

Council-in-Committee Minutes

Present:

Chairperson - Councillor Rasode
Councillor Gill
Councillor Hayne
Councillor Hepner
Councillor Steele
Councillor Villeneuve
Mayor Watts

Absent:

Councillor Martin

Staff Present:

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

A. DELEGATIONS**1. Karen Reid Sidhu, Executive Director, Surrey Crime Prevention Society (SCPS) and Manbir Renthey, Volunteer Mentor (SCPS)**

File: 0250-20; 0550-20-10

In attendance before Council to provide an overview of Surrey Crime Prevention Society (SCPS) activities and request increased funding to support future programming.

The following comments were made:

- In 2013 the Surrey Crime Prevention Society (SCPS) won the Canadian Criminal Justice Association Crime Prevention award.
- Seventy volunteers were trained in conducting community safety tours and twelve volunteers participated in professional traffic control training. Partial funding was received from the Downtown Surrey Business Improvement Association.
- Volunteers contributed close to 19,000 hours in 2013 contributing to the following programs:
 - Traffic Safety
 - Anti-Graffiti
 - Citizens Community Safety Watch
 - Lockout Auto Crime
 - Community Safety Youth Leadership and Mentorship
 - Administrative Volunteer
- In 2013 there were 69 special events held throughout the City of Surrey. The delegation noted that SCPS volunteers are available to assist with any not-for-profit special events.

- In 2013 a \$25,000 grant from the Ministry of Justice contributed to the success of the Mentorship Program. Manbir Renthey, a volunteer with the Mentorship program, spoke briefly about his experience volunteering with SCPS, and noted that he has seen a lot of success with the program and has gained a sense of leadership as a result of his participation.

Council commended Karen Reid Sidhu for her work as Executive Director of the program, and noted that the increase in volunteer numbers is admirable.

The delegation advised that the Community Safety Tours have made the largest impact in the community. SCPS hope to increase the number of hours dedicated to the Community Safety Watch and would like Council to give consideration to the 2015 budget cycle.

2. **Kevan J. Ridgway, President and CEO, Vancouver, Coast & Mountains (VCM)**
File: 6980-01; 0550-20-10

In attendance before Council to give a brief presentation on the "Value of Tourism and Working Together".

The following comments were made:

- Vancouver, Coast & Mountains (VCM) is a not-for-profit with a mandate to increase tourism revenues throughout the region and they work under contract with Destination British Columbia.
- VCM has a new web site called 604pulse.com which provides information regarding things to do in the City of Surrey. Tourism Surrey launched the "Food with Thought" program which is a guide to eating locally in Surrey.
- Tourism creates employment and has generated billions of dollars to economic activity, to BC's Gross Domestic Product, provincial taxes, and federal government revenues.

In response to a question from Council, the delegation noted that Vancouver, Coast & Mountains focuses on leisure travel geared more towards small retreats and not large scale conferences.

3. **Aileen Murphy, Senior Planner, with Trevor Van Eerden and Jody Johnson, Peers Consulting on behalf of the Surrey Welcoming Communities**
File: 5080-01; 0550-20-10

Note: See Corporate Report Ro85 of Regular Council Public Hearing Agenda.

In attendance before Council to provide a report on the Surrey Welcoming Communities Project (January 2013 - March 31, 2014).

The following comments were made:

- In April 2013 the Surrey Welcoming Communities signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the provincial government and a multi-sector partnership committee was established and an action plan was developed.
- All sectors of the community were brought together, including youth, business and media, to focus on how to make Surrey more welcoming.
- The immigrant population in Surrey has increased by 63.7% since 2001, and the Surrey Welcoming Communities Project was designed to improve access to community services, support intercultural relationships and ensure welcoming and inclusive work places.
- Several members of the Surrey Welcoming Communities Project were in attendance and spoke to their own experiences as part of the Project. Comments included:
 - The Refugee Myth Busting Campaign looked at who the refugees are and what contributions they are making to the community. A presentation was made to a plenary session of the United Nations in Geneva last year that was focused specifically on refugee settlement. This project provides a voice to refugee children and youth to tell their own story in various public education workshops.
 - Fifteen youth participated in the Youth Engagement Project which saw the production of three short films, sharing their experiences and struggles, resulting in the idea for a buddy system. The group met with Mayor Watts who viewed all three films.
 - Surrey Board of Trade made five presentations to over 600 business and community representatives showcasing demographics and the economic need to continue this work.
 - Surrey Parks and Recreation arranged six dialogue sessions inspired by cooking and food and had over 200 attendees.

Council acknowledged that the Surrey Welcoming Communities also work very closely with seniors helping to get them out to different forums as well as providing assistance with spoken and written translation.

B. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

C. CORPORATE REPORTS

D. DELEGATION REQUESTS

E. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

F. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

G. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Gill

Seconded by Councillor Villeneuve

That the Council-in-Committee meeting do

now adjourn.

Carried

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 5:36 p.m.



Jane Sullivan, City Clerk



Councillor Rasode, Chairperson