

Diversity and Inclusivity

Advisory Committee –

Minutes

Present:

Councillor Martin - Chair
Councillor Steele – Liaison - (SAAC)
Seniors Advisory & Accessibility
Committee
Councillor Rasode – Liaison -
Community Safety
School Trustee Liaison: Laurie Larsen
R. Asistio
S. Chaudhry
S. El-Nashar
T. Ghuman
C. Hong
C. Iweh
B. King
J. Kovach
M. Malik
K. Polubinski
M. Pyne
S. Sabharwal
S. Scott-Phillips
E. Szücs

Absent:

Dr. B. Gurm
T. Oleman
M. Solorzano

Staff Present:

L. Cavan, GM, Parks, Recreation & Culture
N. Webb, GM, Human Resources
L. White, Manager, Community & Rec. Svc.
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Services

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was Moved by M. Pyne
Seconded by B. King
That the notes of the Diversity and Inclusion
Advisory Committee meeting of November 15, 2011, be received.
Carried

B. DELEGATION

1. New Settlement and Integration Services Model
File No. 5080-01
(Brought forward from September 20, 2011)

Connie Hong, Options Community Services, provided an overview of the Settlement and Integration Program offered by the Surrey/North Delta Settlement Alliance.

- Two contracts were awarded to four agencies:
 - Contract A to Options in PICS and SUCCESS; and
 - Contract B to *DIVERSE*city with Options partnering and the YMCA.
- Services are delivered by staff contracted from a variety of organizations.

- Services are provided in multiple languages.
- Short term courses are empowering and offer life skills and educational workshops:
 - Week 1 - in different languages (culture shock happens and they share their experiences).
 - Week 2 - workplace culture differences;
 - Week 3 - the school system; and
 - Week 4 - Libraries.
- Primary services are delivered at DIVERSEcity, Options Community Services Society, PICS and SUCCESS.
- Secondary services are delivered at various recreation centres.
- Eligible clients:
 - Primary clients – Permanent residents of Canada; protected persons; those selected by Canada to become permanent residents (with CIC letter); live-in caregivers (temporary residents).
 - Secondary clients - Naturalized Canadian Citizens; refugee claimants; those selected to become permanent residents under the Provincial Nominee Program (with no CIC letter).
- Clients are accompanied to a number of community connection events such as the Fusion Festival.
- **Health Fair** - June 2, 2012 – at Chuck Bailey (funding is from AFRAM and is hosted by the four agencies in partnership with the City of Surrey, RCMP and Fire Safety.)
- Newcomers have difficulty getting jobs due to lack of Canadian experience. The settlement and integration program is about finding volunteer opportunities for people to gain experience. They require knowledge and skills such as preparing a resume.
- Mentorship – Mentors, from a variety of backgrounds, are being sought to help newcomers.
 - Professionals, who speak a different language and English, and who work in the community to show and explain practices such as how to take a bus, where to find the doctor office, and/or explain why there is a school catchment area.
 - The first mentor training session is all day on February 11, 2012. Free.

Discussion -

- The City has been very supportive.
- City Tour - Connie, city staff and Options staff have been working on the City Tour. This is going very well.
- Settlement Services and the front line workers at the recreation centres are working collaboratively and gather information from the new clients. Training material is being developed for the front line workers.
- Recreation Centres need more ESL classes for adult English conversation classes.
- The City of Surrey has many opportunities and provides information packages on how to get involved in the City.
- Have been quite successful in hiring volunteers but more opportunities are needed and are being sought.

Councillor Martin thanked Connie Hong for the information and all the incredible work with the citizens. She thanked Councillor Rasode for her work with the Diversity & Inclusivity Advisory Committee and noted that Councillor Rasode will be the liaison for the Community Safety Committee. Councillor Steele will be the liaison for the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Review Draft 2011 Accomplishments

Laurie Cavan provided a summary of 2011 Accomplishments and noted that the work and involvement by the Committee members is much appreciated.

- The Committee received and heard approximately ten delegations in 2011.
- Committee members provided feedback and directed the information to other resources in the City.
- Policies and Practices came to this Committee for feedback. From a City perspective, good feedback was provided and acted upon, such as the diversity celebration structures.

Councillor Rasode noted that most discussions held by other Committees are broad based and provide a consultative role. Councillors represent these Committees at Council. All minutes go directly to Council. This meeting is the Committee member's meeting and the forum at which to bring topics forward for discussion.

Committee comments -

- It was requested that the 2011 Goals be attached to the 2011 Accomplishments for review.

2. Review Draft 2012 DIAC Work Plan

- There are 13 items listed on the draft work plan for the Committee. In order to contribute in a meaningful way it would be necessary to focus on a few objectives and to prioritize, and develop a work plan.
- DEFERRED for discussion at the workshop on March 27, 2012 –
 - March 27, 2012 - 9:00 – 1:00 pm - venue to be confirmed
 - Workshop to review the draft accomplishments and work plan for 2012.

3. Review name of Committee

- DEFERRED to workshop.

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**F. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Email correspondence from Jack Kovach, dated January 6, 2012 was received.

G. INFORMATION ITEM

1. **2012 Schedule of DIAC meetings.**
2. **2012 Committee Orientation Package**

The Orientation package was provided to each Committee member in attendance with the request that they read, sign pages 22 & 23, and return the signed pages at the next meeting.

H. OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Focus on Seniors Forums –**

Focus on Seniors Forums were discussed. The focus of the forums is on Surrey seniors. About 150-200 people attend. 11 forums have been conducted over the past four years, nine in English, and two in Punjabi. The first Korean Forum will be held on March 10, 2012. There have been requests for forums to be held in Spanish and Chinese.

Speakers come from RCMP Community Safety Officers, Fire Prevention and Safety in the home, workers in the seniors industry, lawyers on power of attorney, and abuse, etc. There are questions and answers to educate family members and caregivers and to reinforce the safety and security of seniors. There are panel discussion sessions.

English Seniors Forum - February 18, 2012 - 9:00 am -3:00 pm - Fleetwood

Korean Seniors Forum - March 10, 2012 - Guildford Recreation Centre

- This will be the first time hosting a Forum in the Korean community. Are looking for people from within the Korean community to meet and greet people at the door.

Punjabi Forum – date TBD.

2. **Doors Open – Saturday, June 23, 2012.**

I. NEXT MEETING

The next Diversity and Inclusivity Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for the 2012 Work Plan workshop on March 27, 2012 (due to spring break).

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by B. King

Seconded by T. Ghuman

That the Diversity and Inclusivity Advisory

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Diversity and Inclusivity Advisory Committee adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Chairperson, Councillor M. Martin
Diversity and Inclusivity Advisory Committee