



# City of Surrey

## *Multicultural Advisory Committee*

### *Minutes*

Pondside Room  
City Hall  
14245 - 56 Avenue  
Surrey, B.C.  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2009**  
Time: 9:10 a.m.  
File: 0540-20

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#### **Present:**

Chair – Councillor B. Rasode  
Councillor M. Martin  
R. Asistio  
Dr. B. Gurm  
C. Hong  
Corp. J. Hundial  
B. King  
J. Kovach  
F. Kung  
M. Malik  
S. El-Nashar  
V. Pittakidis  
K. Polubinski  
D. Sandhu  
S. Scott  
M. Solorzano  
M. (Thompson) Pyne  
W. Sandvoss  
Ijaz Chatha, Surrey S.D.36

#### **Absent:**

Mayor Watts  
Councillor Villeneuve  
T. Ghuman  
D. Lawrance  
T. Oleman  
K. Sanghera  
E. Szücs

#### **Staff Present:**

L. Cavan, GM, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
N. Webb, GM, Human Resources  
L. White, Manager, Outreach Services  
K. Swanson, Manager, Community Development Services  
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Services

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#### **A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

It was Moved by Maryann Pyne  
Seconded by Councillor Martin  
That the minutes of the Multicultural  
Advisory Committee January 20, 2009, be adopted, as circulated.  
Carried

#### **B. DELEGATION**

#### **C. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **D. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

#### **E. STAFF PRESENTATIONS / UPDATES**

**1. 2009 Cultural Celebrations at City Hall – Kelsey Swanson/Nicola Webb**  
(carried forward from January 2009)

- Continuing with staff presentations. Upcoming events include:
  - Easter: Monday, April 6, 2009 @ 12:00pm
  - Vaisaki: Wednesday, April 15, 2009 @ 12:00pm
- Full calendar of 2009 events will be sent to members.
- The City is committed to celebrating many cultural events.
- The suggestion was put forth that there be one celebration per month to capture all the events of that month.

**2. Surrey Settlement Committee sharing of minutes – Kelsey Swanson/Connie Hong**  
(carried forward from January 2009)

- The provincial government's Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) Program Committee was set up by Penny Coates.
- Surrey/Delta Intercultural Council is hosting three annual fairs. That Committee's Terms of Reference duplicates the Surrey Settlement Committee. It was decided that the two committees should merge but it is not yet official.
- The role of the Committee is to better serve the multicultural community and better access social services in Surrey and Delta. The main purpose is to provide settlement services to newcomers.
- Changed the fair's name to *Welcome Fair* and it is to be held April 3, 2009 at Queen Elizabeth High School.

**3. 2008 MAC Accomplishments – Laurie Cavan/Nicola Webb**  
(Deferred from January 21, 2009 meeting)

- Committee members are requested to review the list of accomplishments to set the stage for the March meeting.
- Asking members to reflect on what went well in the past year, keeping in the mind the objectives of the Committee and the terms of reference.
- What initiatives would members like to see this committee involved with and advise what could be the greatest value to the City?

The Chair Councillor Rasode thanked the past Chair Councillor Martin for her hard work in getting the Committee going over the past two years. The Chair then thanked the members all for their hard work.

A facilitated session was held for 1 hour and 15 minutes. The group was divided into three smaller groups with a facilitator at each table to help with the discussion. The facilitator reviewed the Terms of Reference and the questions that were put forward at last meeting.

Questions:

1. What accomplishments, discussions, actions by this Committee have been valuable for your community? Why?

2. What initiatives actions should the Committee focus on over next 2 years that would be of greatest value to this committee and to the City? Why?

After the workgroups discussed the questions each group provided a synopsis of their comments and ideas:

A summary of these discussions will be reviewed by the Committee's Chair and then presented at the next Committee meeting.

**F. CORRESPONDENCE**

**G. INFORMATION ITEM**

**H. NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting of the Multicultural Advisory Committee scheduled for May 19, 2009 at 9:00 am at Pondside.

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by Ric Asistio

Seconded by Councillor Martin

That the Multicultural Advisory Committee

meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Multicultural Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

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Jane Sowik, City Clerk

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Chairperson, Councillor B. Rasode  
Multicultural Advisory Committee