



## **WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES**

**January 6, 2026**

A meeting of the Women's Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, at 5:33 PM, in the Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall, and via electronic means.

**PRESENT:** Ellie Lawson, Chair  
Morrell Andrews  
Katsy Concepcion  
Nazma Lee  
Serena Mohammed  
Molly Needham  
Alida Oegema Thomas, Co-Chair  
Olga Shcherbyna  
Shirin Shushtarian

**ABSENT:** Alaina Chun

**ALSO PRESENT:** Insp. Kelly Risebrough, Vancouver Police Department  
Liaison  
Gillian Guilmant-Smith, Vancouver Public Library Liaison  
Tanya Fink, Social Planner; Staff Liaison

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Julie Emmerson, Meeting Coordinator

### **WELCOME**

The 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**

None.

### **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED by Morrell Andrews  
SECONDED by Olga Shcherbyna

THAT the Women's Advisory Committee approve the minutes from the meeting of Tuesday, November 18, 2025, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**1. Appointment of Chair and Co-Chair**

MOVED by Molly Needham  
SECONDED by Shirin Shushtarian

THAT the Women's Advisory Committee appoint Alida Oegema Thomas and Ellie Lawson as Co-Chairs of the Women's Advisory Committee for a term ending November 1, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**2. Update on Women's Equity Strategy and City-wide Equity Program**

Staff from the Strategy and Project Support Office provided a presentation and responded to questions and comments.

**3. Annual Report Approval**

The Chair provided an overview of the 2025 Annual Report. Following discussion, the Committee deferred approval to a subsequent meeting.

**4. Liaison Updates**

All Liaisons present provided updates and responded to questions.

**5. Subcommittee Updates**

None.

**6. New Business**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Olga Shcherbyna  
SECONDED by Serena Mohammed

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Next Meeting:**

DATE: Tuesday, March 3, 2026  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall  
/ Teams Meeting

The Committee adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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