

**Present:**

Chair – Councillor Rasode  
Councillor Martin  
R. Asistio  
I. Chatha, Surrey S.D.36  
S. El-Nashar  
T. Ghuman  
Dr. B. Gurm  
B. King  
J. Kovach  
M. Malik  
W. Sandvoss  
S. Scott  
E. Szücs

**Absent:**

Councillor Villeneuve  
Mayor Watts  
C. Hong  
Corp. J. Hundial  
D. Lawrance  
T. Oleman  
K. Polubinski  
M. Pyne  
D. Sandhu  
K. Sanghera  
M. Solorzano

**Staff Present:**

L. Cavan, GM, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
N. Webb, GM, Human Resources  
K. Swanson, Manager, Community  
Development Services  
M. Imandar, RCMP Diversity Coordinator  
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Services

**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

It was

Moved by B. King

Seconded by B. Gurm

That the Multicultural Advisory Committee  
meeting of January 19, 2010 be adopted as amended.

Carried

**B. DELEGATION****1. Joint Use of Space Study**  
File No. 8000-30

The purpose of the study is to determine the potential for more efficient and effective use of shared facilities in a sustainable manner to meet community needs. It is understood that the goal of the City of Surrey and School District 36 (SD 36) is to provide the highest level of community use in the areas of greatest need for these taxpayer-funded facilities within the current operating budget allocations of both agencies.

L. Cavan, GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture provided the following brief before introducing the delegation. The City works closely with a number of schools and community partners in utilizing school space, for meetings, programs and events. Schools are the heart of neighbourhoods. PERC, a team of consultants, has been hired for the City, the School District and the community to review the usage and to determine the best utilization of all facilities within the budget and resources. The GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture then introduced Erin Moore, who is on the team working on the Project with Don Hunter Consultants (PERC).

Erin Moore, Don Hunter Consultants, provided the following information:

Questions were raised:

- Can we get results of a study?  
Yes, the results of the study will be shared with the MAC.
  - The School District and the City have a strong history of working well together, both with the School District utilizing City facilities and the City utilizing the School District's facilities. The intent is to interact effectively without impacting on the core services of the organizations, and incurring additional expenses therefore the recommendations will be for a sustainable models.
  - Both parties face capital and budgeting challenges and need to address the deficit and frozen capital.
- Who are the groups that the consultants met with?
  - There was representation from many Early Childhood partner organizations around the table including the Community School Partnership staff.
  - The Parks and Community Services Committee, different School District staff and Principals have also been approached.
  - Community groups that book the schools were also contacted.
- As Surrey continues to grow, new community centres and schools will be built. There is an opportunity to locate facilities together or in close proximity to each other to benefit the community.
- The intent is for more hub oriented community schools partnerships. A good example is how Kensington Prairie School has evolved. Kensington Prairie is a new project whereby the City took over the school and worked with multiple organizations such as Fraser Health and Options.

The GM, Parks Recreation and Culture made the following remarks:

- The main purpose of this study is to find opportunities for more access to school space, and to ensure the community has access and is aware of the opportunity to access schools. The community schools partnership is focused on high need neighbourhoods. It assesses the community needs and then works with the schools, Parent Advisory Committees and administration to determine programming.
- The Manager, Community Development Services noted the City of Surrey is putting a big focus on community schools, but not only on inner city schools. We are looking at being preventative and how to address a community's needs prior to it becoming a need. We are now reviewing opportunities in south Surrey.

Committee comments:

- School Trustee Chatha requested a copy of the study once completed so he can assist. Community space becomes less available in the evenings. The community schools have been very successful; there are now 17 community schools in Surrey--up from 5. There are 125 elementary schools and 19 secondary schools in Surrey.
- The health care community identified this issue about 15 years ago. At that time, plans were made to determine how to create schools as centres for health programming and recreation. This is identified as a *Best Practices*.

- Question was raised: how, as a Committee, can focus be placed on the multicultural aspects of school space usage rather than the general nature of the schools. It was suggested that multicultural usage in the schools should be advertised to the various cultural communities.
- School Trustee Chatha noted that the Fleetwood Elementary School located at 152 Street and 84 Avenue is closed and most likely to be sold. A request for expression of interest, placed in the local papers, requesting non-profits and ideas for use of the facility received few responses. This is still being reviewed.
- Suggestion was made that the community 'hubs' should offer English classes to help alleviate long wait lists.

The Chair thanked the delegation for her presentation.

## C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

### 1. Welcome to City of Surrey Diversity Website

File No. 1400-03

Kelsey Swanson, Manager Community Development Services provided the following update:

- Staff hours have been dedicated to build the new Diversity website. The website will be linked to resources throughout the community.
- The Surrey Foundation started a website with government grant monies they received. The City is paralleling its website development with the Surrey Foundation. It will be a strong website with plenty of information and visuals for Surrey residents.
- Future updates and visuals will be provided.

The GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture remarked that City staff have heard through MAC feedback some recommendations for the web-site including: the site should not be buried within Surrey's website, it should contain community resources and it needs to be easy to navigate. Sukhi Ghuman and staff are working on these initial parameters.

In response to queries the following information was provided:

- Focus groups will work on the structure of the website. It will be in simple succinct language and consider the immigrants that will be utilizing the site.
- The City is to launch the website the end of July 2010. There will be many opportunities for input.
- A report will be generated for the next meeting to track how many hits the website receives.
- Surrey's 2010 Olympics website was noted to be the most user friendly and very well done.

Committee comments:

- It was suggested that picture based communications requiring no translation is preferred, and comment was made that it is encouraging that the City of Surrey is looking at the website for user friendliness.

- It was suggested to promote this website during the Surrey Fusion Festival.

## D. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Diversity Insight

File No. 1400-03

Surrey RCMP Diversity is planning to launch a web-based quarterly bulletin *Diversity Insight*, which will focus on various cultural, inter-cultural, multi-cultural events, initiatives and projects happening in Surrey.

Madhavee Inamdar, RCMP Diversity Coordinator provided the following information:

- *Diversity Insight* is launching in April. The publication will be available on the Surrey RCMP Diversity website.
- In past many calls came in from the community requesting information about an event in the ethnic media or events they heard about from friends. The goal of the communication is to build bridges for the community to be welcoming and inclusive with multicultural and inter-cultural events. It is a quarterly publication. The publication is an experiment for now.
- The Surrey RCMP website would be linked to the City of Surrey's website.
- We would welcome any input for stories, pictures, etc.

Committee feedback:

- To ensure plenty of hits on this website it would need to be a two way communication. The print should be larger and less busy to invite people to read it.
- In order to ensure that *Diversity Insight* is more diverse in every way shape and form it was suggested there be more photos that reflect all the community and all cultures.
- It was suggested that the community could submit content, such as the Jamaican Festival to be held in August.
- The publication should focus on all five districts.
- It was suggested that the Surrey RCMP should submit ongoing articles depicting the various RCMP activities at the schools (e.g. RCMP basketball team, sledge hockey team, etc.).
- Suggestion was made that in order to get the community on board, the RCMP could form an advisory group to help with communication development.

### 2. Fusion Festival Update

File No. 8200-20

L. Cavan, GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture provided the following update:

- Fusion Festival - July 17 & 18, 2010.
  - Will be meeting with the subcommittee for ongoing planning.
  - Received plenty of great MAC feedback last year that will be useful for the upcoming year.

- The City is fortunate with the Olympics to have been able to install more infrastructure in Holland Park such as electrical and water access that will benefit the 2010 Fusion Festival.
- Future updates will be provided.
- Suggestion was made for a shuttle bus to run to parking at the schools.
- Fee schedule is being put together. Fees may increase marginally.
- Fusion Festival hours:
  - 11:00 am – 11:00 pm Saturday
  - 11:00 am – 10:00 pm Sunday

## E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

## F. CORRESPONDENCE

### 1. Welcome Fair 2010 - Thursday, April 22, 2010

Invitation to community partners, by Sandra Ingrid Schecker, Settlement Worker in Schools, SD 36, English Language Learner Welcome Centre.

File No. 0330-20

It was

Moved by Councillor Martin

Seconded by B. King

That the Multicultural Advisory Committee

receive the correspondence as information.

Carried

The following comments were provided:

- Met with many new Canadians at the Welcome Fair.
- Many networking opportunities.

## G. INFORMATION ITEMS

### 1. Committee Orientation Package 2010

File No. 0540-23

Orientation information package provided to all Committee member volunteers with the request that pages 21/22 be signed (extra copy provided) and returned to the City Clerk Legislative Services office.

## H. OTHER BUSINESS

### 1. Turf Fields

File No. 5920-01

Committee comments:

- Surrey public school fields are not conducive for soccer. More artificial turf fields are required.

- Is it possible to work with the School District to put in turf fields? Surrey should have international standard fields and stadiums.

The GM, Parks, Recreation and Culture provided the following comments in response:

- The cricket field at Sullivan High School is well used. There is another cricket field in south Surrey.
- The City is currently completing the construction of a second turf field in Hjorth Road Park, the third turf field at Newton Athletic Park. Surrey has more artificial turf fields than any other community in the lower mainland. One artificial turf field is equivalent to six grass fields.
- Corporate Report: "Build Surrey" was recently approved by Council. It is a capital program for Surrey over the next 6 years: An additional cricket field will be built in Newton West.

## 2. Upcoming Celebrations in the Hall

File No. 7800-01

- March 29, 2010 – Easter
- April 12, 2010 – Vaisaki
- April 14, 2010 – Anti Bullying Day – *wear pink*

## 3. Diverse Magazine

File No. 4870-01

- The Diverse Magazine features an article on Councillor Villeneuve and *the Project City is Engaged*.
- City staff will submit articles to this magazine in the future.

## I. NEXT MEETING

The next Multicultural Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for May 18, 2010.

## J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Martin  
Seconded by Trustee Chatha  
That the meeting of the Multicultural

Advisory Committee do now adjourn.

Carried

The Multicultural Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:30 am.

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Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

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Chairperson, Councillor B. Rasode  
Multicultural Advisory Committee