



## RACIAL AND ETHNO-CULTURAL EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

**September 19, 2024**

A meeting of the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 5:38 pm, in the Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, and via electronic means.

**PRESENT:** Steph Kallstrom, Chair  
Naina Varshney, Vice-Chair  
Harjot Banwait  
Alemu Nenko  
Jeremiah Rojas  
Pavandeep Toor

**ABSENT:** Nimrah Anwar  
Victoria Barclay (Leave of Absence)  
Alexandra Gunn (Leave of Absence)  
Ajay Puri (Leave of Absence)  
Lydia Tang (Leave of Absence)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Angela Haer, Park Board Commissioner Liaison  
April Sumter Freitag, Social Planner, Social Policy and  
Projects, Staff 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 Naina Varshney  
SECONDED by Jeremiah Rojas

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED by Jeremiah Rojas  
SECONDED by Naina Varshney

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of Thursday, July 18, 2024, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **1. Anti-Black Racism and Cultural Redress Action Plan**

Staff from Arts, Culture and Community Services presented the Anti-Black Racism and Cultural Redress Action Plan to the Committee and responded to questions.

### **2. Potential Meeting Time Change Request**

The Committee discussed whether to request meeting time change options and determined that the current time is the most amenable option for most committee members.

### **3. Media Discussion**

The Chair provided an update on the draft letter and noted it will be ready for review at the next working session.

### **4. Liaison Updates**

The Staff Liaison provided updates.

### **5. Subcommittee Updates**

The Policing Subcommittee and Housing Subcommittee provided updates.

### **6. New Business**

The Committee discussed supporting the upcoming motion from the Women's Advisory Committee regarding intimate partner violence and violence against women.

The Committee also discussed opportunities to support the Vancouver Black Library.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Naina Varshney  
SECONDED by Harjyot Banwait

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Next Meeting:**

DATE: Thursday, November 21, 2024  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall  
/ Webex Online

The Committee adjourned at 6:48 pm.

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