

From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>

To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"

CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
"Matthews, Lesley" <lesley.matthews@vancouver.ca>

Date: 4/20/2020 4:52:32 PM

Subject: Memo - Reestablishment of the Citizens' Peace Award - RTS 13665

Attachments: Memo - Reestablishment of the Citizen's Peace Award - RTS 13665.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

The attached memo from Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk, provides an update on staff's progress regarding the re-establishment of the Citizens' Peace Award - RTS 13665. A brief summary is as follows:

- On September 11, 2019, Council passed a motion directing staff to reinitiate the Citizens' Peace Award, which would recognize an individual, group of citizens or organization for their contribution to world peace. No budget was included in the approved motion.
- Staff met with UNAC-Vancouver's executive board members to discuss how the award could best be reinitiated. A range of options were discussed with three potential options included in the memo.
- After thoughtful consideration, staff would like to proceed with adding the Citizen's Peace Award to the Awards of Excellence program starting in 2021.

Should you have any questions regarding this memo, please contact Rosemary Hagiwara at rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca or Lesley Matthews at Lesley.matthews@vancouver.ca

Best,
Sadhu

Sadhu Aufochs Johnston | City Manager
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Pronouns: he, him, his



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

MEMORANDUM

April 20, 2020

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu A. Johnston, City Manager
Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Rena Kendall-Craden, Civic Engagement and Communications Director
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Alvin Singh, Communications Director, Mayor's Office
Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Lesley Matthews, Chief External Relations and Protocol

FROM: Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk

SUBJECT: Reestablishment of the Citizens' Peace Award - RTS 13665

PURPOSE

The following memo provides an update on staff's progress regarding the reestablishment of the Citizens' Peace Award. On September 11, 2019, Council passed a motion directing staff to reinitiate the Citizens' Peace Award, which would recognize an individual, group of citizens or organization for their contribution to world peace. No budget was included in the approved motion.

BACKGROUND

The City's Citizens' Peace Award was first established by Council in 1990 at the recommendation of the *Special Council Committee on Peace*. The Award was co-sponsored by Vancouver City Council and the United Nations Association in Canada – Vancouver Branch (UNAC – Vancouver), and was intended to give recognition to a citizen who contributed to the cause of peace at the community level, through leadership, a commitment towards serving the community and a willingness to devote time, energy and effort to the promotion of peace and disarmament.

Nominations were solicited by the City Clerk and reviewed by an adjudication committee consisting of a representative of the UNAC - Vancouver and two City Freedom Award recipients. Recommended recipients were then forwarded to Council for final approval. The

Citizens' Peace Award was granted by Council between 1990 and 1994. In October 1995, City Council discontinued the Award due to a lack of nominations.

In 2003, Council established a Peace and Justice Committee to work with other cities and organizations on peace and justice issues. At the same time, the Citizens' Peace Award resumed in partnership with the UNAC – Vancouver. The Citizens' Peace Award was subsequently granted in 2004, 2005 and 2006.

In December 2006, Council approved a revised list of City Honours and Awards to be recognized annually as set out in the City Honour and Award Events Guidelines (RTS #6438). The Citizens' Peace Award remained on the list but was not granted after 2006. There is little information available as to why the award was not granted after 2006, however, it may have been discontinued because the Peace and Justice Committee was disbanded in November 2006 as a result of an Advisory Bodies Review that was approved by Council (RTS# 5468).

In July 2013, Council approved the City's *Awards of Excellence* (AOE) program (RTS# 9741) to replace the awards listed in the 2006 City Honours and Award Event Guidelines. The approved AOE program was to be managed by External Relations and Protocol, and consist of 5 award categories that aligned with City priorities including: Accessibility, Volunteerism, Diversity and Inclusion, Greenest City initiatives, and Healthy City for All. The AOE program introduced a new streamlined nomination and selection process, and a budget to host a large, public awards ceremony.

The 2013 report approved by Council recommended that the Civic Merit Award, the Freedom of the City Award, as well as the Heritage Awards and Mayor's Arts Awards programs remain intact, and independent of the new AOE program. The Freedom of the City Award remained independent because it is mandated in the Vancouver Charter, and the Civic Merit Award was considered to be an award steeped in tradition since the 1940s and therefore deemed disrespectful to past recipients if the award was to be discontinued. The Heritage Awards and Mayor's Arts Awards were also approved to continue as they served distinct audiences and communities that require special recognition. The Citizens' Peace Award was removed from the list of approved awards to continue.

DISCUSSION

As a result of the September 2019 approved motion which directed staff to reinitiate the Citizens' Peace Award, staff met with UNAC-Vancouver's executive board members to discuss how the award could best be reinitiated. Meetings were conducted between November 2019 and February 2020 at which a range of options were discussed, including:

Option 1 – Recommended by Staff - Add the Citizens' Peace Award to the Awards of Excellence program:

- The award would be added as a separate category in the awards program.
- Nominations and selection would follow the same process as other AOE categories and the recipient would be honoured at the AOE ceremony.
- No additional costs would be incurred.

Option 2 – Proposed by UNAC – Vancouver - Establish the Citizens' Peace Award as a separate and independent award much like the Civic Merit or Freedom of the City Award

- The award would be independent of the AOE program with its own nomination and selection process to be established by staff in collaboration with UNAC – Vancouver.
- The award would be presented at a Council meeting on or close to September 21, which is the United Nations International Day of Peace.
- An approximate cost of \$1500 plus a .25 staff resource is estimated to develop and manage the nomination and selection process, and plan the brief presentation ceremony at the start of a Council meeting. This staff resourcing need may diminish over time as processes are refined to find efficiencies.

Option 3 – Proposed by UNAC – Vancouver - Establish the Citizens' Peace Award as outlined above in Option 2 and include the award presentation at an annual Council event to mark the United Nations International Day of Peace.

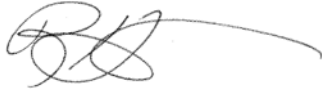
- The award would be presented at an annual Council hosted International Day of Peace event.
- Council would officially recognize September 21 as International Day of Peace on the list of current [City of Vancouver official celebrations and observances](#) and acknowledge it with an annual event at which the Citizens' Peace Award would be presented.
- The approximate cost for Option 3 is estimated to be \$5500 plus a .5 staff resource to develop and manage the nomination and selection process, and then plan the award presentation ceremony and the Council hosted event. The .5 staff resource is estimated for the first year, and this may diminish over time to a .25 staff resource as processes are refined to find efficiencies.

RECOMMENDATION

Given that the Awards of Excellence is a well-established City program with annual funding and community brand recognition, adding the Citizens' Peace Award to the AOE program as outlined in Option 1 would be the most reasonable approach. This approach would require no additional budget or staff resources, or a separate nomination and selection process to be developed.

Staff recommended this option to UNAC – Vancouver; however, the organization respectfully declined as they see the Citizens' Peace Award to be one piece of a larger strategy to promote peace in Vancouver. External Relations and Protocol have no mechanisms currently in place to support UNAC – Vancouver's request outlined in options 2 or 3. In closing, staff would like to proceed with adding the Citizens' Peace Award to the Awards of Excellence program, as outlined in Option 1, starting in 2021. If Council has concerns with this approach, a motion will be required to resource and direct staff to pursue another option.

Should you have questions or require further clarification, please contact Rosemary Hagiwara at rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca or Lesley Matthews at lesley.matthews@vancouver.ca

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RH' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Rosemary Hagiwara
Acting City Clerk

604.873.71777 | rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca