



MEMORANDUM

October 12, 2022

TO: Mayor and Council

CC Paul Mochrie, City Manager
Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk
Tina Penney, Director, Legislative Operations
Kevin Burris, Manager, Civic Agencies

FROM: Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee

SUBJECT: Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee Report of Activities, 2021–2022

PURPOSE

To provide Vancouver City Council with a report on the activities of the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee for the period of May 18, 2021 to November 6, 2022.

BACKGROUND

The Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee was established by Council to advise Council and staff on the development, implementation, and assessment of City policies and services related to strengthening ethno-cultural engagement, addressing racism and racial inequities, and promoting racial justice and equity in the City.

DISCUSSION

1. Significant Activities

- Funding request – Support in Principle the Legal Challenge Against the Discrimination of Freedom of Religion as set out in Quebec's Bill 21 C
 - Motion put forward on behalf on RECE by Councillor Swanson
- Vancouver Black Library – Advocacy for City funding and meeting with founder
 - Letter drafted and sent to Mayor and Council

- Vancouver Police Department quarterly check-in – RECE to check in with VPD quarterly about concerns related to the racialized community
- Councillor Swanson’s Motion to Council Regarding Muslim Celebrations and Observations
- The report “Addressing anti-Black racism: Black and African diaspora community recommendations.”
 - Addressed Mayor and Council through a letter tackling Anti-Black racism and addressing Council’s previous apology.
- Black Studies Curriculum
 - To be discussed as electives which could appear in individual schools.

2. Future Directions

- Continue quarterly VPD check-ins
- Follow up with new Mayor and Council on Vancouver Black Library funding
- RECE to continue further conversations with Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs RE: Chris Amyotte’s death.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing information is presented to Vancouver City Council for information.

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