



Corporation of the City of
NEW WESTMINSTER

YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YAC)

**October 24, 2019 - 5:30 p.m.
Oak Room, Century House**

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Helen Guan	- NWSS Representative
Tony Jiang	- NWSS Representative
Jacky Liao	- NWSS Representative
Shawn Lichtmann	- NWSS Representative
Julia Mosi	- NWSS Representative
Rahul Patel	- NWSS Representative
Amir Rezaei	- NWSS Representative
Roshaad Rodney	- NWSS Representative
Nelson Roy	- NWSS Representative
Olivia Smith	- NWSS Representative
Mark Tabangay	- NWSS Representative
Philia Zhang	- NWSS Representative

NON-VOTING ADVISORS PRESENT:

Councillor Nakagawa	- City Council Representative
Bruce Cunnings	- 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 5:35 p.m.

1.0 HOUSEKEEPING

1.1 Introduction to Local Government

Councillor Nakagawa welcomed Committee members, briefly introduced herself, and advised that some of the things that municipal governments are responsible for include streets and sidewalks, water and sewer, etc. She also outlined the makeup and term of Mayor and Council and encouraged Committee members to contact her if they had any questions or ideas they would like to share.

1.2 Committee Orientation & Oaths of Office

After a roundtable introduction of Committee members, Carilyn Cook, Committee Clerk, commenced with her presentation which covered the role of advisory committees, terms of reference, meeting attendance and quorum, meeting conduct, City policies and freedom of information and, lastly, oaths of office.

Councillor Nakagawa added that she would be happy to support anyone interested in co-chairing the committee meetings and asked Committee members to remain cognizant of sharing the floor with other Committee members and refrain from dominating the discussion to ensure that everyone has a chance to speak.

1.3 Appointment of Co-Chairs

As a number of Committee members expressed interest co-chairing meetings, the following motion was passed in order to provide everyone with an opportunity to co-chair a meeting.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Youth Advisory Committee appoint Olivia Smith, Jacky Liao, Tony Jiang, Nelson Roy, Shawn Lichtmann, Philia Zhang and Amir Rezaei as rotating Co-Chairs for the 2019/2020 term.

CARRIED.

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

Mr. Roy assumed the role of Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

2.0 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

2.1 Additions to and adoption of the Agenda of October 24, 2019

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the agenda of the October 24, 2019 Youth Advisory Committee meeting be adopted with the addition of Item 4.2: 2019/2020 Committee Term Agenda Topics by Councillor Nakagawa.

CARRIED.

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

3.0 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Adoption of the Minutes of May 23, 2019

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the May 23, 2019 Youth Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED.

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

4.0 PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Ice Breaker

Silisha Ali, Youth Services Coordinator, selected two conversation cards and Committee members provided the following responses:

- In answer to the question, “Would you like to be famous and for what?” Committee members shared the following comments:
 - Creating a beautiful sculpture, being a professional soccer player, creating a great architectural structure, competitive sailing, philanthropy, artistic talents, music, inspire people in some way, achievements in environmental conservation, and writing a great book; and,
- In answer to the question, “What is beautiful about you?”, Committee members provided the following comments:
 - Having complete mobility after sustaining a broken neck in an accident, being compassionate, trying new things and getting out of my comfort zone, having a laugh that spreads joy, being able to make those around me feel comfortable and happy, and being able to bring out the best in others.

4.2 2019/2020 Committee Term Agenda Topics

Councillor Nakagawa asked Committee members to consider what initiatives and topics they would like the Committee to work on during the 2019/2020 term.

Ms. Ali advised that last year Youth Services attended two Council meetings for the the Pink Shirt Day and Youth Week proclamations during which they shared information with Council about the two events. She informed Committee members that they could attend any Council meeting to observe the process that takes place during the meetings.

Procedural note: The Committee broke into two groups from 6:12 p.m. to 6: 50 p.m. to discuss topic ideas for the upcoming committee year.

Upon resumption of the meeting, Committee members suggested that the Committee focus on the following issues during the year:

- The large disparity of funding and promotion between football and other high school activities, including trades, academia, theatre, band, etc.;
- Promotion of the Youth Advisory Committee to get it more known;
- Implementation of a crosswalk (painted or otherwise) on Eighth Street in front of New Westminster Secondary School to alleviate the jaywalking problem;
- Increased and more reliable transit for students getting to and from school;
- More accessible recycling depots for residents;
- Request, through Council, that the School Board declare a climate emergency;
- The lack of a sidewalk on Eighth Street between Eighth Avenue and Tenth Avenue;
- Completion of paving on First Street near Queen's Park and repaving in general to invite accessibility;
- Promote funding for social, academic, mental health, etc., initiatives with the School Board including possibly providing mental health assistance at the youth or community centre to support kids who may not be able to meet with busy school counsellors, as well as the possible implementation of a tutoring centre;
- Increasing community updates regarding construction of the new Richard McBride Elementary school;
- Address the cultural aspect of the truth and reconciliation process;
- Insufficient promotion of the City's heritage events resulting in a lack of youth involvement;
- Provide input into the design of biology/chemistry labs at new schools to ensure adequate room size and storage space for the large number of pupils;
- Address environmental concerns such as the lack of green initiatives in new school construction and the relocation of the recycling depot to Coquitlam; and,
- Insufficient lighting at Moody Park and Queen's Park.

5.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were no items.

6.0 NEW BUSINESS

There were no items.

7.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

7.1 Council Report

Councillor Nakagawa advised that although a number of the concerns raised this evening fall under the jurisdictions of the School Board and TransLink, the Committee could discuss the items further to determine how to proceed with sharing their concerns with those entities. She informed the Committee at the recent UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities), the City brought forward a motion called “All on Board” which called for free transit for children and youth and, although, the motion was not adopted, the City will continue to advocate for it.

Councillor Nakagawa shared that the City declared a climate crises adding that the Committee could advocate for more measures to be taken.

Regarding recycling, Councillor Nakagawa stated that since many residents seem unaware of a number of the recycling depots in the City, staff are working on the most efficient ways to promote that information. She noted that a lot of residents are concerned about yard waste, which is included in the City’s collection schedule and that the discussion needs to include reduction in general.

A Committee member stated that the recycling depot located near the high school is small and only takes bottles, adding that it is important to continue the discussion about the relocation of the recycling depot.

7.2 ICBC Representative Report

No report was provided.

7.3 SD40 Representative Report

Bruce Cunnings, SD40 Representative, suggested that the Committee could make a presentation to the School Board with respect to the funding and promotion disparity concerns with football and other activities as well as environmental practices and classroom design with respect to new builds. He added that it may be possible to

have the new school's project manager attend a YAC meeting to discuss what can be incorporated in new builds.

Robyn McGuinness, Manager, Seniors and Youth Services, advised that a mental health counsellor is available every Tuesday and Thursday in the Youth Centre.

7.4 Youth Coordinator's Report

Ms. Ali stated a number of initiatives were brought forward this evening that Youth Services could assist Committee members in moving forward with.

7.5 Member Reports – Committee

Members provided the following announcements:

- Remembrance Day poppies are now available so please be sure to make a donation in exchange for your poppy as it will help support the Legion;
- Another climate strike will take place tomorrow at the Vancouver Art Gallery with Greta Thunberg in attendance. Please go if you can;
- Please come cheer on the senior girls volleyball team at their upcoming game;
- Invitations were extended for Committee members to join the chess, interact, honour society, environmental, debate, culture, and gardening clubs;
- A Halloween party will be taking place on Friday, October 25th at the Youth Centre from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.;
- Today is World Polio Day; and,
- A native species planting event will take place at Glenbrook Ravine on Saturday, October 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Members also shared that they were busy with homework and extra-curricular activities such as band and cross country competitions.

8.0 NEXT MEETING DATE

Thursday, November 28, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. – Oak Room, Century House

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Original Signed _____
Nelson Roy
Co-Chair

Original Signed _____
Carilyn Cook
Committee Clerk