

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
Date: 11/27/2023 4:13:30 PM
Subject: ASL Interpreters at November 28, December 5 and December 12 Council Meetings

Dear Mayor and Council,

At the Council meetings on November 28, December 5th, and December 12th, ASL interpreters will be present throughout the meeting's duration. The purpose is to pilot the increased use and possibility of ASL interpreters at future Council meetings. These three meetings were selected due to the common thread of the budget (Nov 28th has one budget-related report - Mayor's Budget Task Force Final Report).

The below provides a bit more context:

- The conduct of ASL at these meetings will provide a valuable test allowing staff to collect more concrete information and further explore the feasibility of ASL more frequently and consistently.
- Some organizations related to the hard of hearing have been notified of this pilot, including the COV Persons with Disabilities Committee.
- ASL testing supports the City Council's direction in the phased Accessibility Strategy
 - directly for Action #7 which includes the provision of ASL, and
 - indirectly for Action #4 which includes the need for accessible communication supports
- Closed Captioning is not being tested and not being provided at these three meetings. However, staff is currently reviewing the possibility of artificial intelligence to perform such a function, within an acceptable margin of error.

Please contact the City Clerk, Katrina Leckovic directly, if you need any clarification.

Best,
Paul

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.