



RACIAL AND ETHNO-CULTURAL EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

January 29, 2026

A meeting of the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, January 29, 2026, at 5:30 pm, via electronic means.

PRESENT: Steph Kallstrom, Chair
Harjot Banwait, Vice-Chair
Victoria Barclay
Lydia Tang
Pavandeep Toor
Naina Varshney

ABSENT: Alexandra Gunn
Young Joe
Sophie Li (Leave of Absence)
Alemu Nenko
Jeremiah Rojas (Leave of Absence)

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

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Cheryll Chingcuangco, Meeting Coordinator

WELCOME

The Meeting Coordinator 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.

MOVED by Harjot Banwait
SECONDED by Steph Kallstrom

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee suspend the rule of section 15.13 of the Procedure By-law for the duration of this meeting, to allow the use of consensus-based decision-making.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
AND BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

Leave of Absence Requests

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approves leaves of absence for Sophie Li and Jeremiah Rojas for this meeting.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

Approval of Minutes

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approve the minutes from the meeting of Thursday, November 20, 2025, as circulated.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

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VARY AGENDA

THAT the order of the agenda be varied to deal with item 5. New Business first.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

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5. New Business

Following Committee discussion, the following proposal was put on the floor:

THAT Stephanie Kallstrom be appointed Chair of the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee for a term ending November 1, 2026;

FURTHER THAT Harjyot Banwait be appointed Vice-Chair of the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee for a term ending November 1, 2026.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

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At this point in the meeting, Steph Kallstrom assumed the chair.

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1. Annual Report Approval

Following Committee discussion, the below proposal was put on the floor:

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approve the 2024-2025 Annual Report as circulated.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

2. City-wide Equity Program 2025 Updates and 2026 Working Plan

Staff provided a presentation and responded to questions and comments.

3. Liaison Updates

The Staff Liaison provided updates on the TGD2S Action Plan and responded to questions and comments.

The Council Liaison provided updates and responded to questions and comments.

4. Subcommittee Updates

The Committee discussed updates on activities of the Election Advisory Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, April 2, 2026
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: Business Centre Meeting Room, 2nd Floor,
City Hall
/ Teams Meeting

The Committee adjourned at 6:49 pm.

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