



RACIAL AND ETHNO-CULTURAL EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

June 26, 2025

A meeting of the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, June 26, 2025, at 5:39 pm, in the Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, and via electronic means.

PRESENT: Naina Varshney, Vice-Chair
Harjot Banwait
Victoria Barclay
Young Joe
Sophia Li
Pavandeep Toor

ABSENT: Steph Kallstrom (Leave of Absence)
Alemu Nenko
Lydia Tang
Jeremiah Rojas (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: April Sumter-Freitag, Social Planner, Social Policy and Projects; Staff Liaison

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Sonia Lotay, Meeting Coordinator

WELCOME

The Vice-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 Young Joe

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approve leaves of absence for Steph Kallstrom and Jeremiah Rojas, for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Sophia Li
SECONDED by Harjot Banwait

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approve the minutes from the meeting of Thursday, May 29, 2025, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Working Session Updates

None.

2. Liaison Updates

The Council Liaison circulated written updates prior to the meeting.

The Staff Liaison provided updates.

3. Subcommittee Updates

None.

4. New Business

The Committee discussed concerns about reduced library hours disproportionately affecting South Vancouver.

The Committee further discussed contacting the Council Liaison to advocate for the inclusion of language access groups in the motion titled "Request for Review of the School Liaison Program."

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Absence of Quorum

At 6:30 pm, during discussion on Item 4 – New Business, the Committee lost quorum. The Meeting Coordinator referred to Section 15.7 of the Procedure By-law as follows:

A majority of the persons appointed to an advisory committee are to constitute a quorum.

The Meeting Coordinator declared the meeting was adjourned due to the absence of a quorum.

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Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, September 25, 2025
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall
/ Teams Meeting

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