



## **REGULAR MEETING OF TASK FORCE ON RECONCILIATION, SOCIAL INCLUSION, AND ENGAGEMENT**

Monday, July 5, 2021

Meeting Held Electronically under Ministerial Order No. M192/2020

### **MINUTES**

#### **PRESENT:**

Councillor Nadine Nakagawa, Chair  
Councillor Chinu Das

#### **STAFF:**

Ms. Lisa Spitale	- Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Jacque Killawee	- City Clerk
Ms. Jennifer Miller	- Manager of Public Engagement
Mr. Rob McCullough	- Manager, Museums and Heritage Services
Ms. Lisa Kemp	- Parks and Recreation
Ms. Jackie Teed	- Acting Director of Development Services
Ms. Claudia Freire	- Housing/Social Planner
Mr. Steve Kellock	- Acting Director of Parks and Recreation

#### **REGRETS:**

Councillor Chuck Puchmayr

#### **GUESTS:**

Ms. Dorfam Farno - Intern Student

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

#### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

#### **1. Adoption of Minutes – June 15, 2021**

##### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the minutes of the Regular meeting of the Reconciliation, Social Inclusion and Engagement Task Force of June 15, 2021, be adopted.*

**CARRIED.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

## **2. Language and Translation Related to Public Engagement**

Jennifer Miller, Manager of Public Engagement, provided an update on language and translation related to public engagement, and requested feedback from the Task Force.

In discussion, Task Force members noted the following:

- There is a need for guiding principles on what should be translated;
- Staff are aware of issues that will require a bit more effort for engagement;
- The importance of using plain English cannot be stressed enough;
- A focus on the languages spoken by the largest number of people may exclude people or smaller groups who do not have this critical mass; the larger groups often have people within their community who can help with translation.
- There is an opportunity to translate the synopsis or description of a project on City notices to communicate in different languages;
- This would be a good engagement question and audit practice from respondents' perspectives;
- Online translation may be an option (Google Translate);
- It would be good to translate signs that help with community safety and wayfinding;
- Consider the cultural context as well; language is just the front-facing piece of culture;
- New residents who are just settling in may not be ready to engage with the City;
- Concerns about over use of the "Important Information" translation;
- There is a need to include a legitimate cross section of the community who are not comfortable talking to the City;
- There is a need to change communication depending on the urgency of the matter being communicated;
- Suggested the Welcoming and Inclusive New Westminster (WINS) agencies to see if there is any information that can be shared on how best to reach people and communities who may not regularly interact with the City; and,
- There are translation companies readily available to do this kind of work.

In response to questions and concerns, Ms. Miller and Jacque Killawee, City Clerk, provided the following information:

- The BeHeard New West interface works with Google translate and staff have used this to translate questions and responses;
- The "Important Information" translation is used when there is a statutory requirement to notify people such as Public Hearings, Development Variance Permit applications, and bylaw offence notices;

### **3. Public Engagement on Police Reform**

Jennifer Miller, Manager of Public Engagement, reviewed public engagement on police reform process, and requested feedback from the task force on next steps.

In discussion, Task Force members noted the following:

- Concerns about re-traumatizing people;
- There is a need to include people with lived and living experience;
- Finding the right mix of people will be difficult, and the voices most needed to be heard are the most likely to be hurt and the least likely to participate;
- A Citizens Assembly model may be a better choice;

In response to comments, Lisa Spitale, Chief Administrative Officer, and Denise Tambellini, Manager of Intergovernmental and Community Relations, provided the following information:

- City Staff have been working with the New Westminster Police Department (NWPD) to make sure the direction they are going is aligned with Council; the NWPD is in the process of hiring a consultant to determine what is needed;
- The City, along with the City of Vancouver, and the Urban Mayor's Caucus, will be presenting to the Province on July 27, 2021;
- There is a relationship with the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) which is working with municipalities to float the idea of pilot projects such as this across the province; and,
- Engagement for police reform will include people with lived and living experience, and be directly aligned with the City's submission for the pilot project.

## REFERRALS FROM COUNCIL

### 4. Review of City Events

Steve Kellock, Acting Director of Parks and Recreation, advised that the purpose of today's discussion was to get additional feedback to inform the path forward to decolonize City events. In discussion, Task Force members and Lisa Kemp, Recreation Program Leader, provided the following information:

- Legislative Services is purchasing the Affiliation of Multicultural Societies and Service Agencies of BC (AMSSA) Multifaith Calendar;
- There are five events left this year, and staff will report back in time for 2022;
- The motion regarding Black History Month raised the conversation about how to look at this in a cohesive way;
- Museums and Heritage Services can assist with identifying places and spaces where celebrations can occur;
- This affects the entire City and is a big process; as a starting point, it may be worthwhile to list the celebrations currently recognized and see where there are gaps;
- It may be worthwhile to consider celebrating as much as possible, and then removing events that have less value;
- An interdepartmental approach may help in drawing out principles;
- There is a capacity issue, however resources from one event could be redirected to a different event;
- There is sometimes duplication among different City entities for events and interdepartmental coordination is necessary;
- Events should be integrated throughout the year rather than dedicating a specific month or week to it, to ensure people feel fully included.

### 5. Recognition of Black History Month

In discussion, Task Force members noted:

- This is part of a deeper discussion and staff intend to add it to the Multicultural Festival Group to have the conversation;
- Putting this matter with the Multicultural Festival Group helps with recognition that people have multiple identities;
- Suggestion to talk to the Multicultural Advisory Committee member who brought the motion forward to fully understand what she intended; and,

- Development Services and Parks and Recreation would appreciate being involved in any discussions.

## EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

### 5. **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT pursuant to Section 90 of the Community Charter, members of the public be excluded from the Closed Meeting of the Task Force immediately following the Regular Meeting of the Task Force on the basis that the subject matter of all agenda items to be considered relate to matters listed under Section and 90(2)(b) of the Community Charter:*

*90(2) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party;*

**CARRIED.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

Purpose of the meeting:  
Negotiations matters

## ADJOURNMENT

**ON MOTION**, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Original Signed

Original Signed

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**Councillor Nadine Nakagawa**  
**CHAIR**

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**Nicole Ludwig**  
**Assistant City Clerk**

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Task Force on Reconciliation, Social Inclusion and Engagement will occur on:

Date: September 28, 2021  
Time: 1:00 p.m.  
Location: Electronic