



**WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
URBAN ABORIGINAL PEOPLES' ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**April 8, 2014**

A joint meeting of the Women's Advisory Committee (WAC) and the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee (UAPAC) was held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014, at 5:32 pm in Committee Room 1, Third Floor, City Hall.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Wendy Williams, Chair (WAC)  
Fiona McFarlane, Vice-Chair (WAC)  
Kamal Basra (WAC)  
Anastasia Gaisenok (WAC)  
Genesa Greening (WAC)  
Jarrah Hodge (WAC)  
Ingrid Kolsteren (WAC)  
Erica Pinsky (WAC)  
Rhonda Sherwood (WAC)  
Marion Smith (WAC)  
Julie Wong (WAC)  
Verdann Evans (UAPAC)  
Kim Washburn (UAPAC)  
Mona Woodward (UAPAC)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Jennifer Dawkins, Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services,  
Staff Liaison (WAC)  
Andrea Radlovacki, Intern (WAC)  
Councillor Andrea Reimer, Council Liaison (WAC and  
UAPAC)  
Commissioner Niki Sharma, Park Board Liaison (WAC and  
UAPAC)

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Leslie Tuerlings, Meeting Coordinator

**Approval of Minutes**

MOVED by Erica Pinsky  
SECONDED by Jarrah Hodge

THAT the Minutes of the Women's Advisory Committee meeting held on March 4, 2014, be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Wendy Williams, Chair, Women's Advisory Committee, opened the meeting and welcomed all members and liaisons from both Committees and the Missing and Murdered Women Coalition. Members and liaisons introduced themselves.

## **2. Report on Missing Women Commission of Inquiry**

### **a) Updates from Committees, City and Coalition**

The Women's Advisory Committee, Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee, Missing and Murdered Women Coalition and the City of Vancouver, provided a summary of their efforts.

#### **i) Women's Advisory Committee**

Wendy Williams provided a brief overview of the Women's Advisory Committee's initiatives.

#### **ii) Urban Aboriginal People's Advisory**

Kim Washburn, Mona Woodward and Verdann Evans provided a brief overview of the Urban Aboriginal People's Advisory Committee's initiatives.

#### **iii) City of Vancouver**

Councillor Reimer and Jessica Wood provided a brief overview of the City of Vancouver's initiatives.

#### **iv) Murdered and Missing Women Coalition**

Michelle Pineault, member of the Missing and Murdered Women's Coalition, and Mona Woodward provided a brief overview of the Missing and Murdered Women's Coalition's initiatives.

### **b) Future Work Together**

The Women's Advisory Committee, Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee, Missing and Murdered Women Coalition and staff from the City of Vancouver, discussed future projects they can work on together.

### **c) Next Steps**

The group developed a work plan (on file) outlining their initiatives, and assigned responsibility.

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*NOTE FROM MEETING COORDINATOR: the work plan has been distributed to members and liaisons of the Women's Advisory Committee, Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee and the Missing and Murdered Women Coalition.*

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### **3. Member Resignation and New Appointment**

Wendy Williams acknowledged the resignation received from Margarita Pinillos and noted that a recommendation has been given to the Nominations Sub-Committee to fill the seat.

### **4. Miss Representation Screening**

Julie Wong provided a brief overview of the event, noting that it was a success.

Jennifer Dawkins advised that the film is now available on Netflix.

The Committee discussed where to donate the proceeds raised from the event.

MOVED by Jarah Hodge

SECONDED by Erica Pinsky

THAT the proceeds raised from admissions to the screening of the film "Miss Representation", be donated to Camp Ignite, a four day camp that educates and inspires young women to follow their dreams.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **5. Child Care and the City of Vancouver**

Councillor Reimer noted that she will follow up with City staff in preparation for the meeting in May.

### **6. Trans\* and Gender-Variant Inclusion Working Group Recommendations**

Jarrah Hodge provided an update on the Trans\* and Gender Variant Working Group's recommendations and noted that the group has requested a representative from the Women's Advisory Committee attend the April 28, 2014 Park Board meeting. Ms. Hodge agreed to attend.

MOVED by Wendy Williams

SECONDED by Erica Pinsky

WHEREAS many trans\* and gender variant people in Vancouver experience barriers to accessing public parks, beaches and community centres due to a lack of change room/bathroom options and feelings of anxiety related to experiences of discrimination; and

WHEREAS the Vancouver Parks Board's Trans\* and Gender Variant Working Group has drafted a series of recommendations to create safe, inclusive and welcoming parks and recreation spaces for trans\* and gender variant users; and

WHEREAS a key part of the mandate of the City of Vancouver Women's Advisory Committee is to promote gender equality and a safer city for women and girls;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Vancouver Women's Advisory Committee endorses the recommendations of the Trans\* and Gender Variant Working Group and recommends their adoption and implementation by the Vancouver Park Board;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the City of Vancouver Women's Advisory Committee particularly supports the recommendations under the "Space and Signage" section of the report that deal with making parks and recreation spaces safer for trans\* and gender variant users, as they will have the added benefit of making spaces safer for all users, including women and girls.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**7. Outstanding Items from March**

**a) Gender Budgeting**

Andrea Radlovacki advised that she will provide a 20 minute presentation on this topic during the meeting in May.

**b) Transportation Plan Stakeholder Advisory Group**

Marion Smith noted that the downtown bus routes (new and old) were featured in the Tuesday, April 8 issue of the Vancouver Sun.

**c) City for all Women Initiative**

Wendy Williams provided an overview of this initiative and noted that she will invite the staff member who will be representing the Mayor's Office to the Women's Advisory Committee meeting in May.

**d) Women's Advocacy Voice of Edmonton**

Wendy Williams noted that the City of Edmonton now has Women's Advisory Group.

**8. New Business**

**a) Women's History Month**

Councillor Reimer mentioned that it may be a good time to start planning for an event if the Committee is interested in holding one this year. "Women in Music" was suggested as a possible theme. Marion Smith, Fiona McFarlane and Erica Pinsky will follow-up.

**b) Screening of *Finding Dawn***

Anastasia Gaisenok and Jessica Wood will look into the possibility of booking a screening at the Rio Theatre.

**c) Recommendation Letter**

Genesa Greening requested that Wendy Williams sign a letter on behalf of the Committee recommending that she join the Missing and Murdered Women Coalition.

**d) Letter Writing**

The Committee will meet for an informal night of writing letters to their local Members of the Legislative Assembly on April 24, 2014.

**e) Fact Sheet**

Councillor Reimer suggested that a fact sheet be created to address questions that relate to the Missing Women Commission Inquiry.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Erica Pinsky  
SECONDED by Jarrah Hodge

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee adjourned at 8:07 pm.

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