



## WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES

September 10, 2013

A meeting of the Women's Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, September 10, 2013, at 5:34 pm in Committee Room 1, Third Floor, City Hall.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Wendy Williams, Chair  
Kamal Basra  
Jake Hassel-Gren  
Jarrah Hodge  
Ingrid Kolsteren  
Marion Smith  
Julie Wong

**ABSENT:** Krissy Darch (Leave of Absence)  
Genesa Greening (Leave of Absence)  
Fiona McFarlane, Vice-Chair (Leave of Absence)  
Margarita Pinillos (Leave of Absence)  
Bif Walker (Leave of Absence)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Andrea Reimer, Council Liaison

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Terri Burke, Meeting Coordinator

#### Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Jake Hassel-Gren  
SECONDED by Ingrid Kolsteren

THAT Krissy Darch, Genesa Greening, Fiona McFarlane, Margarita Pinillos and Bif Walker be granted leaves of absence for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Jake Hassel-Gren  
SECONDED by Marion Smith

THAT the Minutes of the Women's Advisory Committee meeting held on April 16, 2013, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## 1. Presentation - Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC

Sharon Gregson, Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC, provided a presentation on the "\$10 a Day Child Care Plan", also referred to as the "Community Plan for a Public System of Integrated Early Care and Learning", and responded to questions.

Ms. Gregson noted the following during her presentation:

- How the plan builds on well-established evidence;
- The United Nations concern for the child care crisis in Canada;
- Highlights from the Plan;
- Benefits to the economy;
- Benefits to children and youth;
- Results from Quebec;
- What the Provincial Government is doing in regards to child care; and
- Actions that can be taken to move the plan forward.

The Committee agreed to draft a letter to a representative of the Premier of BC, requesting to facilitate a discussion between the Premier, or a member of her staff, and a member of the Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC.

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*In order for the presentation for item 2 to begin at 6:30 pm, the Committee agreed to vary the order of the agenda to deal with items 3 through 6 next. For clarity, the minutes are recorded in numerical order.*

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## 2. Presentation - Remarkable Women Poster Project

Cyndy Chwelos and Jil Weaving, Board of Parks and Recreation, provided a presentation on the International Women's Day initiative entitled "Remarkable Women Poster Project". They noted the theme for 2013 is Reconciliation, workshops will be held throughout the city, a blog will be created featuring all women who are nominated, and the final event is scheduled to take place on March 8, 2013, at the Roundhouse in Yaletown.

At the request of the Board of Parks and Recreation, the Committee agreed to host, and organize speakers for a luncheon for the Remarkable Women finalists. The luncheon is scheduled to take place prior to the Remarkable Women awards ceremony.

The Committee agreed to also host its own event at City Hall on March 6, 2013, for International Women's Day. Jarrah Hodge noted the goal of the event is to recognize the everyday work of women in the City of Vancouver. She noted next steps will be organizing food and beverages for the day.

## 3. Transportation Plan Stakeholder Advisory Group

Marion Smith noted the meeting had been cancelled.

**4. Women's History Month - October 17, 2013**

Kamal Basra provided an update on the event scheduled to take place at City Hall, in the Council Chamber, on October 17, 2013, at 7 pm. She noted the event is a joint effort by the Women's Advisory Committee and the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee and the evening will consist of six speakers sharing stories of reconciliation.

**5. Update on Joint Meeting of April 19, 2013**

**a) Working with the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee**

Wendy Williams provided an update in Krissy Darch's absence, noting Ms. Darch has been attending meetings with City staff and the Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Advisory Committee to discuss recommendations from the Missing Women's Commission of Inquiry and the City's Task Force on Sex Trade and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation. It was noted working groups have been established to work on these issues.

**b) Follow-up with Vancouver Police Department**

Jake Hassel-Gren noted she is working with Krissy Darch and they will be drafting an e-mail soon to send to the VPD.

**6. Truth and Reconciliation - September 2013**

Wendy Williams and Councillor Reimer provided information on celebrations for Reconciliation Week which is taking place in Vancouver from September 16-22, 2013.

**7. Housing Report**

Kamal Basra and Marion Smith provided an update on a presentation they received from Planning and Development Services and Community Services staff regarding a new interim rezoning policy for increasing affordable housing choices.

The Meeting Coordinator agreed to send the housing presentation to all Committee members.

**8. Meeting of all Advisory Committee Chairs**

Ingrid Kolsteren provided an update on the meeting she attended, on behalf of the Chair, for all Civic Agency Chairs. She noted they discussed the number of Regular meetings each Committee is allotted and a survey requesting feedback from Committees will be sent out in the fall.

**9. New Business**

None.

The Committee adjourned at 7:42 pm.