



**CHINATOWN HISTORIC AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 8, 2021**

Minutes of the meeting of the Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee (CHAPC) held on Thursday, April 8, 2021, via videoconference.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Andrew Larigakis, Architectural Institute of BC, Chair  
Sarah Ling, Member-at-Large, Vice Chair  
Edmund Ma, Chinatown Property Owner  
Inge Roecker, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Garden Society  
Eric Siu, Chinatown Property Owner  
Michael Yu, Chinatown Merchants Association

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Albert Lam, Heritage Vancouver  
Fang Liu, Architectural Institute of BC  
Leslie Shieh, Planning Institute of British Columbia  
Grace Wong, Chinatown Merchants Association

**GUESTS:** Helen Lee, Chinatown Transformation Team  
Helen Ma, Co-Lead, Chinatown Transformation Team

**STAFF:** Elijah Sabadlan, Staff Liaison

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Debbie Reimer, Mosaic Writing Group

**Call to Order**

Elijah Sabadlan, Staff Liaison, advised that Council has extended all CHAPC members' terms until April 30, 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Andrew Larigakis agreed to continue as Chair until nominations and elections can be held.

Andrew Larigakis, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. and conducted the roll call.

The Chair acknowledged the unceded ancestral territories of the territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations and thanked them for having cared for this land.

**1. Adoption of Agenda and Minutes**

MOVED by Inge Roecker  
SECONDED by Sarah Ling

THAT the Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee adopts the agenda for the April 8, 2021 meeting, as presented.

CARRIED

MOVED by Eric Siu  
SECONDED by Inge Roecker

THAT the Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee adopts the minutes of the December 10, 2020 meeting, as presented.

CARRIED

## 2. **Chinatown Cultural Heritage Assets Management Plan**

Helen Ma, Co-Lead, Chinatown Transformation Team, led the review of a presentation titled "Vancouver Chinatown Cultural Heritage Asset Management Plan (CHAMP) Update" and highlighted:

- Council directive at the end of 2017 to protect the unique cultural heritage of Chinatown
- Focus of the Chinatown Transformation Team (CTT):
  - Respond and advocate for support for immediate social and small business concerns that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic
  - Develop long-term vision for Chinatown
- Projects underway:
  - Five Legacy Stewardship Group (LSG) pilot projects
  - Security patrol and graffiti clean-up
  - Community stewards
  - Four new mural installations telling stories of cultural heritage
  - Advocacy for urgent issues
  - Supporting the Chinese Canadian Museum (CCM) temporary exhibition site
- CHAMP themes and strategies:
  - Diverse, healthy, and inclusive community:
    - ☞ Highlights the need to address inequity that seniors face
    - ☞ Commits to honouring and building on the community's relationships with Indigenous people
  - Intangible and built heritage:
    - ☞ Highlights that Chinatown's intangible heritage need to be considered as important as built heritage
    - ☞ Ensures there are spaces for intangible heritage to take place, and support the people and organizations that practice it
    - ☞ Ensures that changes to the physical environment respects Chinatown's value and character
  - Entrepreneurship, thriving business and cultural economy:
    - ☞ Re-emphasizes that small businesses are vulnerable and need a clean and safe environment to operate
    - ☞ Cultural heritage businesses should be encouraged and supported, including with incentives
  - Partnerships and coordination:
    - ☞ Highlights the need to form partnerships on collectively take care of assets that involves all different groups and individuals
- Chinatown requires immediate help to stabilize and weather the current COVID-19 crisis
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) designation is a long term goal

- CTT projects and commitment for 2021 and beyond:
  - Memorial Square redesign
  - Special Enterprise Program
  - Provide seed funding for cultural assets:
    - ☞ Chinese Cultural Centre (CCC)
    - ☞ Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden
    - ☞ CCM
  - Support community to take action
  - Continue support to the LSG until the termination of its term at the end of 2021
- Request for feedback on the draft themes and strategies that will be shared with CHAPC members by email.

Discussion ensued on:

- Agreement that the CHAPC members will provide individual feedback on the draft themes and strategies to the Chair for compilation, with a copy to all members, by April 19, 2021
- Clarification on the use of the seed funding for cultural assets
- Suggestion to explore a small grant program for community members to support cultural initiatives and activities
- A retail vision for Chinatown is being developed as part of the Special Enterprise Program
- Suggestion to develop a grant program to connect property owners and Indigenous or Chinese community artists for murals or artistic creations.

**Action Item (01):** *Elijah Sabadlan to distribute information on the Special Enterprise Program to CHAPC members.*

### 3. **Staff Update**

Mr. Sabadlan advised:

- The review of CHAPC nominees is underway
- Committee members' terms were extended to April 30, 2021 with the potential for further extensions.

Discussion ensued on:

- Request that members to contact Mr. Sabadlan if they are unable to continue to serve on CHAPC
- Concern regarding the potential for a wholesale change in the CHAPC membership and the resultant loss in institutional memory:
  - The importance of continuity of the membership
- The need for the City to clarify CHAPC's future role.

### 4. **Adjournment**

The Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee meeting held April 8, 2021 adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

**Next Meeting:**

Date: May 13, 2021

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: Videoconference (WebEx Events)

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Certified correct:

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Andrew Larigakis, Chair

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Date Approved

DRAFT