

Chinatown Legacy Stewardship Group (LSG) Inaugural Meeting

Date: Wednesday, April 24, 2019
Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Location: Chinatown House, 188 East Pender Street

Present: Alain Chow, Amanda Huynh, Aynsley Wong Meldrum, Cecil Charles Chi Chung Fung, Danny Quon, Elisha Yao, Fred Kwok, Glynnis Chan, Jordan Eng, Jun Ing, Kimberley Wong, Laiwan Chung, Lesley Anderson, Leslie Shieh, Li Yu Rong, Mark Lee, Michael Sing Yau Tan 譚聖祐, Michelle Fu, Minna Van, Ross Lam, Sonny Wong, Stephanie Leo, Terry Hunter, Terry Yung, Vincent Kwan, Wang Zhao, Will Tao, William Ma, Willie Chan

Guests: Wade Grant, Henry Yu (UBC), Sarah Ling (UBC), Nick Yung

Interpreter: Cliff Cheng

Staff: Gil Kelley, Sandra Singh, Neil Hrushowy

Chinatown Transformation Team: Baldwin Wong, Helen Ma, Belle Cheung, Helen Lee, Joseph Li, Aaron Lao, Alan Chen

Regrets: Carmut Me, Fred Mah, Jugen Li, Kevin Huang 黃儀軒, To Trinh Diep, Y Vy Truong

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Wade Grant, Musqueam representative, welcomed the group.
- Gil Kelley, General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability, and Sandra Singh, General Manager of Arts, Culture and Community Services, delivered opening remarks.

2. Introduction of Members

- Members were divided into groups of two and introduced each other.

3. Additions to Terms of Reference

- Baldwin Wong, Chinatown Transformation Team Co-lead, presented proposed additions to the LSG Terms of Reference.
- Additions were adopted as presented.
- (Please see attached Revised Terms of Reference)

4. City Staff Presentation

- Helen Ma, Chinatown Transformation Team Co-lead, presented an overview of Chinatown Transformation work.
- (Please see attached PDF file for full presentation.)

5. Plenary Discussion: Questions from LSG and Responses from City Staff

What is the geographic boundary of Chinatown? Does it include neighbouring areas, especially because intangible heritage might not be confined to Chinatown's boundaries?

- We are focusing on the City-defined boundaries of Chinatown.
- However, Chinatown is also part of the larger Downtown Eastside neighbourhood. In order to improve Chinatown, we must also consider the neighbouring areas.
- Overall, from a UNESCO point of view, all neighbouring areas will have to be considered since the heritage management plan requires considerations for the surrounding area.

What is it that we are trying to protect? Is intangible heritage included?

- Yes. Both tangible and intangible heritage should be documented and strategies developed for them.
- The cultural assets inventory will help us better understand exactly the things that are special, including things that are not visible from the street, such as activities that take place inside a building.
- We will also have to prioritize, because it is not just about preserving things and freezing them in time. It's also about change, and how we want to manage change.

What does a successful UNESCO World Heritage Site application mean? What is a realistic timeline to achieve designation by UNESCO?

- Typically the application could take 5 to 10 years to complete. Some work has already been done in Vancouver's Chinatown so it will take less time.
- We can prepare more information for our next meeting.

What tools do we have at our disposal to effect change? 7 month term seems to be too short. What happens after all the term ends?

- These next 7 months will inform what our next steps should be, but don't feel limited by the 7 months.
- Staff will be happy to recommend an extension of the group's term to Council if the group feels the work is effective.

Do we feel Chinatown looks and feels like Chinatown now? When tourists come to Vancouver and Chinatown, it doesn't feel like it. We need to do something right away. We need to reform Chinatown's image right away.

- Generally agreed.

Do we have strategies to tackle gentrification?

- This could be a topic for a working group since any strategies will need cooperation from different sectors in the community.

What is the role of this group? How much agency does LSG have to effect change? Is LSG advising City staff and/or City Council? Does LSG provide staff a list of recommendations?

- We will rely on your advice on critical issues and the direction of how our work together will unfold.
- The intent is for the City, LSG and the community to work in partnership and develop strategies and priorities together.
- Further, working groups can help us identify projects we can work on together. We are looking to LSG members to talk to people in the community to come up with partnership projects that the City can support.
- City staff will be responsible for writing a report to Council with recommendations and strategies that are developed in partnership with LSG.

How are the working group topics decided? What is the structure of working groups? Can they be established or dissolved as issues arise?

- At the May meeting, we will discuss what topics are most important to focus on. We will come to an agreement on how they are formed and supported.

6. Next meeting: location and proposed dates

- The group was asked to indicate their preferences for the next two meeting dates.
- Saturday May 25th in the morning, or Wednesday May 29th in the evening
 - Saturday – preferred by 8 people
 - Wednesday – preferred by 17 people
- Saturday Jun 22nd in the morning, or Wednesday June 26th in the evening
 - Saturday – preferred by 6 people
 - Wednesday – preferred 21 people

7. Next steps/follow-up actions

- Consider a co-chair nomination, working group topics and recruitment process for discussion at next meeting.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Chinatown Legacy Stewardship Group (LSG) Inaugural Meeting

唐人街文化傳承督導組(LSG) 首次會議 會議摘要

日期：2019年4月24日（星期三）

時間：下午5時30分至7時30分

地點：片打東街188號華合院

1. 歡迎辭和開場白

- 馬斯琴原住民部族代表韋德·格蘭特（Wade Grant）致歡迎辭。
- 溫哥華市府代表致開場白：規劃、城市設計和可持續發展總經理吉爾·凱利（Gil Kelley）和藝術、文化和社區服務總經理桑德拉·辛格（Sandra Singh）。

2. 小組成員介紹

- 與會成員分為二人一組，彼此介紹。

3. 增加職權範圍修訂建議

- 唐人街經濟文化發展專案小組共同組長黃永安（Baldwin Wong）提交了增加LSG職權範圍的修訂建議。
- 修訂建議獲得通過。
- （請參閱附上的職權範圍修訂版）

4. 市府職員發言

- 唐人街經濟文化發展專案小組共同組長馬凱盈（Helen Ma）介紹了唐人街經濟文化發展工作的概況。
- （請參閱附上的PDF檔案以瞭解完整的發言內容）

5. 全體討論：LSG成員提出的問題和市府職員的回應

唐人街的地理邊界如何界定？是否包括鄰近區域，這尤其是因為非物質遺產可能不限於唐人街的範圍？

- 我們集中於市政府界定為唐人街的區域。
- 然而，唐人街也是市中心東端較大社區的一部分。為了改善唐人街，我們還必須考慮鄰近區域。
- 總體而言，從聯合國教科文組織的角度來看，我們必須考慮所有鄰近區域，因為文化遺產管理計劃需要考慮周邊區域。

我們要保育的是什麼？非物質遺產是否包括在內？

- 對，不論物質和非物質遺產都應該記錄，並且制訂保育策略。
- 盤點文化資產庫存將讓我們更好地瞭解究竟哪些才是特別的文化事物，這包括在街道上看不到的事物，比如在建築物內進行的活動。
- 我們還必須確定優先次序，因為這不單是為了保護事物並令它們在時空中凝結。這也是為了與時並進的變化，以及我們希望如何管理這樣的變化。

聯合國教科文組織世界遺產申請成功意味著什麼？獲得選入教科文組織世界遺產名錄的實際時程表是怎樣？

- 通常情況下，申請過程可能需要5至10年才能完成。溫哥華唐人街已經做了一些工作，所以所需的時間會較少。我們可以準備更多的資料在下次會議分享。

我們有哪些資源和途徑可以進行改變？七個月的任期似乎太短了。任期結束後會怎樣？

- 未來的七個月將決定我們下一步應該採取什麼措施，但請不要覺得受制於七個月。如果成員認為督導組的工作有效，職員將樂於向市議會建議將督導組的任期延長。

我們現在覺得唐人街看起來和感覺像唐人街嗎？當遊客來到溫哥華和唐人街時，他們的感覺是它並不像唐人街。我們需要馬上做些事情。我們需要馬上改變唐人街的形象。

- 成員普遍同意。

我們有策略去處理唐人街中產階層化 (gentrification) 的問題嗎？

- 這個議題可能要成立一個工作小組去研究, 因為任何策略都需要社區不同階層人士的合作。

這個督導組的角色是什麼？LSG 獲得多少授權去實現改變？LSG 是為市府職員和市議會提供諮詢意見嗎？LSG 是否為職員提供一系列建議？

- 我們將依靠你們在關鍵問題上的建議以及我們共同努力的方向。
- 其目的是讓市政府、LSG 和社區成為合作夥伴, 一起制定策略和優先事項。
- 此外, 工作組可以協助我們辨識我們可以一起合作的項目。我們期待 LSG 成員與社區人士聯絡和接觸, 提出市政府可以支持的夥伴關係項目。
- 市府工作人員將負責編寫一份提交市議會的報告, 其中包括與LSG共同制訂的建議和策略。

工作小組的議題是如何決定的？工作小組的結構是什麼？它們能否在議題出現/解決時才成立或解散？

- 在五月的會議上, 我們將討論哪些議題最值得關注。我們將就如何成立和支援工作小組達成協議。

6. 下次會議：地點和提議日期

- 工作組成員討論對其後兩個會議的首選日期。
- 5月25日星期六上午或5月29日星期三晚上
 - 星期六 - 是8人的首選
 - 星期三 - 是17人的首選
- 6月22日星期六上午或6月26日星期三晚上

- 星期六 - 是6人的首選
- 星期三 - 是21人的首選

7. Next steps/下一步/跟進行動

- 考慮提名共同主席、工作小組的議題和招募方式，供下次會議討論。
- 會議於晚上7時40分休會。