



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS TASK FORCE

March 5, 2018 11:00 a.m.
City Clerk's Office
City Hall

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Lorrie Williams	- Chair
Councillor Chuck Puchmayr	- Council Member Representative
Blair Fryer	- Manager of Communications and Economic Development
Jacque Killawee	- Acting City Clerk

MEMBERS REGRETS:

Lisa Spitale	- Chief Administrative Officer
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STAFF PRESENT:

Rob McCullough	- Manager, Museums & Heritage Services
Heather Corbett	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 11:09 a.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the following be added to the agenda:

7.2 Expenses to Anaham Reserve for October 2018; and,

THAT the March 5, 2018 agenda be adopted, as amended.

CARRIED.

All members of the Task Force present voted in favour of the motion.

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Minutes from October 23, 2017

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the October 23, 2017 International Relations Task Force minutes be adopted.

CARRIED.

All members of the Task Force present voted in favour of the motion.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

No items.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.1 Update on a Potential Sister City relationship with the Tšilhqot'in First Nation

Councillor Chuck Puchmayr updated the committee on the state of the potential Sister City relationship with the Tšilhqot'in First Nation, noting the following:

- Recent discussion with Chief Joe Alphonse who reported that the community had been very busy since the fire, working on getting funds from the government for reimbursement of their losses from the fire;
- A draft MOU was sent in the new year, within the rules and regulations of Council, which gave options for both Friendship and Sister city relationships – now waiting on response;

In response to questions from the Committee, Councillor Puchmayr provided the following information:

- All relevant advantages of the sister city relationship were mentioned in the letter, including education; and,
- The MOU described the potential relationship as a “Sister community”, and any international language was removed from the standard letter.

The committee noted that when there is opportunity to do so in the schedules of Chief Alphonse and any other guests from the First Nation, the City would be pleased to host them in order to further discussion on the Sister Community relationship and to meet Mayor and Council.

5.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

5.1 Delegation to Lijiang, China

Councillor Lorrie Williams discussed her upcoming visit to Sister City Lijiang, China, when she will interview and select four girls to visit New Westminster in the autumn of 2018. She reported that the Mayor's Office had sent a letter to the Canadian Ambassador and Consul General in Guangzhou inviting them to join Councillor Williams and sit in on the interviews, with the aim of making them further aware of the program.

Councillor Williams also discussed the strategy for this year's interviews, including how she would notify the successful students, as well as plans for the

students' visit, including a visit to Lake Louise, and a strategy for purchasing the school supplies.

Lastly, Councillor Williams thanked the Council members and community members for their assistance with last year's students.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT The International Relations Task Force recommend Council support Councillor Williams' trip to Lijiang, China for the purposes of interviewing girls to visit New Westminster for the 2018 student exchange; and,

THAT the cost of Lorrie Williams' trip be funded by the Sister City account.

CARRIED.

All members of the Task Force present voted in favour of the motion.

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

6.1 Articles written by 2017 Lijiang students

The Committee noted the impressive quality of articles/stories submitted by two of the 2017 students, noting that the letters demonstrated the impressions that the City and the trip had on them and that the experience had instilled a greater sense of self-confidence and ambition in the writers.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 Event Commemorating Chiefs of Tsilhqot'in Nation

Councillor Chuck Puchmayr discussed the idea of the City offering to hold an event to memorialize the date of Chief Ahan's execution in New Westminster, on July 18, 1865.

Upon discussion, the Committee noted the following:

- This event would be an opportunity for the City to recognize the injustice that happened in the community and educate citizens on the events that took place;
- This event would fit within the City's larger reconciliation process;
- Chief Rhonda Larrabee has noted her support of the event;
- The list of invitations would include all First Nations representatives (Musqueam, Squamish, Kwantlen, Quatsino, Qayqayt, Tsleil-Waututh, Kwikwetlem), local MPs and MLAs, Premier, Minister for First Nations, Mayor and Council, among others;
- The date would be July 18, 1865, which was the date of Chief Ahan's execution, although the Chiefs recognize all of the executed Chiefs in October;

- Formal protocols with local First Nations (Coast Salish) would likely not be a concern and the representatives from the Tšilhqot'in would be aware of the protocol;
- Suggest that City hold the event even if Chief(s) are unable to attend;
- City departments to be involved would include Parks & Recreation (Special Events Coordinator), CAO's Office, and Legislative Services; and,
- Next steps to include:
 1. Seek Council's approval of the event;
 2. Councillor Puchmayr to discuss the event with Tšilhqot'in;
 3. Get City team together to discuss logistics;
 4. Send an official notification of the date, time, location and program.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the International Relations Task Force recommend that Council give approval for the City to hold an event to recognize the significance of July 18, 1865 – the day that Chief Ahan was wrongfully hanged in New Westminster – and that staff approach the Tl'etinqox Government to support and participate in the event; and,

THAT the International Relations Task Force recommend that Council approve funds from the Sister City account for Councillor Puchmayr to visit the Anaham Reserve on behalf of the International Relations Taskforce.

CARRIED.

All members of the Task Force present voted in favour of the motion.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is to be determined

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was concluded at 11:53 a.m.

Certified Correct,

 ORIGINAL SIGNED
Councillor Lorrie Williams
 Chair

 ORIGINAL SIGNED
Heather Corbett
 Committee Clerk