

## Economic Development Advisory Committee

Friday, June 13, 2014 – 8:00 a.m.  
Committee Room #2  
City Hall

### MINUTES

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Bill Harper	- Chair, City Council
Andy Bradshaw	- Downtown Business Improvement Association
David Moulton	- Community Member
Reg Nordman	- Community Member
Chuck Stewart	- Community Member
Dana Woods	- Community Member

#### MEMBER REGRETS:

Mayor Wayne Wright	- Council Member
Patrick O'Shaughnessy	- Community Member
Marie Szklarz	- Community Member
Bart Slotman	- New Westminster Chamber of Commerce

#### STAFF:

Blair Fryer	- Manager, Communications and Economic Development
Andréa Khan	- Economic Development Coordinator
Lauren Blake	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 8:07 a.m.

#### 1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The agenda was amended by adding item 5.2: Makers Café – David Moulton.

#### 2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

##### 2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of February 7, 2014

#### MOVED and SECONDED

*THAT the minutes of the February 7, 2014 meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee be adopted.*

**CARRIED.**

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

## **3.0 NEW BUSINESS**

### **3.1 Intelligent Cities Forum Overview**

Blair Fryer, Manager of Communications and Economic Development, provided an overview of the Intelligent Cities Forum (ICF), and noted the following information:

- The theme for the forum was “Community as a Canvas,” highlighting the relationship between culture and technology, and promoting culture as part of the Intelligent City process;
- Discussions were held regarding the promotion of business and community initiatives together;
- Toronto was awarded Intelligent Community of the Year; and,
- It was suggested that the location of the ICF could be relocated for next year’s Forum to provide additional promotion for the Intelligent Cities brand and to provide an opportunity for more communities to participate.

Mr. Fryer reported that he discussed with Robert Bell, Founder, Intelligent Cities Forum, the application process to become a Smart 21 City, and advised that he will discuss the application process with the Intelligent City Advisory Committee.

Discussion ensued and the Committee noted the following comments:

- The ICF organization has strong connections to Canada, and Canadian cities consistently rank in the top three;
- It was suggested that New Westminster bring forward the Sapperton Green project, the New Media gallery, the fibre optics implementation plan and the collaboration with Stratuscore as part of the City’s Intelligent Cities application;
- It was suggested that the application could focus on the story of the city;
- It was noted that a “smart city” and an “intelligent city” are two different categories, and that New Westminster is accomplishing tasks in each category;
- As part of the proposal, it was suggested that the City discuss with local businesses their plan for the next 10 to 15 years; and,
- It was suggested that being awarded the title of a Smart 21 City could provide economic attraction for the city.

## 4.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

### 4.1 Economic Development General Work Update

Blair Fryer, Manager of Communications and Economic Development, provided a general update on economic development in the city and reported the following information:

- The Economic Forum is scheduled for October 2, 2014;
- Dale and Colin Bosa have been confirmed as keynote speakers, and Lisa Spitale, Suki Sekhon, Darrell Jones have been confirmed as panelists, and Andrew Ramlo has been confirmed as the opening speaker;
- The Forum is seeking a presenting sponsor;
- A Downtown Construction Management Program, including a communication plan and protocols, is being developed;
- The Program will be adjusted throughout the process and then adopted city wide for projects that require streets to be closed, or impact the community;
- The City will organize walking tours with local business owners to obtain their input for the Program;
- The City is currently working with three businesses located on Front Street to allow the businesses to implement sandwich boards on Columbia Street;
- Council has initiated regular meetings with the Business Improvement Association (BIA);
- The Stratuscore Pilot Program would deliver secure fibre optics to Hollywood North production companies, and requires a temporary work space with access to fibre;
- The Pilot Program is currently proposed to be set up at the River Market;
- The development agreement for the Pilot Program requires Council approval;
- The Economic Development Office is working with the Bylaw Department with respect to Green By Nature, the recycling firm, to mitigate impacts on neighbouring businesses;
- A building located on Eleventh Street and Queens Avenue has been granted temporary rezoning to provide a workspace for businesses that were displaced during the fire; and,
- The City is reviewing traditional areas of business to investigate how they could be rezoned to meet the needs of local businesses while maintaining the principles of the Official Community Plan.

## **5.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **5.1 Metrics**

Tristan Johnson, Planning Analyst, provided an updated metrics document and reviewed the indicators that have been selected based on the Committee's feedback that was provided at the April 4, 2014 meeting.

Discussion ensued and the Committee provided the following comments:

- It was suggested that the metrics document provide links between employers and education centers, such as capture stories regarding successful individuals that live and work in the city;
- There will be additional locations for businesses to be established in New Westminster in the next few years;
- It was noted that preserving Light Industrial zoned space in the city could be a challenge; and,
- It was suggested that revamping the business license process could allow the City to better track business and economic development in the city.

**Procedural note:** Chuck Stewart exited the meeting at 9:50 a.m. and quorum was lost.

### **5.2 Makers Space**

David Moulton, Community Member, provided an update regarding the Maker's Space at the River Market, and reported that Douglas College has arranged a lease for the space with the River Market, to begin in October 2014. Mr. Moulton advised that there will be opportunities for the City to provide sponsorship for the Maker's Space.

## **6.0 PRESENTATIONS**

There were no items.

## **7.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items.

## **8.0 NEXT MEETING**

**August 1, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. – Committee Room #2, City Hall**

**9.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**ON MOTION**, the meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

Certified correct,

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**COUNCILLOR BILL HARPER**  
**CHAIR**

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**LAUREN BLAKE**  
**COMMITTEE CLERK**