



URBAN INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

September 19, 2022

A meeting of the Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee was held on Monday, September 19, 2022, at 5:40 pm, in Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, and via electronic means.

PRESENT: Robbie Knott (Chair)
Suzette Amaya
Nicole Cardinal
Jamie Dixel
Shadae Johnson
Cody Kenny
Brandon Macleod
Cheryl Marion
Annita Mcphee

ABSENT: Claudette Abraham
Cinnamon Bhayani (Leave of Absence)
Lorraine Jack
Juanita Joe
Alana Obey
Yvette Stephenson (Leave of Absence)

ALSO PRESENT: Trustee Janet Fraser, Vancouver School Board Liaison
Spencer Lindsay, Reconciliation Planner, Vancouver Park Board Staff Liaison
Shabna Ali, Senior Social Planner, Staff Liaison
Rachel Wuttunee, Social Planner, Staff Liaison

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Kevin Burris, Manager, Civic Agencies

WELCOME

Chair Knott acknowledged and expressed gratitude that we are on the the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Peoples.

Chair Knott noted this would be his last Committee meeting, as he is moving away from Vancouver.

Modified Procedures

MOVED by Suzette Amaya
SECONDED by Jamie Dixel

THAT the Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee suspend the rule of section 15.13 of the *Procedure By-law* in order to allow modified decision-making methods during the meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Leave of Absence Requests

THAT the Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee approve leaves of absence for Cinnamon Bhayani and Yvette Stephenson.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

Approval of Minutes

THAT the Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of Monday, May 09, 2022, as circulated.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

1. Staff Liaison Updates

Shabna Ali provided updates on the following, and with Rachel Wuttunee responded to questions and comments:

- Hastings Street encampment and decriminalizing poverty measures;
- Demolition of Balmoral Building; staff are consulting with community to determine ceremony needed.

The Committee agreed by consensus that they would like to be engaged in future discussions, and would like to see a process for healing and grieving be considered.

Rachel Wuttunee provided updates on the following:

- MMIWG+ Report recommendations delivered to Council on July 19, 2022;
- Rachel's current contract will end in January; Social Policy will request further funding from Council for implementation work to continue.

Following discussion, it was resolved

THAT the Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee calls on the City of Vancouver as a City of Reconciliation to recognize that Reconciliation and MMIWG2S+ work addresses an ongoing genocide, and that funding for staff resources and implementation of recommendations must be permanent, and not subject to annual approval and renewal;

AND FURTHER THAT advocating for Indigenous Rights and equitable treatment must not be subject to election and budget cycles, and Reconciliation must be embedded into civic processes and funding arrangements regardless of political affiliation.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

2. Questions of Liaisons

Trustee Fraser provided a written update prior to the meeting, and further updated the Committee on the Province's closure of schools on September 19, 2022.

Spencer Lindsay provided an update on the Colonial Audit Report, which will be going to the newly elected Park Board on December 5, 2022. Spencer further noted that this would be their last Committee meeting, as they are moving away from Vancouver, and Committee members expressed their appreciation for Spencer's work and participation.

3. Elections Discussion

Danielle Johnston, Elections Outreach Manager, provided information on the upcoming election and responded to questions, comments, and suggestions regarding Urban Indigenous participation.

4. Annual Report Discussion / Debrief

Committee members discussed additions to the draft Annual Report. Nicole Cardinal noted that the Vancouver Police Department has not responded to the letter "Keeping Our Sisters Safe" of May 19, 2022.

Following discussion, it was resolved

THAT the Urban Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Committee adopt the Annual Report in principle.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

5. New Business

Committee members discussed cases of non-Indigenous persons representing themselves as Indigenous, and possible actions on the part of the City. The Committee asked Staff Liaison Shabna Ali to follow up with the Senior Director, Indigenous Relations, to seek to develop a policy and procedure for addressing this issue within the City of Vancouver.

ADJOURNMENT

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

APPROVED BY CONSENSUS

Next Meeting:

 DATE: TBD

TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: TBD

The Committee adjourned at 7:38 pm.

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