



## RACIAL AND ETHNO-CULTURAL EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

May 23, 2024

A meeting of the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 5:35 pm, in the Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, and via electronic means.

**PRESENT:** Steph Kallstrom, Chair  
Naina Varshney, Vice-Chair  
Nimrah Anwar  
Harjyot Banwait  
Benedicta Bawo  
Victoria Barclay  
Jeremiah Rojas  
Pavandeep Toor

**ABSENT:** Alexandra Gunn (Leave of Absence)  
Alemu Nenko  
Ajay Puri (Leave of Absence)  
Lydia Tang (Leave of Absence)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Pete Fry, Council Liaison  
Councillor Lenny Zhou, Council Liaison  
April Sumter Freitag, Social Planner, Social Policy and  
Projects, Staff Liaison  
Trustee Victoria Jung, Vancouver School Board Liaison  
Sgt. Chad McRae, Vancouver Police Department Liaison

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Olivia Kam, Meeting Coordinator

### WELCOME

The 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.

### Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Victoria Barclay  
SECONDED by Jeremiah Rojas

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approve leaves of absence for Alexandra Gunn, Ajay Puri and Lydia Tang, for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED by Harjyot Banwait  
SECONDED by Victoria Barclay

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of Thursday, March 21, 2024, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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## **VARY AGENDA**

*At this point in the proceedings, it was*

MOVED by Steph Kallstrom  
SECONDED by Jeremiah Rojas

*THAT the agenda be varied in order to hear Item 4. Liaison Updates, prior to Item 1. Municipal Election Report Back and Future Planning.*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

*Note: for ease of reference, the minutes are recorded in chronological order.*

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## **4. Liaison Updates**

The Council Liaisons, Staff Liaison and Vancouver School Board Liaison provided updates.

### **1. Municipal Election Report Back and Future Planning**

Staff from Business and Election Services presented to the Committee and responded to questions.

### **2. Committee Discussion on Policing**

The Committee discussed the need for a designated liaison officer to support the Black community and improved community outreach with minority groups.

### **3. Working Session Updates**

The Committee received an update on the working session held Thursday, April 18, 2024.

**5. Subcommittee Updates**

None.

**6. New Business**

MOVED by Harjyot Banwait  
SECONDED by Steph Kallstrom

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee (RECE) authorize the Chair to write to the Renters Advisory Committee (RAC), inquiring about the possibility of nominating an *ad hoc* RECE liaison to attend meetings of RAC.

FURTHER THAT, subject to the response of the Renters Advisory Committee, the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory nominate Victoria Barclay to serve as *ad hoc* liaison to the Renters Advisory Committee until December 31, 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Victoria Barclay  
SECONDED by Harjyot Banwait

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Next Meeting:**

DATE: Thursday, July 18, 2024  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: Business Centre Meeting Room, 2nd Floor,  
City Hall  
/ Webex Online

The Committee adjourned at 6:50 pm.

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