



## RACIAL AND ETHNO-CULTURAL EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

JULY 14, 2022

A meeting of the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, July 14, 2022, at 5:54 pm, by electronic means.

**PRESENT:** Steph Kallstrom (Chair)  
Stephanie Ameyaw  
Gurleen Cheema  
Ritu Gill  
Alexandra Gunn  
Juggy Sihota  
Austin Uzama  
Dinushi Wickrama Arachchi  
Kamika Williams  
Mohammed Zaqout

**ABSENT:** Lerato Chondoma (Vice-Chair) (Leave of Absence)  
Isaac Tomas

**ALSO PRESENT:** Trustee Allan Wong, Vancouver School Board Liaison  
Mumbi Maina, Social Policy, Staff Liaison  
April Sumter-Freitag, Social Policy, Staff Liaison

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Brian Fukushima, Committee Clerk

### WELCOME

The Chair acknowledged we are on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tseil-Waututh Nations.

### Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Alexandra Gunn  
SECONDED by Juggy Sihota

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approve a Leave of Absence for Lerato Chondoma.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Gurleen Cheema

SECONDED by Kamika Williams

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of May 12, 2022, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **1. Liaison Updates**

Trustee Wong provided an update on the Vancouver School Board's approved anti-racism anti-discrimination strategic plan for the new school year.

April Sumter-Freitag and Mumbi Maina discussed council reports *Addressing anti-Black racism: Black and African diaspora community recommendations* and *Historical Discrimination Against People of South Asian Canadian Descent*. The Committee also discussed its previous motion on combatting anti-Semitism in Vancouver.

### **2. Stanley Park Accessibility Presentation**

Staff:

Nalon Smith, Planner, Planning and Park Development

Rose-Marie Pickard, Planning Assistant, Park Board

Simon Mueller, Senior Transportation Planner, Mott MacDonald

Nalon Smith provided a presentation and subsequently responded to questions.

### **3. Requests to Council for report**

The Committee discussed addressing Mayor and Council regarding the disallowing and subsequent allowing of public comment on the report *Historical Discrimination Against People of South Asian Canadian Descent*.

### **4. Health Justice Presentation**

The Committee agreed to postpone the presentation due to time constraints.

### **5. Discussion on Action**

The Committee discussed possible independent data collection and monitoring on the disproportionately negative way the Mental Health Act is used on Indigenous, Black and other racialized communities.

### **6. New Business**

Mohammed Zaqout discussed the Achieving Financial Mobility project, which addresses challenges of refugees and asylum seekers applying for jobs.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Mohammed Zaqout  
SECONDED by Austin Uzama

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Next Meeting:**

DATE: Thursday, September 8, 2022  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: Cascadia Room, City Hall / WebEx Online

The Committee adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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