



YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**January, 23 2014 - 5:00 p.m.
Oak Room, Century House**

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brandon Lee	- Member at large
Ellelan Degife	- Member at large
Hannah Block	- Member at large
Hayden Goss	- Member at large
Sadie DeCoste	- Member at large
Veronika Gukova	- Member at large
Dana Radivojevic	- Member at large
Lily Nikolova	- Member at large
John Cao	- Member at large

VOTING MEMBERS REGRETS:

Jelena Mitrovic	- Member at large
Kiara Dale	- Member at large
Caitlin Nault	- Member at large
Simar Saini	- Member at large
Tay Su-Jeong Kim	- Member at large
Valeria Nandayapa	- Member at large

NON VOTING ADVISORS:

Chuck Puchmayr	- City Council
Ashley Currie	- School District #40
Andrea Mears	- District Parent Advisory Committee
Karon Trenaman	- ICBC Representative

GUESTS:

Anique Ross	- Society for Children and Youth of BC
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STAFF:

Leslie Cole	- Manager of Seniors and Youth Services
Sandon Fraser	- Youth Services Coordinator
Alison Worsfold	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the agenda be amended by adding:

- *Item 5.1 – Special Services and Access Committee*
- *Item 6.8 – ICBC Representative Report (Karon Trenaman)*

CARRIED.

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

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of November 28, 2013

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the Youth Advisory Committee meeting held on November 28, 2013 be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Child and Youth Friendly New Westminster

Anique Ross, Society for Children and Youth of BC, provided the following details regarding the Child and Youth Friendly New Westminster project:

- The project is administered by the Society for Children and Youth of British Columbia;
- The Society aims to provide a strong voice for children and youth through advocacy and community engagement;
- The project promotes the concept of child and youth friendly communities in the lower mainland;
- The project helps community groups assess their neighbourhoods from a youth's perspective and to engage in activities that improve the safety and well-being of children and youth; and,
- The Society is seeking input for the project by distributing a survey designed for local youth.

Ms. Ross circulated a survey for members of the Committee to complete. The survey deadline is March 28, 2014.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council seek approval from the School Board to formally distribute the Child and Youth Friendly New Westminster survey in the schools for students from grades seven to twelve.

CARRIED.

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

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were no items.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Access Ability Advisory Committee

Sandon Fraser, Youth Services Coordinator, advised that the Access Ability Advisory Committee is seeking a youth representative to serve on the Committee.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 Councillor's Report – Councillor Chuck Puchmayr

Councillor Chuck Puchmayr reported that Council appreciated the presentation from local youth regarding Pink Shirt Day, and thanked the Committee members for their work on the Youth Advisory Committee to date.

6.2 School Board Trustee

No items, as the position is vacant.

6.3 Community School Coordinator's Report – Ashley Currie

Ashley Currie, Community School Coordinator, reported the following:

- The shirts for Pink Shirt Day have been designed and are available for purchase through the City, at New Westminster Secondary School (NWSS) and online;
- All proceeds from shirt sales will go towards bullying prevention in New Westminster;
- The deadline for shirt orders is the end of January 2014;
- Voting began yesterday for the "Care to Change" video competition, which is sponsored by the United Way of the Lower Mainland;
- The competition was created with a goal to see youth and adults in British Columbia raise their voice about important issues in their community;
- Two groups of New Westminster youth have registered their videos in the competition;

- Kids New West Committee has been established to look at the needs of kids aged zero to six;
- The Committee consists of a number of local New Westminster child and family service providers and agencies and is funded by the United Way of the Lower Mainland; and,
- The Committee and the Environmental Club would like to collaborate to complete a community garden and start a mentorship program.

6.4 DPAC Coordinator Report – Andrea Mears

Andrea Mears, District Parent Advisory Committee, reported the following:

- The reported budget reductions as stated in the media were inaccurate;
- The New Westminster Secondary School (NWSS) budget consultation meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. and students are encouraged to attend;
- At the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting held on the January 16, 2014, a resolution was passed that called for the resignation of the School Board and for New Westminster School Board to amalgamate with Burnaby;
- The Province of British Columbia has indicated that they will not act on the resolution, as the School Board elections are held in November 2014;
- The Provincial government is currently reviewing the process of seclusion rooms; and,
- School District #40 has standardized the procedures around the use of seclusion rooms and an information guide regarding the rooms is being drafted.

Ms. Mears distributed the draft Education Policy to the Committee, and noted that the Policy has been established for students with physical and learning disabilities that may require a modified curriculum and/or support staff.

6.5 Youth Coordinator's Report – Sandon Fraser

Sandon Fraser, Youth Coordinator, reported that New Westminster will be hosting the British Columbia Parks and Recreation Youth Conference at the Anvil Centre in November 2014.

6.6 BC Youth Parliament

Sadie DeCoste provided the following details regarding her attendance at the British Columbia Youth Parliament that was held from December 26 – 31, 2013, in Victoria, British Columbia:

- 90 youth from British Columbia attended the informative conference;
- The youth learned about the rules of passing legislation and democracy; and,

- Debates were held regarding private members resolutions and lowering the provincial voting age to 16.

Ms. DeCoste reported that she placed second in the debate competition, and expressed appreciation to Council for providing her with the opportunity to attend BC Youth Parliament.

6.7 Member Reports

Ellelan Degife reported that the British Columbia Model United Nations New Westminster conference, held on December 8, 2013, was a success.

Hannah Block reported that Respect Ed has begun distributing order forms for the shirts for Pink Shirt Day. The shirts can be purchased for \$10 at the high school or \$15 online or at City Hall.

Sadie DeCoste reported that paper towel composting is now underway at New Westminster Secondary School (NWSS). Further, the Environmental Club is advocating the incorporation of the awareness of consumption and conservation into the high school's Environmental Studies curriculum.

Veronika Gukova advised that she looks forward to receiving a presentation on the School District budget at the next meeting.

Dana Radivojevic reported that she has been accepted into the International Development Studies department at Dalhousie University.

Lily Nikolova reported that Operation Med School is seeking a venue to host the one-day medical conference that will allow students to learn more about the field of medicine.

6.8 ICBC Representative Report – Karon Trenaman

Karon Trenaman, ICBC representative, reported the following:

- The 'Operation red nose' program was a success and will be looking for volunteers in the coming years;
- ICBC plans on holding two campaigns to target distracted drivers in 2014;
- Statistics demonstrate that claims for distracted driving in British Columbia continue to increase, while claims for impaired driving decrease; and,
- The New Westminster police will be partaking in an initiative on February 12, 2014 at the Columbia and New Westminster SkyTrain stations to inform pedestrians on the importance of wearing reflective gear and to remind motorists to disengage from cell phones while driving.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

Thursday, February 27, 2014 at 5:00pm

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

**ELLELAN DEGIFE
CO-CHAIR**

**ALISON WORSFOLD
COMMITTEE CLERK**