



## 2SLGBTQ+ ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

**November 7, 2024**

A meeting of the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 5:35 pm, in the Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, and via electronic means.

- PRESENT:** Eddy Elmer, Co-Chair  
Tara Fraser, Co-Chair  
Tristan Lai  
Hana Chisako Acorn  
Rick Hurlbut  
Chris Morrissey  
Bradley Sarandi
- ABSENT:** Saif Al Shamaa (Leave of Absence)  
Ilaine Marjoribanks (Leave of Absence)  
Viplav Subramanian, Vice-Chair (Leave of Absence)  
Michael Yus (Leave of Absence)
- ALSO PRESENT:** Commissioner Brennan Bastyovanszky, Park Board  
Liaison  
Constable Stephen Jones, Vancouver Police Department  
Liaison  
Samantha Mills, Vancouver Public Library Liaison
- CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Terri Burke, Meeting Coordinator

### WELCOME

The Co-Chair acknowledged we are on the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Peoples. We thank them for having cared for this land and look forward to working with them in partnership as we continue to build this great city together.

### Modified Procedures

MOVED by Rick Hurlbut  
SECONDED by Hana Chisako Acorn

THAT the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee suspend the rule of section 15.13 of the

*Procedure By-law* in order to allow for modified decision-making methods during the meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

### **Leave of Absence Requests**

The Committee discussed attendance and quorum issues.

THAT the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee approves leaves of absence for Saif Al Shamaa, Ilaine Marjoribanks, Viplav Subramanian, and Michael Yus for this meeting.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

### **Approval of Minutes**

THAT the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of Thursday, September 12, 2024, as circulated.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

*Note: See Appendix A, pages 5 to 7, for Supplementary Notes from that meeting.*

#### **1. Presentation: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiatives and Programming for 2SLGBTQ+ Communities**

Jessica Land, Associate Director, Recreation Services, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, provided a presentation and responded to questions.

#### **2. Women's Advisory Committee Motion on Gender-Based Violence**

Following discussion, the motion below was put on the floor.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee:

1. Support, in principle, the motion from the Women's Advisory Committee asking Council to recognize family and interpersonal violence (FIPV) as an epidemic in Vancouver and requesting that staff report back on City initiatives to prevent FIPV and support those affected;
2. Ask Council to recognize that FIPV also affects 2SLGBTQ+ individuals, is often underreported in this community, and that more support is required for those affected; and

3. Request that the Committee be actively consulted by staff before recommendations are made to Council.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

### **3. Davie and Burrard Development: Space for 2SLGBTQ+ Community Organizations**

The Committee agreed to invite a City staff member to a future meeting to provide a presentation on the City's selection process for the cultural community organizations to be included at the 1177 Burrard Street development.

The Committee also requested a staff member present at a future meeting regarding the Noise Control By-law, specifically on Davie Street.

### **4. Working Session Updates**

The Committee discussed the working session that took place on October 17, 2024.

*Note: See Appendix A, pages 8 and 9, for Supplementary Notes from that meeting.*

### **5. Liaison Updates**

Constable Stephen Jones, Vancouver Police Department Liaison, discussed hate crime data and responded to questions from the previous meeting.

Samantha Mills, Vancouver Public Library Liaison, noted that the current Chief Librarian is leaving her position. The VPL is also producing pronoun pins.

### **6. Subcommittee Updates**

None.

### **7. New Business**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

**Next Meeting:**

DATE: Thursday, January 9, 2025  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall  
/ Webex Online

The Committee adjourned at 7:07 pm.

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**2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee Regular Meeting  
September 12, 2024  
Draft Supplementary Notes**

**Davie Street: Transportation and Public Space**

- Following a staff presentation, members offered the following feedback

*Signage*

- Need signage to announce entrance to Davie Village
  - possible locations: Burrard and Davie; Jim Deva Plaza
- *Heart of Davie* sign
  - now owned by West End BIA
  - staff considering placement options
  - could be located with seating
  - may need to place higher to prevent vandalism

*Colour*

- Consider programmable light standards similar to those on Granville Street
- Colour palette is too pink; consider more variations
- Add colour to street furniture

*Lighting*

- For regular lights: consider warmer and more inviting hues (white is too harsh)
- For decorative light: consider programmable displays (e.g., 5083 Joyce Street Development; neon lights at [Yorkdale Subway Station](#))
- Consider bringing in displays from [Lumière Festival](#)
- Consider embedded sidewalk lighting

*Street Furniture*

- A mix of standalone clustered seating is welcome

*Artwork and Diversity*

- Consider embedding brass plaques, stars, or other artwork into sidewalks to highlight 2SLGBTQ+ history (e.g., Castro Street)
- Bring in temporary art installations from rest of city
- Art should be more reflective of area's changing demographics
- Has there been any consultation with Two-spirit community about incorporating Indigenous art?
  - Staff: have been in contact with all three First Nations; very positive response; interested in collaborating with City
- Consider ways to reference 2SLGBTQ+ people of diverse ethnocultural backgrounds
  - consult groups like [Crosscultural Tours](#) and [SHER Vancouver](#)
  - staff: could work with the BIAs to support temporary events that celebrate different cultures

**Committee Motion to Preserve Davie Village as a 2SLGBTQ+ Entertainment District**

- Members discussed and passed Rick Hurlbut's motion

- **Action Items:** Eddy will follow up with staff and Council in new year. He will also inquire about [motion](#) re: 2SLGBTQ+ inclusion in City-sanctioned events.

### Healthy City Strategy Refresh

- Following a staff presentation, members provided the following feedback
- City should collect more data about 2SLGBTQ+ people in order to inform the Strategy
- Chris: in addition to “a good start to life”, another goal should be “a good end to life”
- Chris: need more attention to newcomers and refugees
- Eddy: important to measure social isolation and loneliness in multiple ways, as these issues disproportionately affect 2SLGBTQ+ people and their health
  - Staff: using the 3-item brief UCLA Loneliness Scale and the Vancouver Foundation’s scale
  - Eddy: should measure different forms of lonely (e.g., de Jong Gierveld Loneliness Scale)
- Consider wide range of hate crime data as safety indicators:
  - VPD data
  - Provincial data (staff trying to get access)
  - VPL data: Samantha advised that security incident reports now have specific categories for hate incidents, gender-based violence, etc.
  - [UN Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces](#) survey
  - Government of Canada crime surveys ([example](#) from 2020)
  - Staff: collected hate crime data during pandemic but never systematized it
- Rick: consider data from utilities
- Committee likes public dashboard and similar tools to visualize health indicators throughout the city; important to improve look and feel of the dashboard to make it more user-friendly
- Chris: who will set the priorities for the actions? Can our Committee make suggestions?

### Gastown Public Spaces Plan

- Saif Al Shamaa attended a staff presentation and suggested the following
- Need more lighting
- Consider another landmark in addition to Steam Clock to encourage people to visit all of Gastown (or even consider moving Steam Clock further back)
- Include more inclusive artwork (e.g., Indigenous artwork)
- Add a rainbow crossing and other visible markers to make 2SLGBTQ+ people feel safe and welcome

### Proposal for Provincial Election Candidates’ Town Hall on 2SLGBTQ+ Issues

- Staff reminded Committee of the following section from the [Guidelines for Civic Agencies](#): “To avoid the perception of impropriety, civic agencies should not engage with candidates through surveys, town halls, debates, etc. It is permissible for a civic agency to raise awareness issues within its scope or to disseminate general information about an election, such as voting times, locations, and methods.”
- Committee decided not to proceed with proposal but did commit to share general election information with 2SLGBTQ+ communities
- Committee asked if QMUNITY and other groups are doing election outreach; have not heard anything from them

### **Update from Samantha Mills, Vancouver Public Library Liaison**

- For the second year, VPL held very successful Pride events
- Hosted tables on two days, chatting with people
- Hosted Biblio Bike
- Participated in Dyke March
- Events will become regular and therefore included in the budget
- Planning will be assigned to staff in an official capacity

### **Update from Constable Stephen Jones, Vancouver Police Department Liaison**

- Cst. Jones introduced Cst. Kat Dauncey, who will likely be the Department's new hate crime detective, taking over from Cst. Bryan Watson
- Likes the Committee's suggestion for an annual Pride Event hosted by the Community Policing Centres; will follow up with Cst. Canon Wong, who oversees the CPCs
- Eddy asked if there were any reported hate incidents during Pride
  - Stephen: nothing brought to his attention, but will inquire further

**2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee Working Session  
October 17, 2024  
Draft Supplementary Notes**

**Attendance**

- Eddy Elmer, Tara Fraser, Viprav Subramanian, Rick Hurlbut, Chris Morrissey, Hana Acorn

**Civic Agency Training: Mandatory Educational Resources and Declaration**

- Eddy reminded members to complete the mandatory online Civic Agency training, which includes videos about equity and the Code of Conduct By-law
- Once members have completed the training, they must complete the following declaration by December 31: <https://survey.alchemer-ca.com/s3/50259160/2024-Civic-Agencies-Training-Declaration>

**Healthy City Strategy Refresh**

- Further to the staff presentation in July, Eddy provided additional feedback that that the Plan should include emergency preparedness as a measurable outcome (e.g., “Being able to respond to and survive an emergency”); some possible indicators could be:
  - Knowing what to do in an earthquake
  - Having at least one month of emergency supplies on hand
  - Having an emergency escape route in your home
  - Having access to a fire extinguisher (and knowing how to use it)
  - Knowing who to contact in an emergency
- If members have other suggestions, Eddy can relay to staff
- Also relayed staff’s appreciation for the Committee’s thoughtful comments

**Motion from Women’s Advisory Committee re: Gender-based Family and Interpersonal (FIPV)**

- Members discussed the draft motion and provided the following feedback
- Motion appears to have a very heterosexual and cisgender focus
- It is critical to recognize that FIPV also affects 2SLGBTQ+ communities and is a hidden and underreported issue that requires much more attention
- Reference to “women” should be changed to “all women”
- If possible, include statistics on FIPV in Vancouver
- Mention the École Polytechnique massacre in resolution #6 (it is implied but not explicit)
- Include links or footnotes for all references
- Following discussion, members proposed the following draft motion for consideration at the next meeting:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2SLGBTQ+ Advisory Committee:

1. Support, in principle, the motion from the Women’s Advisory Committee asking Council to recognize family and interpersonal violence (FIPV) as an epidemic in Vancouver and requesting that staff report back on City initiatives to prevent FIPV and support those affected;



2. Ask Council to recognize that FIPV also affects 2SLGBTQ+ individuals, is often underreported in this community, and that more support is required for those affected; and
3. Request that the Committee be actively consulted by staff before recommendations are made to Council.

### **Motion Regarding 2SLGBTQ+ Programming by Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation**

- Members discussed a motion by Rick Hurlbut regarding the essential programs provided by the Park Board for 2SLGBTQ+ individuals and ensuring that these programs continue
- The Committee discussed the distinct roles of the Park Board and the City's Parks and Recreation staff in delivering programming
- **Action Items**: Rick will draft a motion for consideration at the November regular meeting.

### **Davie Street: Transportation and Public Space**

- In anticipation of a staff presentation in November or December, Viplav requested that staff give more thought to the importance of spaces and programming for 2SLGBTQ+ people from different ethnocultural communities
- **Action items**: Eddy will ask staff to address Viplav's feedback. He will also send staff the Committee's [supplementary notes](#) from February (p. 5), for further consideration.

### **Attendance**

- Members discussed ongoing problems with attendance and attaining quorum