



## WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

May 10, 2016

A meeting of the Women's Advisory Committee was held on May 10, 2016 at 5:37 pm, in Committee Room 1, Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall

- PRESENT:** Miranda Mandarino, Chair  
Terran Bell  
Andrea Canales Figueroa  
Lindsay Clark  
Sharon Lau  
Najmah Mohamed  
Fiona McFarlane  
Christine O'Fallon  
Miriam Palacios  
Shirley Ross
- ABSENT:** Erin Arnold (Leave of Absence)  
Desaraigh Byers  
Niki Sharma (Leave of Absence)  
Rhonda Sherwood (Leave of Absence)  
Julie Wong (Leave of Absence)
- ALSO PRESENT:** Trustee Joy Alexander, School Board Liaison  
Deb Gale, Manager, HR Business Partnerships, Staff Liaison
- CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Maria Castro, Meeting Coordinator

#### Acknowledgement

The Chair welcomed members to the Committee, including new members Najmah Mohamed, Christine O'Fallon and Shirley Ross.

The Chair recognized the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh and Squamish Nations, and also acknowledged the safe space in which the meeting occurs.

#### Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Andrea Canales Figueroa  
SECONDED by Shirley Ross

THAT Erin Arnold, Niki Sharma, Rhonda Sherwood and Julie Wong be granted leaves of absence for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Miriam Palacios  
SECONDED by Lindsay Clark

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on March 15, 2016, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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*The Committee agreed to vary the order of the agenda to deal with Item 2 as the first item of business. For clarity, the minutes are recorded in chronological order.*

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## 2. Presentation - Translink

Wendy Hawthorne, Translink Transit Police, provided a presentation on Translink's safety and security features on transit. She noted the '87-77-77' text reporting line, which enables customers to text safety issues on transit directly to Transit Police, and also mentioned the launch of a new Transit Police website that will feature safety tips and useful information for transit users.

Ms. Hawthorne responded to questions from the group.

## 1. Presentation - Gender Equality Strategy

Ellen Woodsworth, former Vancouver City Councillor, provided a presentation on the Gender Equality strategy, as well as an update on the Women Transforming Cities initiative. Ms. Woodsworth also provided an overview of the UN Women's Friendly Cities International Conference that she recently attended, and discussed the framework for "Advancing Equity and Inclusion", which outlines policies, programs, budgets, staffing and governance practices.

Ms. Woodsworth responded to questions from the group.

In addition, the group noted that the motion 'BECAUSE IT'S 2016: Action on Gender Equality' was passed by Council on April 6, 2016. The Chair advised she will look into the timelines for execution of the motion.

## 3. Updates from the Chair

Postponed to the next meeting.

**4. Subcommittee Updates**

- a) Leadership
- b) Violence Against Women
- c) Gender Wage Gap
- d) Young Women

Postponed to the next meeting.

**5. Liaison Updates**

- a) Council
- b) Park Board
- c) School Board

Postponed to the next meeting.

**6. Draft Letter to Minister of Education, Premier and Minister of Finance**

The Committee agreed to write a letter to the Premier, Minister of Education, and Minister of Finance, regarding space at Vancouver School Board facilities used for child care.

MOVED by Shirley Ross  
SECONDED by Miriam Palacios

THAT the Women's Advisory Committee write a letter to the Premier, Minister of Education, and Minister of Finance, regarding space at Vancouver School Board facilities used for child care.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The letter will be circulated when available.

**7. New Business**

- a) **Doors Open Vancouver - Promoting Women's Roles as Creators and Champions**

The Committee discussed Doors Open Vancouver and how this event would be an opportunity to highlight the important contributions of women and girls to our society.

MOVED by Christine O'Fallon  
SECONDED by Andrea Canalas Figueroa

WHEREAS

- 1. City Council passed the BECAUSE IT'S 2016: Action on Gender Equality motion on April 6, 2016;

2. Women and girls comprise a majority of residents (51%) in Vancouver but their role in the City's history and evolution aren't well known;
3. The City adopted the Gender Equality Strategy for the City of Vancouver in 2005, which committed the City to take action within its power to challenge gender discrimination and to promote and implement gender equity measures;
4. Over the past decade the City, empowered through the 2005 Gender Equality Strategy, has taken a number of proactive measures to better support women and girls;
5. Doors Open Vancouver provides an opportunity to learn about the amazing women who helped to develop and create the City we know today; and
6. By hearing about women's roles as creators and champions of Vancouver's architecture, green design and cultural heritage, girls and women will see themselves in the stories of women who came before;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Women's Advisory Committee recommend

THAT all sites taking part in Doors Open Vancouver 2016 ensure that, when providing the behind the scenes access, the role of women in the creation of the vibrant city of today is highlighted; and

FURTHER THAT all sites take proactive steps to encourage girls and women to attend their site and learn how they can contribute to the City today and in the future because the engagement of women and girls is vital to the City's continuing evolution.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**b) Events**

Fiona McFarlane informed the Committee that the Women's Advisory Committee has been invited to attend the National Aboriginal Day celebrations at the Vancouver Friendship Centre on June 15, 2016. Committee members are welcome to help at the event if interested.

**Adjournment**

MOVED by Christine O'Fallon  
SECONDED by Andrea Canales Figueroa

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee adjourned at 7:46 pm.

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**Next Meeting:**

DATE: Tuesday, July 5, 2016  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: Committee Room 1  
Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall