as the Vancouver Coastal Health liaison.

**Leave of Absence Requests**

MOVED by Mason Ducharme  
SECONDED by Kim Washburn

THAT the Committee grant a leave of absence to Mark Stevens for this meeting.

(CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY)  
(Penny Irons absent for the vote)

## Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Kim Washburn  
SECONDED by Mason Ducharme

THAT the minutes of the September 12, 2012, meeting be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Penny Irons absent for the vote)

### 1. Reconciliation Canada Presentation

Chief Dr. Robert Joseph, Ambassador, and Karen Joseph, Executive Director, both from Reconciliation Canada, provided an overview of reconciliation in British Columbia and some of the initiatives they are currently working on. They noted they are looking for 1200 volunteers leading up to the Reconciliation Walk on September 22, 2013, and people can sign up through the website: [www.reconciliationcanada.ca](http://www.reconciliationcanada.ca). They also noted they would like Vancouver to be named the City of Reconciliation and have a “Year of Reconciliation”.

In discussion, it was noted it would be a good idea to have a follow up session, open to anyone interested from Council, Park Board, School Board or community organizers.

MOVED by Kim Washburn  
SECONDED by Penny Irons

THAT the Committee adopt all the recommendations of Reconciliation Canada.

FURTHER THAT the Committee have a follow up meeting with Reconciliation Canada as soon as possible and preferably the week of January 28, 2013.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Meeting Coordinator agreed to assist in organizing the meeting.

MOVED by Kim Washburn  
SECONDED by Penny Irons

THAT the Urban Aboriginal Peoples’ Advisory Committee recommend to Council:

THAT Council adopt all the recommendations of Reconciliation Canada, specifically the following:

- the Year of Reconciliation
- naming Vancouver the City of Reconciliation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Steven Eastman, Co-Chair, noted the Co-Chairs would like to extend the date for the community summit and expand the scope of the forums and working sessions to include Reconciliation Canada.

RECISSION MOVED by Penny Irons  
SECONDED by Winona Stevens

THAT the Committee rescind the following motion, approved at the June 11, 2012, meeting:

- A. THAT, over the next nine months, the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee develop and hold a series of community forums to introduce the committee to aboriginal communities, identify and understand issues Aboriginal peoples are dealing with, solutions that are working and their replication, and how the Committee can help, culminating in a city-wide forum for Aboriginal organizations in June 2013, either alone or in conjunction with other Council Civic Agencies and Committees, or community groups.
- B. THAT in order to accomplish A above, the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee establish a Community Engagement subcommittee to coordinate the forums, with the following members:
  - Mason Ducharme
  - Steven Eastman
  - Verdann Evans
  - Lillian Howard
  - Penny Irons
  - Sheldon Robinson
  - Mark Stevens
  - Winona Stevens.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Penny Irons  
SECONDED by Verdann EVANS

- A. THAT, over the next nine months, the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee develop and hold a series of community forums to introduce the committee to aboriginal communities, identify and understand issues Aboriginal peoples are dealing with, solutions that are working and their replication, and how the Committee can help, culminating in a city-wide forum for Aboriginal organizations in September 2013, either alone or in conjunction with other Council Civic Agencies and Committees, or community groups, and Reconciliation Canada.
- B. THAT in order to accomplish A above, the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee establish a Community Engagement subcommittee to coordinate the forums, with the following members:
  - Mason Ducharme
  - Steven Eastman
  - Verdann Evans
  - Lillian Howard

- Penny Irons
- Sheldon Robinson
- Mark Stevens
- Winona Stevens.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 2. 2013 Meeting Schedule

MOVED by Penny Irons

SECONDED by Mason Ducharme

THAT the following schedule of regular Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee meeting dates be approved for 2013:

- Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at 5:30 pm
- Wednesday, July 17, 2013 at 5:30 pm
- Wednesday, November 13, 2013 at 5:30 pm

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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*The Committee agreed to vary the agenda to deal with item 7 next. For ease of reference, the minutes are recorded in numerical order.*

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## 3. New Staff Liaisons

Completed earlier in the meeting.

## 4. Standing Senate Committee on Human Rights

The Co-Chairs provided a report on their participation at the Standing Senate Committee on Human Rights. They noted they only had a short time to present and the discussion with Senators kept going back to reserve issues. They also explained that after the meeting in a conversation with Senator Mobina Jaffer, she extended an invitation to them to travel to Ottawa in 2013 to have a one hour session on Urban Aboriginal issues.

## 5. Forum and Summit Update

Completed earlier in the meeting in conjunction with item 1.

## 6. Liaisons & Community Events Updates

No reports, or dealt with during other parts of the meeting.

**7. Idle No More**

Lillian Howard, Co- Chair, introduced the Idle No More movement. Guests presented their stories and experiences with Idle No More. In discussion, it was noted that bills C45 and C48 virtually strip the abilities of First Nations to negotiate over their land, and that there will be various events including more teach-ins to expand awareness of these bills.

Mona Woodward noted that on Friday, January 25, 2013, the group Butterflies and Spirit will be dancing at Georgia and Granville Streets at noon as part of the Idle No More demonstrations.

MOVED by Penny Irons  
SECONDED by Kim Washburn

THAT the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee recommend to Council:

- A. THAT the City of Vancouver recognize the United Nations Declaration of Indigenous Right in light of Idle no More and Reconciliation Canada.
- B. THAT Council support teach-ins throughout the City of Vancouver regarding the rights of indigenous peoples to bridge the gaps of First Nations and the rest of Canadians. Teach-ins should include the Canadian Government changes to bills C45 and C38, and any other changes that affect Aboriginal people.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**8. New Business**

None.

**Next Meeting:**

DATE: Wednesday, April 17, 2013  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: TBA

The Committee adjourned at 8:30 pm.

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