



URBAN ABORIGINAL PEOPLES' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

APRIL 17, 2013

A meeting of the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, April 17, 2013, at 5:40 pm, in Committee Room No. 1, Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall.

PRESENT: Steven Eastman, Co-Chair
Lillian Howard, Co-Chair
Mason Ducharme
Verdann Evans
Penny Irons
Sheldon Robinson
Mark Stevens
Winona Stevens
Mona Woodward

ABSENT: Kim Washburn (Leave of Absence)
Genoa Point

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Andrea Reimer, City of Vancouver
Commissioner Niki Sharma, Vancouver Park Board
Diana Day, Leader, Aboriginal Health Initiative Program,
Vancouver Coastal Health
Wendy Au, Assistant City Manager
Ginger Gosnell-Myers, Aboriginal Planner, City Manager's Office
Cecelia Point, Musqueam
Lisa Walker, Program Assistant, Arts, Culture and
Environment, Park Board
Jil Weaving, Coordinator, Arts, Culture and Environment,
Park Board
Baldwin Wong, Social Planner, Social Policy
Mary Clare Zak, Director, Social Policy

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Penny Irons
SECONDED by Mark Stevens

THAT the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee approve a Leave of Absence for Kim Washburn for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Winona Stevens
SECONDED by Mason Ducharme

THAT the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee approve the Minutes of the meeting held on January 23, 2013, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Presentation: City Response to the Missing Women's Inquiry

Mary Clare Zak, Director, Social Policy, presented an overview on the City of Vancouver's response to the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (*presentation on file*), reviewed other initiatives being addressed related to safety and sex workers and, along with Mona Woodward, responded to questions.

In discussion members agreed to meet with staff again to provide input into the progress report that staff will present to Council in June.

In response to questions Ms. Zak provided details on the Living in Community Action Plan which is available at: http://www.livingincommunity.ca/docs/living_in_comm.pdf.

Diana Day, Leader, Aboriginal Health Initiative Program, Vancouver Coastal Health, provided details on the Indigenous Cultural Competency (ICC) Online Training Program available at: <http://www.culturalcompetency.ca/>.

MOVED by Penny Irons
SECONDED by Mason Ducharme

THAT the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee arrange a follow-up meeting with staff regarding the draft recommendations from the City's Task Force and the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry in order to provide input into the Report to Council in June.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Reimer suggested listing the recommendations from Living in Community as well as other Missing Women inquiry recommendations and show how these align with the City's Task Force actions, showing a timeline for these. Ms. Zak agreed to prepare the list and recommended the meeting take place within the next three weeks.

2. Update and Discussion from Missing Women's Inquiry Presentation

The Co-Chairs provided an update regarding the presentation by the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) at the Women's Advisory Committee meeting on April 16, 2013.

During discussion, key points raised included the following:

- VPD's "Project Sister Watch" is really making an effort; initiatives underway include educating school children on how to spot a predator;
- consider inviting VPD representatives from "Project Sister Watch" to a future meeting to give a presentation on the program;
- VPD should do a "sales pitch" on their safety initiatives to raise public awareness;

- the committee should consider liaising with the Women's Advisory Committee given the overlap in projects;
- the VPD presentation was very encouraging in moving forward.

Bill Hooker, guest, updated the committee on the VPD's "Citizens Police Academy" and briefly reviewed the program. Details available at: <http://vancouver.ca/police/organization/public-affairs/diversity-aboriginal-policing/citizens-police-academy.html>.

Councillor Reimer referred to the annual Women's History Month and suggested there could be a great opportunity to focus on urban aboriginal women.

In closing, Co-Chair Howard agreed to follow-up with staff regarding Women's History Month and advised that working jointly with the Women's Advisory Committee on the recommendations from the City's Task Force and the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, as well as Reconciliation Canada would be beneficial.

MOVED by Mark Stevens
SECONDED by Penny Irons

THAT the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee invite members of the Women's Advisory Committee to the follow-up meeting with staff regarding the draft recommendations from the City's Task Force and the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Update on Reconciliation Canada Meeting

The Co-Chairs provided a report back on the meeting with Reconciliation Canada held February 25, 2013, and responded to questions.

During discussion, key points raised included the following:

- concern expressed that the original intent has been side-tracked and that many committee members have not been included in discussions;
- committee needs to take action and move forward;
- suggest written summaries be included with future updates and reports back so members have some background to better prepare.

Ginger Gosnell-Myers, Aboriginal Planner, City Manager's Office, advised that she is available for questions or ideas regarding Reconciliation Canada and will provide members with an overview via email. She also sought the committee's assistance in helping plan for the Summit which will be held on June 20, 2013, at the Wosk Centre for Dialogue.

Co-Chair Eastman suggested the Community Engagement Sub-Committee arrange to meet with Ms. Gosnell-Myers to continue this discussion. Ms. Gosnell-Myers recommended the meeting be held within the next two weeks and agreed to forward a number of proposed dates for the committee's consideration.

Diana Day suggested the committee look at opening other avenues to receive input from the aboriginal community, as many often don't get the opportunity to participate in such events as the Summit.

Ms. Day also advised that she will present the findings of the Primary Health Care Model at the July meeting.

4. Update on Council Motion and Proclamation

Dealt with under Item 3 above.

5. New Business

a) Aboriginal Women's Wellness Centre - DTES

Cecelia Point, Musqueam, provided an update on a proposal to build an Aboriginal Women's Wellness Centre in the Downtown Eastside, noting the proposal is in the preliminary stages, and welcomed input from the committee. She advised that there will be a general meeting in September and encouraged members to attend.

Co-Chair Howard provided further details on the proposal, noting the Women's Health Centre is drafting the proposal and that the centre will be designed by women in the community.

b) National Aboriginal Day

Lisa Walker, Program Assistant, Arts, Culture and Environment, Park Board, advised that she and Mona Woodward are on the planning committee for National Aboriginal Day, and suggested the committee have a presence. Members so agreed.

Co-Chair Eastman referred this matter to the Community Engagement Sub-Committee

Co-Chair Howard sought the committee's assistance in preparing the brochures. In response, Wendy Au, Assistant City Manager, suggested the City's Communications Department could assist and advised that she would follow-up.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Mason Ducharme
SECONDED by Winona Stevens

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Wednesday, July 17, 2013
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: Committee Room No.1
Third Floor, Vancouver City Hall

The Committee adjourned at 7:48 pm.

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