

**Present:**

Chair – Councillor Martin  
School Trustee Liaison, L. Larsen  
T. Ghuman  
G. Grewal  
Dr. B. Gurm  
B. King  
J. Kovach  
J. Laitar  
M. Malik  
T. Oleman  
K. Polubinski  
M. Pyne  
S. Sabharwal

**Absent:**

Community Safety Liaison,  
Councillor Rasode  
Seniors Liaison, Councillor Steele  
S. El-Nashar  
C. Hong  
C. Iweh  
E. Szücs

**Guests:**

David Dalley, Interfaith Project  
Coordinator, Progressive  
Intercultural Services (PICS)  
Society  
Eva Tavzard, PICS

**Staff Present:**

L. Cavan, GM, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
D. Gill-Badesha, Manager, Middle Childhood,  
Kensington Prairie Community Centre  
C. Tallarico, Change Management Specialist  
J. O'Donnell, Manager, Heritage Services  
N. Girn, Community Service Assistant, Surrey  
Art Gallery and Surrey Museum  
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Services

Councillor Martin advised the Committee that she attended the annual Magazine Gala Awards event in Nashville, Tennessee on January 10, 2014 to receive the Best Festival Award on behalf of the City of Surrey. The Best Festival Award is to recognize the World's top special events and the work of the industry professionals who organize them. The City of Surrey's Fusion Festival was named the "Best Festival" at the competition.

The City of Surrey Fusion Festival showcases and celebrates the cultural diversity of the City of Surrey and builds on the City's success of being named the Cultural Capital of Canada in 2008. Councillor Martin provided the Best Festival trophy on table to show the committee members.

**The agenda was varied.**

**C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS****1. Communications Strategy – New City Hall**  
*(brought forward from November 26, 2013)*

Caroline Tallarico, Human Resources provided an overview of the Communications Strategy for the move of City Hall to the new location at City Centre.

The goal is to provide public communications during November 2013 – March 2014 to inform the City's residents and the external stakeholders of City Hall's planned move to its new location in February 2014. The City of Surrey is committed to maintaining high levels of customer service with minimal disruptions during the move.

Strategy and tactics will include posters at civic facilities, on the website, news releases and advertising at bus shelters and in the local newspapers, and through

public social media such as Facebook and Twitter, Community Outreach, City Speaks, vendor notification, email signature, utility bills, Canada Post change of address, the New City Hall building banner, neighbourhood notification, the Mayor's e-bulletin, existing events, Call Centre recordings, signage and way-finding.

**C. Tallarico departed the meeting at 9:15 am.**

The agenda order was resumed.

**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

1. It was Moved by M. Malik  
Seconded by B. King  
That the minutes of the Diversity Advisory  
Committee meeting of November 26, 2013, be adopted.  
Carried

**B. DELEGATION**

1. **"Surrey Interfaith Community Inquiry"**  
File: 0390-20; 0550-20-10

David Dalley, Interfaith Project Coordinator, Progressive Intercultural Services (PICS) Society, provided a presentation on a local interfaith project entitled the **"Surrey Interfaith Community Inquiry"** and to extend the invitation to Diversity Advisory Committee to attend upcoming planning sessions.

David Dalley noted that he has been working with the City of Surrey for the past six years with Councillor Martin and many of the current members of the Diversity Advisory this Committee, and thanked them. He introduced Eva Tavzard, PICS, and advised that the Interfaith Project is funded by the "Interfaith Bridging" grant from EmbraceBC, with PICS as the project leaders.  
<http://www.embracebc.ca/embracebc/funding/bridging/index.page>

This project is the third project through Interfaith. Interfaith bridging projects may include (but are not limited to):

- collaborative projects among distinct faith communities;
- tools that encourage knowledge exchange and sharing between diverse faith and cultural groups;
- faith-based forums focused on diverse faith communities and issues of racism;
- building teams and coalitions with a diverse cross-section of faith groups for the purpose of
- addressing interfaith religious conflict; and
- interfaith, intra-faith and inter-denominational dialogues on racism and multiculturalism within established faith traditions.

Faith communities can play an important role in building diverse, inclusive communities and in eliminating racism and promoting multiculturalism. Interfaith engagement involves engaging members of diverse religious, spiritual and philosophical communities in developing mutual understanding and respect while also deepening their own identity and commitments. It goes beyond mere tolerance of diversity and requires building positive relationships and work with one another.

Interfaith engagement:

- **Does not** teach that all religions are essentially the same;
- **Does not** dilute or destroy religious convictions; or
- **Does not** provide an opportunity for religious groups to proselytize or impose their beliefs on others.

February 1, 2014 - "One World. Many Worldviews" - A Community Expo of Beliefs and Ideas at City Centre Library, 10:30 am to 4:30 pm.

March 1, 2014 - "Surrey Spiritual Summit" - A daylong event to engage community members in a series of dialogue activities to raise awareness. Venue still to be determined.

Committee comments:

- Many facilities such as the Vancouver and Toronto airports, universities, outpatient facilities and hospitals provide multicultural interfaith centres/chapels. Last year the Vancouver International Airport had one million users of the chapel, and the Chaplin officiated at approximately 80 weddings at the Vancouver International Airport chapel.
- Dr. Balbir Gurm, Professor, Kwantlen Polytechnic University if the information gathered could be provided to Kwantlen Polytechnic University for the students for analysis, interpretation and a theme analysis.

## 2. **100th Anniversary of the *Komagata Maru***

File: N/A

Naveen Girn, Community Service Assistant with the Surrey Art Gallery and Surrey Museum, provided a presentation regarding plans to recognize the *Komagata Maru* 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2014.

The following comments were provided:

- In Japanese, Komogata Maru means "Mountain of the Flying Horse".
- New branding for the Komogata Maru is for this to be an episode in the history not an incident. This is one story as part of the narrative to illustrate the images of that time.
- In 1914 these passengers, as citizens of the British Empire, were entitled to come to Canada. There was already a strong Indian population in Vancouver in 1914.
- *Echoes of the Komogata Maru* is opening February 13, 2014 and marks the 100 day countdown to the March 1<sup>st</sup> 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary date.
- *Ruptures on Arrival*, opening April 2014, at Surrey Art Gallery, will show art in the wake of the Komogata Maru.
- Komogata Maru Symposium - May 10-11, 2014.

- Surrey Public Library will have events in July – still to be confirmed.
- An overview of the program plan is to launch the full website and three sided project branding towers that will coincide with the Surrey Museum and Surrey Art Gallery exhibitions May 23, 2014.
- Commemorative celebration event at SFU Harbour Centre to coincide with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Komogata Maru event of 1914.
- [www.Komagatamaru.com](http://www.Komagatamaru.com)

## C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

### 1. 2013-2014 Welcoming Communities Project Exhibition Partnership

File: 7850-01

*(brought forward from November 26, 2013)*

Jacqueline O'Donnell, Manager, Heritage Services provided an overview of the *Surrey, A Place of Refuge Exhibition*. The exhibition encourages intercultural understanding and critical evaluation of myths about refugees and immigrants. The exhibition partners include Surrey Libraries, Surrey Heritage Services, Immigrant Services of BC Resettlement Assistance Program, Progressive Intercultural Community Society (PICS), SUCCESS Surrey Delta, and Options Community Services.

Last year the Partnership worked on a refugee myth busting campaign. The exhibition will explore and provide education and engagement opportunities to raise awareness and to provide support so that the refugees may become more active members of our community.

The role of the campaign is to develop, engage, and to link refugees from different countries to share their stories. The role of a museum within a community is to preserve and share the past. Museums have taken on a more active role in sharing, and opportunities for discovery, not just about past but about today and present time.

The Surrey Cultural Plan was approved by Mayor and Council. The Surrey Museum was very honored to take part, as a contemporary institution, and be out in the community to build relationships and cultural cohesion.

Exhibit participants came from seven different countries: Syria, Somalia, Republic of Congo, Honduras, El Salvador, Thailand and Palestine.

The *Surrey, A Place of Refuge* exhibit is housed in a white tent to symbolizing the refugee tents, was launched in November 2013 at City Centre Library, and is currently located at Surrey City Hall until January 24, 2014. The exhibit will then travel to the School District #36 Education Centre January 24-February 14, 2014; Simon Fraser University Surrey Campus February 14-29; and Kwantlen Polytechnic University February 28-March 15, 2014.

There has been an overwhelming response from the community and is an opportunity to participate, for engagement and to learn about Surrey. This has been rewarding for Heritage Services and an opportunity to honour those for their

courage to share their stories and personal experiences with the City of Surrey, Heritages Services.

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

**E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**

**F. CORRESPONDENCE**

**G. INFORMATION ITEM**

**H. OTHER BUSINESS**

**1. Network to Eliminate Violence in Relationships – February 5, 2014**

Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Surrey Campus: Cedar 1205

Registration Fee \$30, lunch provided

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jane Ursel

**2. One Billion Rising Movement – Stand up and Rise for Justice –**

February 14, 2014, 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm, at Holland Park.

Bookmarks are being printing for BC Help Line for Women. *'Pledge to stand up within/out family and extended family and friends.'* 30 organizations are involved.

**3. New City Hall** will be open for business on February 17, 2014. There will be a community celebration in late April 2014.

**4. ELECTION of a Vice Chair:**

It was

Moved by S. Sabharwal

Seconded by M. Pyne

That the Diversity Advisory Committee

appoint Bill King as Vice-Chair to the Committee for the 2014 year.

Carried

**I. NEXT MEETING**

The next Diversity Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2014, at the New City Hall, 2E Community Room B, at 9:00 am.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by B. King  
Seconded by M. Payne  
That the Diversity Advisory Committee

meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Diversity Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

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Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

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Chairperson, Councillor M. Martin  
Diversity Advisory Committee