



Intelligent City Advisory Committee

**Thursday, June 20, 2013 – 3:00pm
EOC 1, City Hall**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Bill Harper - Co-chair, City Council
Reg Nordman - Community Member, EDAC representative
Jen Arbo - Community Member
Nelson Eng - Community Member
Jonina Campbell - Community Member
Gary Munro - Community Member

REGRETS:

Ian McLeod - Community Member
John Longbottom - Community Member
Michael Hrybyk - Co-chair, Community Member
Gerry Akkerman - TransLink

STAFF:

Blair Fryer - Manager, Communications and Economic Development
Alvin Chok - Chief Information Officer
Bev Grieve - Acting Director, Development Services
Rod Carle - General Manager, Electrical Operations Design & Admin
Jim Lowrie - Director, Engineering
Susan Buss - Deputy Chief Librarian
Andréa Parkerson - Economic Development Coordinator/Recording Clerk

GUESTS:

Rick Adams - Manager, ICT; City of Coquitlam

The meeting was called to order at 3:05pm.

1.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the June 20, 2013 agenda be adopted.

CARRIED.

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MAY 16, 2013 MINUTES

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the May 16 2013 meeting minutes be adopted.

CARRIED.

All members of the Committee present voted in favour of the motion.

3.0 PRESENTATION FROM CASE STUDY SUBGROUP

3.1 Presentation from Case-Study Subgroup

The Case Study Subgroup has not yet met together. The Terms of Reference were drafted by Alvin Chok and distributed to the Subgroup.

The role of the Case Study Subgroup is to look at cities that have similar attributes to New Westminster, complete a comparative analysis, and report back to the Committee.

Mr. Chok reviewed the Terms of Reference:

Mandate:

- Look at selected cities on how they achieve their “Intelligent City” objectives.
- Identify commonalities and conduct a comparative analysis to New Westminster.
- Report to the Advisory Committee on findings and recommendations.

Time-Line:

- Attend Intelligent City Forum Summit in New York (June 4-7, 2013)
- Visit City of Stratford, Ontario (June 10, 2013)
- Review Coquitlam Q-Net Fiber Utility (June 20, 2013)
- Review strategies of Columbus OH, Toronto, Waterloo and Stratford (July 12, 2013)
- Prepare findings and recommendations (July 26, 2013)

The findings will be discussed as a Committee and further steps decided accordingly.

4.0 INTELLIGENT COMMUNITY FORUM OVERVIEW

4.1 Intelligent Community Forum Overview (Alvin Chok/Rod Carle/Blair Fryer)

Alvin Chok, Rod Carle, and Blair Fryer attended the Intelligent Community Forum (ICF) in New York, June 4-7, 2013. The forum provided an opportunity to gain knowledge and have open conversations with members of the top seven cities.

Mr. Fryer briefly highlighted the forum itinerary, and described the experience of attending the ICF. He explained that while Intelligent City is a tech initiative, it ultimately results in an economic development initiative for the City of New Westminster.

Mr. Carle described the Masters Class they attended, which explained how ICF was founded, the five pillars, and the need for leadership, collaboration and sustainability to be successful. This class also provided information on how municipal government can obtain financing for infrastructure initiatives.

The Committee discussed the timeframe that the top seven cities required to accomplish their intelligent city initiatives; the timeframes ranged from five to eleven years to reach eligibility for the ICF award. Mr. Fryer noted that in 2013 there were 54 applications to ICF from all over the world.

Mr. Chok presented the Intelligent Cities Overview which covered the following points:

- The five Intelligent City pillars: infrastructure, knowledge workforce, innovation, digital inclusion, marketing & advocacy
- Overview of the top seven Intelligent Cities of 2013
- Detailed overviews of Columbus, Toronto, and Stratford. Details included:
 - Profile of the city
 - Challenges
 - Strategies
 - Success stories
- A video of Toronto's success, and a video of Stratford's success

The Committee discussed the comparison of New Westminster's broadband to other cities in the region. Stratford was given as an example of how a municipality can leverage their city-owned utility to make their city more "intelligent". Cost was also a topic of discussion; the Committee concluded that it is difficult to compare fibre implementation costs due to the variation in size. For New Westminster, considering both size and level of accessibility planned, the cost is estimated to be \$7million.

4.2 Stratford Overview

No items. This topic was address in 4.1.

5.0 NEW WESTMINSTER INTELLIGENT CITY STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

5.1 New Westminster Intelligent City Strategic Framework

The "suggested subgroups" document was overviewed, and accepted by the Committee. The Intelligent City Advisory Committee meeting agenda will change accordingly, from once a month to once a quarter; and the subgroups will meet

once a month. Each subgroup will have a City of New Westminster staff as the chair who will be responsible for leading, organizing, and reporting to the Committee.

The subgroups are to have their initial meeting in July 2013.

Procedural note: Jonina Campbell exited at 4:12pm

6.0 QNET PRESENTATION (RICK ADAMS, CITY OF COQUITLAM)

6.1 QNet Presentation – Rick Adams

Mr. Chok introduced Mr. Adams, Manager of ICT for the City of Coquitlam.

Mr. Adams opened his presentation with a video of Australia, regarding their initiative that aims to make 100mb (up and down) internet available to everyone in the country. The video also touched upon the implications that this level of accessibility will have on work, globalization, health, education, arts, and commerce.

Mr. Adams proceeded to present a QNet overview; the points included:

- Telecom Services in Canada – Romania has faster internet per person (on average) than Canada. The larger internet service providers (ISPs) in Canada hold the power, leaving little room and small margins for smaller ISPs.
- Transportation in the knowledge based economy – QNet offers infrastructure
- Coquitlam Optical Network Corporation (QNet) – QNet is not funded by taxpayers, it is a company separate from the City, but wholly owned by the City of Coquitlam.
- Strategy – Fibre to the premises first, then they will consider fibre to the home. Currently the schools build out to QNet as it would be too expensive for QNet to recover costs while charging a nominal rate. A data centre was built in Coquitlam for approximately \$1million, and the rack rentals produce the majority of QNet's revenue. There is high demand for the data centre because of issues at Harbour Centre, such as power outages and unreliable service.
- How are we doing? All of Rogers in Coquitlam is on QNet,. US Carriers can lease QNet, thereby avoiding the investment of building their own infrastructure. Telus and Shaw do not use QNet.
- QNet Internet Exchange – Coquitlam is connected to Harbour Centre via the CPR and Highway 1.
- The CRTC is beneficial because they foster competition amongst ISPs and encourage the small ISPs. There are currently 9 ISPs operating in Coquitlam.

The Committee had a question and answer period with Mr. Adams, with most questions centered on revenue streams, work required, and infrastructure.

Procedural note: Gary Munro exited at 4:30pm

7.0 OTHER BUSINESS

No items.

8.0 MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:01pm

Councillor Bill Harper
Chair

Andréa Parkerson
Recording Clerk