

**Present:**

Chairperson - Councillor Hunt  
Councillor Bose  
Councillor Gill  
Councillor Hepner  
Councillor Martin  
Councillor Rasode  
Councillor Steele  
Councillor Villeneuve  
Mayor Watts

**Absent:****Staff Present:**

City Clerk  
City Manager  
City Solicitor  
General Manager, Engineering  
General Manager, Finance & Technology  
General Manager, Human Resources  
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
General Manager, Planning & Development

**A. DELEGATIONS****1. Alice Sundberg, Vibrant Surrey**

File: 5080-01; 0550-20-10

In attendance before Council to present a summary of the Poverty Research Project and plans to disseminate the information.

The following comments were made:

- The committee is made up of the following organizations:
  1. Vibrant Surrey
  2. Surrey Homelessness and Housing Task Force
  3. Housing and Homelessness Society
- Vibrant Surrey has been working closely with staff, Fraser Health and the Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC).
- The delegation noted the City of Surrey should be proud of its achievement in targeting homelessness issues. Surrey's leadership has had an impact, the poverty rate is below the provincial average, and the homeless counts have been reduced. Partnerships with the Province in creating coordinated community based solutions have been instrumental in yielding tangible results.
- Single parents, new immigrants, and seniors are still vulnerable. In 2006, there were 16,000 families in Surrey living in low income.
- There are four essential elements involved in the homeless issue in Surrey and they include:
  1. **Transportation** - The average cost of driving a car per year is \$5,750/household. Transit passes are \$151, for individuals living in Surrey and working in Vancouver, transportation is essential.
  2. **Housing** - Research shows Surrey's housing prices are more affordable. Average rent is \$811/month and 1 in 10 renters spend 50 percent of their income on housing. The wait lists for social housing are long.

3. **Income** - Surrey successfully provides a high quality of life for many residents. Surrey's poverty rate of 15.6 per cent is lower than the Provincial average. Low income groups under stress include new immigrant households, seniors, Aboriginal people and single parent led families. Surrey income assistance rates have not kept pace with inflation.
  4. **Support** - A number of agencies help youths, local outreach programs are assisting individuals to find a path out of poverty. The Surrey Rent Bank (SRB) strives to prevent low income individuals and families living in Surrey and the surrounding area from becoming homeless and from the disconnection of utilities. They achieve this by providing emergency micro-loans to low income earners in crisis. In addition, they provide tools to better manage their limited financial resources. SRB work is supported by a number of agencies and funding partners. Recent tax initiatives, such as credits are also working to put more money into the pockets of low income households.
- In the fall of 2011, the committee will launch programs under an acronym called '**THIS**' – which encompasses the key themes of: Transportation, Housing, Income, and Support.
  - '**THIS**' will make a difference through community-based solutions based on fact and dialogue.
  - In the fall, the group will reach out to the community to get the real story, needs and solutions. A series of recommendations will be compiled through community consultations.

Council thanked the organization along with SPARC in dealing with the issue of homelessness in Surrey and putting together meaningful census facts. Both the Provincial and Federal Governments plan on putting together poverty funding plans; when that initiative occurs the City of Surrey will be well positioned to target neighbourhoods that need additional infrastructure through social programs and funding support.

2. **Lee Loftus, Business Manager, Heat and Frost BC Insulators**

File: 3760-20; 0550-20-10

In attendance before Council to discuss the importance of mechanical insulation, procurement policies and potential building code changes.

The following comments were made:

- Insulation material and the methods associated with installation should not be confused with wall and ceiling insulation. Insulators apply insulation covering made from Styrofoam and styrene used on ventilation units; pipes carrying liquid gas, steam, and refrigerants; domestic hot and cold water pipes; sanitary lines; and soundproofing systems.
- Heat and Frost Insulators is a solution to shrink your carbon footprint. Insulation a key element in heating and cooling homes. Mechanical insulation keeps heating pipes hot and cooling pipes cool. The technology can be applied to multi-storage buildings through a simple 1-percent solution.

- Long term financial and environmental solutions are enormous and the results are phenomenal. Mechanical insulation reduces greenhouse gas emissions and environmentally it is the right thing to do.
- Other benefits of mechanical insulation includes support of green environmental supporting jobs, prevents fire, saves lives, reduces noise and dramatically reduces energy consumption.

The Insulators Local 118 requested the City of Surrey to include mandatory requirements in tender processes for buildings. As a long-term measure, Insulators Local 118 asked Council to consider spearheading changes to the building code to reflect the use of mechanical insulation in new buildings.

Council thanked the delegation for their presentation and use of simple language and requested staff to prepare a report for Council consideration.

**B. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**

**C. CORPORATE REPORTS**

**D. DELEGATION REQUESTS**

**E. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**F. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

**G. ADJOURNMENT**


It was

now adjourn.

Moved by Councillor Hepner  
Seconded by Councillor Martin  
That the Council-in-Committee meeting do

Carried

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

  
Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

  
Councillor Hunt, Chairperson