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To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
"Matthews, Lesley" <lesley.matthews@vancouver.ca>
Date: 12/11/2018 1:13:35 PM
Subject: Black History Month Celebration 2019

Dear Mayor and Council,

Black History Month is a globally recognized cultural event celebrated in February as a time to remember important people and events in the history of the African diaspora. In 2011, Vancouver City Council designated Black History Month as an official annual event, and assigned a small budget to host an event for the community. Since this designation, a Black History Month community celebration has taken place each year at the beginning of February in the Council Chamber.

The celebration is planned, organized and managed by the Black History Month Planning Committee, which is made up of volunteers from Vancouver's Black community and is supported by City staff. The work of the planning committee includes selecting an event theme, inviting speakers, and arranging cultural performances. As the Black History Month Planning Committee is an external committee not a Council established advisory committee, City Council has not appointed a Council liaison to sit on the planning committee in the past.

The purpose of this e-mail is to let Councillors know that if you are interested in participating on this planning committee, you are welcome to attend the meetings. Any Councillors interested should contact Lesley Matthews, Chief of External Relations and Protocol at lesley.matthews@vancouver.ca to be added to the committee's email list. This year's Black History Month celebration will take place from **6-8 pm on Friday, February 1, 2019**. Council will receive more information and a formal invitation in the New Year. In the meantime, please save the date for the event in your calendar.

Best,
Sadhu

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