



Corporation of the City of
NEW WESTMINSTER

YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YAC)

**May 23, 2019 - 5:30 p.m.
Council Chamber, City Hall
MINUTES**

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Maggie Chen, Co-Chair	- NWSS Representative
Nelson Roy, Co-Chair	- NWSS Representative
Danielle Go	- Fraser River Middle School Representative
Tony Xiutong Jiang	- NWSS Representative
Keona Lighthall	- NWSS Representative
Julie Mosi	- NWSS Representative
Selena Uppal	- NWSS Representative

VOTING MEMBERS REGRETS:

Shawn Lichtmann	- NWSS Representative
Chris Sharma	- NWSS Representative
Mark Tabangay	- Glenbrook Middle School Representative

NON-VOTING ADVISORS PRESENT:

Mayor Cote (left at 6:02 p.m.)	- City Council Representative
Councillor Nakagawa	- City Council Representative
Bruce Cunnings (arrived at 5:57 p.m.)	- SD#40 Representative

NON-VOTING ADVISORS REGRETS:

Karon Trenaman	- ICBC Representative
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STAFF PRESENT:

Robyn McGuinness	- Manager, Seniors & Youth Services
Silisha Ali	- Youth Services Coordinator
Carilyn Cook	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 5:39 p.m.

1.0 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

1.1 Additions to and adoption of the Agenda of May 23, 2019

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the agenda of the May 23, 2019 Youth Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulate.

CARRIED.

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

2.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

2.1 Adoption of the Minutes of April 25, 2019

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the April 25, 2019 Youth Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Ice Breaker: If You Were Mayor for a Day, What Would You Do to Make the City of New Westminster Better? – Silisha Ali, Youth Services Coordinator

Ms. Ali invited members to share what they would do, to make New Westminster better, if they were Mayor for a day, prompting the following comments:

- Provide a gathering space for every neighbourhood;
- Educate people on and emphasize the historical aspects of the City;
- Focus on the environment in light of the current climate change crises;
- Have 24 hour/7 days a week animal control availability for reporting found/lost pets, injured animals, etc.;
- Work with local businesses to develop a plan to make them more environmentally sustainable;
- Canvass door to door to speak with residents directly; and,
- Make improvements to public transportation.

Mayor Cote thanked Committee members for their diverse list of suggestions.

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No items

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Tour of Mayor's Office – Mayor Cote

A tour of the Mayor's office commenced.

5.2 City Committee Volunteer Opportunities – Carilyn Cook, Committee Clerk

Ms. Cook reminded Committee members that recruitment for the 2019/2020 Youth Advisory Committee Year would start in late September at which time she will email application links to members. Members were also encouraged to explore other City committees which may have youth positions.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1 Council Report – Councillor Nakagawa

Councillor Nakagawa advised that the City has been doing a lot of work around reconciliation including determining whose territory is located in New Westminster, what the history is, and building relationships with them. Members were also informed that Council is waiting for a staff report with respect to addressing the climate control crises.

6.2 ICBC Representative Report – No report was provided.

6.3 SD40 Representative Report – Bruce Cunnings, SD #40 Representative

Mr. Cunnings shared that the building of the new high school is on track and should be opening as scheduled, adding that the replacement for the Richard McBride elementary school is on schedule as well. He also advised members that in order to address the considerable Educational Assistant (EA) shortage, New Westminster, possibly along with the Burnaby school district, is close to launching an EA training program that will be targeted at recruiting residents and grade 12 graduates.

6.4 Youth Coordinator's Report

Ms. Ali informed Committee members that Youth Week was a great success and upcoming events include an evening youth swim at the outdoor pool. The event, which will be for youth only, have a \$1.00 entrance fee and include a complimentary BBQ dinner, games, etc. Ms. Ali also shared that CityHive

recently provided some presentations to Council, one of which addressed the possibility of hosting a youth summit, adding that Committee members are welcome to participate if they so desired.

6.5 Youth Engagement Program – No report was provided.

6.6 Member Reports – Summer/Fall Plans & Committee Experience

A roundtable discussion took place with Committee members sharing their various current, summer, and fall plans which include learning how to drive, taking summer school to get ahead in math, visiting Connaught Elementary School to teach the students how to love and appreciate themselves, visiting Mount St. Helens, travelling to Eastern Canada to check out universities, visiting China, Vancouver Island, Toronto, and Quebec, preparing for post-secondary school, having family come to visit, getting a job, attending a fieldtrip to Camp Elphinstone, preparing to move onto the UBC campus, and tutoring to earn money for travel.

Committee members agreed that email was the best way to get information to them. Suggestions were also made to post information on the Starbucks bulletin board, visit grade 11 classes at the high school, start a Facebook group, and have an online calendar to share information about the Committee and other events.

Lastly, members shared that their experiences on the Committee was very informative, educational, and rewarding as they were able to hear different perspectives on things, learn about different aspects of City departments, and learn the basics of how meetings are run. A number of Committee members advised that they plan to return to the Committee next year.

7.0 NEXT MEETING DATE

To be determined.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Original Signed _____
Maggie Chen
Co-Chair

Original Signed _____
Carilyn Cook
Committee Clerk