

Present:

Councillor Starchuk, Vice-Chair
C. Iweh
J. Kovach
K. Polubinski
K. Thiara
M. Fallon
M. Malik
M. Pyne
S. El-Nashar
S. Marcinkowska
T. Ghuman
T. Oleman

Absent:

Councillor Martin, Chair
A. David
B. Gurm
B. King
J. Thind
P. Aylward
S. Altokhais

Staff Present:

B. Collis, Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator
L. Cavan, GM, Parks, Recreation & Culture
N. Webb, GM, Human Resources
R. Takhar, RCMP Crime Reduction &
Community Services Manager
S. Tosdevine-Tataryn, Age Friendly Strategy for
Seniors Project Manager
C. Eagles, Legislative Services

Non-Voting**Representatives:**

L. Larsen

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. The committee is requested to pass a motion adopting the minutes of January 17, 2017.

It was

Moved by M. Fallon

Seconded by S. Marcinkowska

That the minutes of the Diversity Advisory

Committee meeting held January 17, 2017, be adopted as presented.

Carried

B. DELEGATION

1. **Age-Friendly Strategy**
Sahra-Lea Tosdevine-Tataryn, Age Friendly Strategy, Parks, Recreation and Culture
File: 5000-20

The following comments were made:

- Staff noted that in 2014, Mayor and Council endorsed the Age Friendly Strategy for Seniors. The Strategy was developed through leadership of the Seniors Advisory and Accessibility Committee. In the process of developing the strategy, internal and external stakeholders, residents and seniors groups were engaged. The Strategy supports the City of Surrey's Sustainability Charter and is included in the City of Surrey's Public Safety Strategy.
- Surrey is supporting healthy active aging through its Age Friendly Strategy. Four key outcomes were identified in the Strategy process as follows:

1. **Safety, Health and Wellness:** Seniors have support to be active and engaged in their community to prevent isolation;
 2. **Transportation and Mobility:** Seniors have access to a variety of safe, convenient and affordable transportation options;
 3. **Home:** Seniors have access to affordable and appropriate housing and the support necessary to remain independent; and
 4. **Buildings and Outdoor Spaces:** Buildings, public places and outdoor spaces are designed to be welcoming, safe and accessible.
- To achieve the four key outcomes, four strategic areas of focus were identified:
 1. **Programs and Services:** Support a continuum of programs and services from prevention to intervention that will be available for all seniors, including vulnerable seniors and those at risk;
 2. **Engagement with Seniors:** To understand and learn the interests and needs of seniors; engage seniors in a respectful way so that they can play an active role in achieving the age-friendly outcomes;
 3. **Communication and Promotion:** Multilingual communication and promotion that raises awareness of issues and provides information about services and programs; and
 4. **Collaboration with Partners:** To ensure seniors, caregivers and families are aware of and benefit from the diverse programs and services available to them.
 - Staff noted that the Seniors Advisory and Accessibility Committee (SAAC) is a successful model of collaborative community partnerships working together to address the needs of seniors throughout the City.
 - Surrey supports an age friendly community and launched the Seniors Volunteer Initiative in 2016.
 - The following key initiatives are designed to support an age-friendly community for seniors, caregivers, and their families:
 - Seniors Services Connector: Partnership with Seniors Come Share Society;
 - Focus on Seniors Forums;
 - Focus on Seniors Seminar Series;
 - Mobile Outreach Program;
 - Caregiver Workshops; and
 - Elderly Abuse Awareness Training.

- Committee members expressed concern regarding the lack of public washrooms available near bus stations and would like to see dedicated parking stalls for seniors at grocery stores and other public amenity sites. It was discussed that the sidewalks were poor in the winter months and the snow made accessibility on the sidewalks difficult. The Chair reminded the Committee that this year's snowfall was greater than that of previous years over the entire lower mainland.
- Committee members asked if there were any programs available for seniors who struggle with language barriers. Staff advised the Committee that City of Surrey seminars and forums are presented in different languages to reduce barriers and share information with our diverse community.
- Committee members praised intergenerational programming that allows young individuals to work with senior residents. The Surrey Schools rep was in attendance and shared that there are programs where seniors come to schools and participate in activities with students and seniors participate in reading workshops with students, which has become widely successful.

Staff noted they look at the entire community to ensure there is a balance toward creating a healthy community. The Seniors Advisory and Accessibility Committee provides the opportunity for seniors to have social interaction outside of their residences. Committee members noted that many residents are not aware of what is available to them and encouraged staff to further explore creative ways to market senior programs to ensure a broader reach.

T. Ghuman arrived to the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

2. **Girls Got Game - Options Community Services Society**
Khim Tan, Senior Manager, Immigrant Services, and Sara Miranda, Program Lead/Community Connections Worker, Options Community Services Society
File: 0250-20

In attendance as a delegation before the Committee to provide a presentation on Girls Got Game.

The following comments were made:

- The delegation noted Options Immigrant Services has been delivering program and support services to newcomers for over 20 years. Options offers services in settlement support, wraparound support, literacy training, community connections social mentorship, youth support groups, job readiness support and career mentorships.
- Participants include immigrants and refugees (government assisted refugees and privately sponsored refugees), temporary foreign workers, international students, naturalized citizens, refugee claimants, and individuals classified as vulnerable newcomers.

- Goals for the program are to improve the overall health of immigrant and refugee girls through recreation, physical literacy, wellness, leadership development, and by providing a safe and welcoming environment for girls to feel comfortable in community activities. The program also provides female newcomers with increased self-esteem, leadership skills, positive peer relationships and social skills development.
- The program is after school on Tuesday's at the Guildford Recreation centre and Wednesday's at Strawberry Hill Elementary, 1.5 hours per week, with 10-12 females in each group.
- Topics in the program include leadership, inclusion and diversity, teamwork and fair play, healthy bodies, self-image, hygiene, healthy relationships, nutrition and fundamental movement skills.

Committee members noted that the program is an effective way to empower young females and build their confidence while giving them a voice.

3. **Celebrate Canada 150**

Laurie Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture

File: N/A

The following comments were made:

- Staff shared some of the activities planned for celebrating Canada's 150 years of confederation. The overall mission is to change how Canadians interact within society and their goal is focused on being strong, proud and free.
- The City of Surrey wants to be engaged with the community and empower organizations to take initiatives to be involved in celebrating some of the National Themes of Canada's 150th Birthday. The main themes are based around the environment, diversity, inclusion, youth and national reconciliation.
- Staff noted there will be many beautification initiatives and key locations across the City that will promote Canada 150. Initiatives will include community tree planting, Canada 150 Public Art Banner Design, Town Centre Murals, the City Centre Plaza stairs will feature a new Canadian flag design, and community engagement. Residents have the opportunity to host Canada 150 block parties, participate in a challenge of 150 hours of exercise per week over a 10 week period of time, and a forum for residents to submit through the City's website what it means to them to be Canadian.
- On February 21, 2017, Mayor Hepner announced featured Canada 150 performers and events such as: April 22 Party for the Planet featuring Shawn Hook, July 1 Western Canada's largest Canada Day concert featuring Hedley, and July 22 and 23 Fusion Festival featuring Nelly Furtado.

- The Surrey Art Gallery will feature local visual artists and a Canada 150 Surrey School Exhibition. The Public Art Program will display four painted drums by the Kwantlen Nations artist Brandon Gabriel at the Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre for the First Nations Language Project. Staff announced that funding was received to revitalize the Colombian Centennial Totem Pole at Old City Hall.
- Surrey Civic Theatres will host workshops to engage youth in leadership, performance and career development. The Legacy Book Project is expected to complete on July 1, 2017. The Heritage Services will feature a Canadian Exhibition at the Historic Stewart Farm.

The Committee asked staff if there was a souvenir that could be purchased and staff noted that pins with Surrey Canada 150 would be available.

The City of Surrey will host a special Citizenship Ceremony on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. 60 new citizens of Canada will be sworn in at Surrey City Hall in Council Chambers. Anyone wishing to witness the ceremony can attend.

M Fallon left the meeting at 10:37 a.m.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

D. NEW BUSINESS

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEM

- 1. Surrey Doors Open**
Brianna Collis, Community Services Coordinator
File: 8200-01

The Surrey Doors Open event will offer a unique opportunity for residents and visitors to explore Surrey's rich history and culture through the community's art venues, parks, heritage sites, and architectural, civic and public buildings. Committee members were invited to attend the Surrey Doors Open event on Saturday, June 17, 2017, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Surrey City Hall.

Staff noted that currently, one Diversity Advisory Committee member (S. El-Nashar) is involved with the Surrey Doors Open Advisory Committee. If another member (1 spot open) would like to be involved please contact Brianna Collis to further discuss the opportunity of being involved.

H. OTHER BUSINESS

I. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Diversity Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. in 2E Community Room B.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by M. Malik

Seconded by K. Polubinski

That the Diversity Advisory Committee

meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Diversity Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Councillor M. Starchuk, Chairperson
Diversity Advisory Committee