

**Present:**

Chairperson – Mayor McCallum  
Councillor Annis  
Councillor Elford  
Councillor Guerra  
Councillor Hundial  
Councillor Locke  
Councillor Patton  
Councillor Pettigrew

**Absent:**

Councillor Nagra

**Staff Present:**

General Manager, Planning & Development/Acting City Manager  
City Clerk  
General Manager, Corporate Services  
General Manager, Engineering  
General Manager, Finance  
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
City Solicitor

**A. DELEGATIONS****1. Renie D'Aquila, Executive Director and Denis Horgan, Chair  
Reach Child and Youth Development Society (REACH)**

File: 0250-20; 0550-20-10  
15 minutes

The delegation provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding REACH services and the need for a new Surrey Centre for Autism and Child Development. The following information was highlighted:

- REACH was established as a non-profit organization in 1959 and serves over 1200 children and youth in the South Fraser region, including 400 in Surrey. REACH seeks to provide timely, accessible and family-centred community programs and services to create communities where all individuals are welcomed, included and leading lives of well-being.
- REACH has been providing autism-specific services for 30 years and is at the forefront of best practices in BC. It is estimated that 15% of children have special needs, one in 46 children have autism and 70% of children have experienced mental health challenges. In Surrey, it is estimated that 2,500 children have autism and 1,977 families have registered for autism-specific services, although not all families are accessing the services that are available to them.
- A new REACH Autism Centre will help improve the quality of life and provide support for children with autism and their families, help vulnerable children reach their potential, increase availability and access to autism-specific services, strengthen families' capacity and complement existing community services. REACH is seeking a location in Cloverdale that is between 3,000-5,000 square feet and is accessible to public transit. The City can support REACH by authorizing staff to work with REACH and inventory available locations, provide zoning assistance and possible tax exemption status and create awareness in City communications.

**B. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by Councillor Guerra

Seconded by Councillor Patton

That the Council-in-Committee meeting be

adjourned.

Carried

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

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Jennifer Ficocelli, City Clerk

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Mayor Doug McCallum, Chairperson