

Present:

Councillor Martin
L. Larsen - Acting Chair
T. Ghuman
G. Grewal
C. Hong
T. Oleman
M. Pyne
S. Sabharwal
Dr. B. Gurm
C. Iweh
J. Kovach
J. Laitar
M. Malik
E. Szücs
D. Preston

Absent:

Councillor Rasode, Community Safety
Liaison
Councillor Steele, Seniors Liaison
B. King
S. El-Nashar
S. Al-Samarrai
K. Polubinski

Guest:

Tim Dykeman, Surrey Fire Service
Karen Fry, Surrey Fire Service
Liz Dawson, Fraser Region Aboriginal
Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA)
Amelia McComber, FRAFCA

Youth Representatives:

D. Ganan

Staff Present:

L. Cavan, GM, Parks, Recreation & Culture
N. Webb, GM, Human Resources
R. Takhar, RCMP Crime Reduction & Community
Services Manager
L. Bowie, Manager, Healthy Communities
R. Affleck, Healthy Communities
J. Danyk, CSA, Diversity & Youth Outreach, PRC
P. Yadav, Special Events Coordinator
C. Craig, Legislative Services

APPOINTMENTS

1. Introduction and welcome of D. Ganan and S. Al-Samarrai, Council-appointed Youth Representatives to the Diversity Advisory Committee.

Note: S. Al-Samarrai was not in attendance. It should be noted that the two (2) Youth Representatives are *non-voting members* of the DAC. In addition, a film crew was present for the first 30 minutes of the meeting to film D. Ganan, as she is part of the Youth Advisory Team for the "Fresh Voices from Long Journeys" initiative with the Vancouver Foundation.

2. Introduction of D. Preston, newly appointed member to the Diversity Advisory Committee.

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was

minutes of the May 20, 2014 meeting.

Moved by L. Larsen

Seconded by B. Gurm

That the Diversity Advisory Committee adopt the

Carried

B. DELEGATIONS**1. Amelia McComber, Interim Executive Director, Fraser Regional Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA)**

File No.: 0250-20

In attendance before the Committee to provide a brief overview of FRAFCA's mandate and programs services. The following comments were made:

- The mission of FRAFCA is to support the activities that promote the health and well-being of Aboriginal People and to promote the resurgence of resident Aboriginal culture, language and teachings. FRAFCA has been in existence since 1996, formerly, Kla-how-eya, which evolved into the FRAFCA.
- FRAFCA's community commitment is based on Coast Salish values, Medicine Wheel Teachings (a holistic view with a notion of inclusion), and the Seven Sacred Teachings of the Ojibwe people.
- The Aboriginal Infant Development Program is a home visiting program for families with children aged 0-3 with a diagnosis of a developmental delay, or at risk for an environmental delay such as neglect, witness to violence or possible mental health.
- Aboriginal Early Childhood Development provides services to families with children aged 0-6. A bus service is offered, positive role modelling, information for parents/caregivers, drop-in programs a week for families with children.
- Community Action Program for Children (CAPC) works specifically with raising children post-natal (0-2 years). CAPC is a federal initiative that provides a supportive learning environment for mothers, fathers and grandparents/caregivers.
- Awahsuk Aboriginal Head Start Preschool Program (funded by Public Health Agency of Canada) has been in existence since 1996. The preschool provides a culture-based curriculum guided by the local First Nations.
- The Wolf Pack (Youth), meets weekly in order to offer opportunities for youth to take part in the Youth Council. Out of this group, they have the opportunity to send a delegate to the National Friendship Center Association AGM with full voting privileges.
- Individual Opportunities Program is a relatively new program (approximately 30 participants aged 15-29) that mainly focusses on employment readiness.
- All Nations Safe House (ANYSH) is a funded resource for all youth needing a home-like environment while they are in transition, or need a safe place to stay.
- The Circle of Elders meets regularly, gathering together to create connection, and offer support to the community.

D. Preston and C. Iweh joined the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

The Committee commented as follows:

- The Committee asked for clarification on the outreach portion of FRAFCA's mandate. In response, FRAFCA is a friendship centre and endeavors to hold values that would demonstrate offering friendship to visitors. FRAFCA has been

blessed to have Elders who have incorporated strategies for the people of this region.

- Aboriginal people tend to be an invisible minority and find that people do not recognize the fact that such a large number of Aboriginal people live here. The largest concentration is in the North Surrey and Cloverdale areas.
- FRAFCA would like to move forward with establishing a satellite office to provide a link to those in the North Surrey area.
- The City is pleased that there is a positive working relationship with FRACA. It would be helpful to allow for more opportunity to open the dialogue.
- A Bear Clan “Button Blanket” (shawl) was presented to the Committee. The shawl illustrates FRAFCA's desire to work together with the Diversity Advisory Committee in creating a more inclusive engagement in community development. The Bear, in the Ojibwe Clan System, is the community advocate, healer and unifier. A gift of “sweet grass” was also presented to Councillor Martin and the Committee. Sweet grass has a sweet fragrance to signify the sweetness that life can provide, The Good Life, when we engage with the Ultimate Reality.

2. **Tim Dykeman, Recruitment and Community Outreach Coordinator,
Surrey Fire Service**
File No.: 0540-20V

In attendance before the Committee to provide a brief presentation on the work that Surrey Fire Service is doing in the area of recruiting, diversity and inclusion. The following comments were made:

- The City of Surrey Fire Service has continued to maintain a very strong commitment to community involvement, outreach and diversity. The activities used to engage the community and support diversity were noted:
 - Planning 10 talks in local high schools; specifically talking to young women about what the workforce is about and spreading the word about welcomed diversity.
 - Continued support for 'Camp Ignite' (a firefighting camp run by women for women ages 16-19 years). Efforts to raise awareness of the camp in Surrey have resulted in year-over-year increases in the number of applications received for the camp. It was noted that Surrey receives more applications than any other municipality.
 - One-on-one career coaching with promising female candidates who are in fire school or considering fire school; building relationships and communicating that female firefighters are welcome in Surrey (career guidance, micro-physical sessions and full physical trials).
 - Outreach at Surrey Pride Festival (LGBTQ community) and Surrey Fire Services participated in an Out TV episode of "Don't Quit Your Gay Job".
 - Exploration of new recruitment venues by setting up an information kiosk at the Female Box Lacrosse Provincial Championships in Pitt Meadows.
 - Upcoming local initiatives include recruitment at an Air Cadets event in November 2014 - "a day in the life of a firefighter".

- Fire safety classes through Diversity, SUCCESS, Umoja, YMCA and Options including presentations for the First Steps and Moving Ahead programs.
- Continued outreach to seniors through fire safety training at Senior's Forums.
- Outreach to Food Bank clientele via the Surrey Food Bank Smoke Alarm campaign.
- Participated in more than 90 community events in Surrey, as well as hosted 130 fire hall tours to date.

The Committee thanked Tim Dykeman for his presentation, and provided some suggestions for further opportunities to spread the word about diversity in the SFS workforce. Tim Dykeman's contact information will be circulated to the Committee in order for individual members to contact him about these opportunities.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

D. NEW BUSINESS

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEM

1. Fusion Festival 2014 - Staff Update

File No.: 8200-20

P. Yadav, Special Events Coordinator, was in attendance to provide the Committee with an update and highlights from Fusion Festival 2014. The following comments were made:

- This event started in 2008 after Surrey was named the Cultural Capital in Canada. In 2008, Fusion Festival hosted 22 cultural pavilions and since then the event has doubled the number of pavilions to 41. Next year's goal is to have approximately 50 pavilions (10 more than 2014).
- In 2011 Fusion Festival won best cultural event in Canada and in 2013 it won an international award for "Best Festival" at the annual Special Event Magazine Gala Awards competition on January 10, 2014 in Nashville, Tennessee.
- This year's theme was "architecture", celebrating different architecture around the world. Additional highlights were noted:
 - The Pow Wow was presented by Fraser Regional Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA) and showcased dancers from around the region.
 - Best dressed awards went to India, El Salvador, and Palestine.

- Many different free cultural events and activities for families, kids, adults including over 100 cultural performances.
- Historical re-enactors to act out the pioneer life of Surrey residents.
- Approximately 90,000 people attended throughout two (2) days.
- Five (5) stages including one (1) cooking stage (showcasing Chef Shelley Robinson from the TV show, Chopped).
- A great team of volunteers worked hard to make Fusion Festival successful. The team is looking forward to Fusion Festival 2015.

The Committee commented as follows:

- There was an issue with some people getting into the event. Staff will look into this issue and will work to resolve it for next year's event.
- The Committee commended the RCMP for their visible presence at Fusion Festival. RCMP members spent time interacting with the crowd which was a great way for them to market themselves and build community relationships.
- The Korean pavilion was not represented this year. It was noted that last year it was sponsored by a non-profit group and they were not able to contribute to this year's event.

2. **Doors Open 2014 - Staff Update**

File No.: 0330-20

J. Danyk, CSA - Diversity and Youth Services, was in attendance to provide the Committee with an update and highlights from the Doors Open 2014 event. The following was noted:

- 48 venues that highlighted Surrey's culture, history, art and architecture were open to the public. New City Hall was featured, along with various food trucks, artisan booths, the Newton Community Festival, and a tank crushing by the Legion. New Cloverdale sites were also featured.
- Ads in the NOW newspaper, radio, posters and flyers were all part of the marketing and communication plan to make Doors Open 2014 a success.
- A Doors Open Guide was the main way that people navigated the event. In addition an online map was useful as you could click on site and it told you what's going on, what's offered, etc.
- The event offered six (6) free busses for easy access and to allow for more participation. Free hop-on-hop-off trolleys were a popular and unique attraction.
- A great team of volunteers worked hard to make this event a success.

H. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Staff commented that if any member of the Committee had any suggestions for future agenda items, to please let Councillor Martin or staff know in advance.

I. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Diversity Advisory Committee meeting to be held on **Tuesday, November 18, 2014**, in City Hall, **2E Community Room B**.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by G. Grewal

Seconded by M. Pyne

That the Diversity Advisory Committee meeting

do now adjourn.

Carried

The Diversity Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Chairperson, Councillor M. Martin
Diversity Advisory Committee