

**Present:**

Chair, Councillor Villeneuve  
Vice Chair, Councillor LeFranc  
S. Dooley  
J. Parmar  
K. Thiara  
D. Toor  
E. Milavic  
L. Rhead  
J. Sturge  
M. Shaw  
L. Coyle  
K. Dhesa (YR)

**Absent:**

D. Chattha  
J. Calbick  
J. Liu (YR)

**Staff Present:**

A. Murphy, Senior Social Planner  
M. McCargar, Planning Associate  
L. Luaifoa, Legislative Services

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**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

1. Social Policy Advisory Committee Minutes of December 3, 2014, to be approved.

It was

Moved by E. Milavic

Seconded by L. Rhead

That the Social Policy Advisory Committee

minutes of December 3, 2014 be adopted.

Carried

**B. DELEGATIONS**

1. **Lara Admad, President, Enactus SFU and Sean McKenna, Beedie School of Business, presented on the Enactus program**

The following comments were made:

- Enactus is a global organization aimed at developing student leaders who create positive impacts in their own communities through entrepreneurship. The mission of the program is to create opportunity for individuals by developing programs that address the economic, social and environmental needs of the community.
  - Students and faculty members collaborate with business leaders, industry professionals and community partners to improve the livelihoods of individuals all around the world.
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- Enactus currently runs the following programs:
  - Axis Consulting
  - Banner Bags
  - Count on Me
  - Hunger Actions
  - Media Minds
  - SFU Entrepreneur of the Year
  - Soap for Hope
- The program audiences vary from low income families, student entrepreneurs, high school students, newcomers to Canada, non-profit organizations and youth at risk.
- The delegation highlighted the following 3 programs:
  1. **Hunger Actions**

A program for low-income families that teaches the basics of nutrition, budgeting, group cooking and home-energy savings, through a series of workshops.
  2. **Media Minds**

A digital literacy program for English Language Learner (ELL) students (ages 12-13) that helps them learn English in a creative way through videography.
  3. **Soap for Hope**

The newest program partners with the Union Mission Gospel in Vancouver's downtown eastside. It focuses on upcycling bar soaps from hotels and repurposing it into liquid soap to sell to local businesses. The goal is to perfect the creation process and then continue to work on how the soap will be distributed. SPAC members asked to be notified by Enactus once the soap is available for sale to consumers.
- Each year Enactus Canada hosts exhibitions to showcase programs and the impact that has been made during the year. Enactus SFU were Regional Champions in February, 2014 and National Semi-finalists in April, 2014.
- The President of Enactus SFU noted that the program is seeking new initiatives and new groups to work with. The goal is to set a strong base and focus on Surrey, developing on the presence the group has already established in the area. Enactus SFU currently has 98 members.

Councillor Villeneuve thanked the delegation for their presentation.

2. **Lali Pawa, Program Coordinator and Rick Craig, Executive Director, Justice Education Society presented on the Court Information Program for Immigrants.**

The following comments were provided:

- The Justice Education Society (JES) was established in 1989 and is mandated to build stronger communities by promoting understanding of, access to, and confidence in the justice system, at home and abroad.
- Some of the programs the society offers include:
  - Court Information Program for Immigrants
  - Justice Education System
  - Parenting After Separation Program
  - Northern Native Public Legal Education Program
- The JES offers numerous online resources. A few websites include:
  - SmallClaimsBC.ca
  - CourtsofBC.ca
  - VictimsInfo.ca
- The Court Information Program for Immigrants (CIPI) has been in operation for over 20 years providing legal information, education and referrals to victims, witnesses, accused or parties to a lawsuit. There are two CIPI offices which are located at the Vancouver Criminal Court and the Surrey Court.
- The program provides information and referrals in English, Chinese, Punjabi and Hindi and printed materials in 10 different languages.
- Court workers are available to help immigrants understand court documents and common legal terms, answer questions about what to expect in court, provide other sources of information such as referrals to community and government services/programs and assist with the Legal Aid application process.
- Court workers do not provide legal advice, serve as interpreters before the court nor advocate for clients.
- CIPI also provides free 90 minute workshops on the following topics; Canada's Justice System, Introduction to Family Justice Systems, Introduction to Criminal Justice Systems and Overview of Small Claims Court.
- The JES applied for funding for the CIPI to Citizenship and Immigration Canada and was denied on the basis that the program did not fit the funding criteria any longer.
- The delegation applied for \$10,000 in financial support from the City of Surrey Community Grants program to help the program continue. This financial support would assist 1,500 people directly. The City of Vancouver has funded the CIPI at the Vancouver Criminal Court for the past 13 years.
- The delegation noted that there is a great need for this valuable program in Surrey. The Surrey location assisted 1,500 people in 2014 and provided 30 community sessions.

The Committee made the following comments:

- The Community Grants program provides one time only grants. Applications are reviewed by a community committee and recommendations are made to Council.



- The City does not fund on-going operating funds. The Council Initiative Fund may consider applications where the grant would provide bridge funding. The Vice Chair commented that additional information about the program would be beneficial, such as what the funding being requested will be spent on and who the other funders are. The Vice Chair further noted that letters of support from organizations that the program supports would be useful. The delegation noted that as part of the proposal for the Community Grant application, letters of support were provided.
- The delegation noted that the JES has been meeting different agencies such as the Surrey RCMP to discuss innovative ways to work together. Staff noted that the City's Local Immigration Partnership has contracted SPARC BC to compile a community service inventory and conduct interviews with service providers. It was suggested that the delegation get on the list of organizations that will be surveyed.
- The Committee questioned if the JES has made any presentations to the local MP's to gain support for the program. The delegation replied that the MP's have been contacted as part of the process.
- The Committee recommended that the delegation explore the possibility of self-publishing its websites which could make some profit for the programs.
- Another option suggested for the delegation to consider is applying for funding outside of the province through the Law Foundation. Notaries are another resource for funding, from a crime prevention point of view.
- The delegation noted that the Surrey court house is expanding. If the CIPI services are unable to continue it will be a huge loss for the Surrey courts.

The delegation was thanked for their presentation.

**3. Alison Clancey and Lisa Gibson, presented on the Living in Community (LIC) Initiative**

The Committee viewed the following video: "LIVING IN COMMUNITY: Balancing Perspectives on Vancouver's Sex Industry ([http://youtu.be/n\\_gYYJt4Saw](http://youtu.be/n_gYYJt4Saw)). The following additional information was provided:

- The purpose of LIC is to create communities that are healthier and safer for each and every community member in relation to sex work and sexual exploitation.
- LIC is a unique initiative that brings together community organizations, sex workers, government, residents, businesses and the police, to address health and safety issues connected to sex work and sexual exploitation.
- LIC believes that the marginalization of sex workers and the displacement of sex workers from one neighbourhood to another only increases health and safety risks for all community members, including sex workers.
- In 2007, the LIC Steering Committee developed an action plan which included 27 recommendations. The Action Plan was updated in 2014 and includes links between the LIC Action Plan, Forsaken: the Report of the

Missing Women Commission of Inquiry, and the City of Vancouver's Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Protecting Vulnerable Adults & Neighbourhoods Affected by Sex Work: A Comprehensive Approach and Action Plan; progress made on each recommendation; and the stakeholders responsible for each action. The update also served as a call to action for stakeholders to fulfill their responsibilities outlined in these three reports.

The following comments were made:

- The delegation is seeking interest in the Surrey community to engage with the LIC initiative. LIC is partnering with other communities in BC to adapt and expand the LIC model. Surrey was identified as a community that needs this type of work as it is a growing municipality.
- The delegation noted that, unlike the Vancouver Police Department, the Surrey RCMP do not have a vice unit. Apparently the Surrey RCMP are looking into funding for a sex worker liaison position.

The delegation was thanked for their presentation.

## **C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

### **1. Alliance of Service Clubs**

#### **Discussion on the Website and Next Steps**

- An email or letter will be sent out to Surrey's service clubs welcoming feedback on the web page that was created on the City of Surrey website. The message will also question if the groups are interested in staying involved. Once the message is sent out, Linda Coyle will follow-up with the groups and the Committee will discuss future steps at the April SPAC meeting.
- The Chair noted that contact should be made with the service clubs prior to organizing a Seeing is Believing tour due to the lack of participation with the first tour.
- Linda Coyle noted that one of the limitations with participation is due to the change of leadership/membership within the Service Clubs each year.

### **2. Social Policy Advisory Committee Meetings**

Councillor Villeneuve, Councillor LeFranc and Aileen Murphy met to discuss the Committee and proposed that the Committee consider meeting on a quarterly basis. This structure would allow Committee members to focus on specific projects and report back to the Committee for dialogue on those projects and initiatives.

The Committee discussed the proposed change to the meeting schedule and felt it would benefit the Committee to meet every other month rather than quarterly.



Members felt that meeting every other month with longer meetings would be the best model for the Committee.

**3. Poverty Reduction**

The Planning Associate provided the following update:

- The Poverty Reduction Forum is scheduled for February 16 at Kwantlen University with registration at 8:30 am. Councillor LeFranc and Steve Dooley will be the MC's.
- 60 out of 75 tickets have been sold.
- The forum is a professional development and networking event for people who are working in the field of poverty reduction and already aware of the issues.
- Donna Jean Forester-Gill of the Tamarack Institute, Ontario will facilitate a workshop-style conference and provide the keynote message.

**4. Refugee Transportation Loan**

721 signatures have been collected to date for the Refugee Transportation Loan petition. The goal is to gather 1000 signatures to present to the MP's prior to the election. The Committee was encouraged to continue with the petition and to forward the petitions by April.

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. 2015 SPAC Workplan**

- Steven Dooley and Councillor LeFranc are involved with the Social Innovation Summit in November 2015 and will update the Committee with details.
- A sub-committee was formed for initial discussions around the Urban Aboriginal Strategy. It consists of Lynne Rhead, Steven Dooley, Jodi Sturge and Councillor LeFranc. Michelle Shaw will attend the initial meeting. The next steps for the Urban Aboriginal Strategy will be updated in June.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

It was

Moved by E. Milavic

Seconded by M. Shaw

That the Social Policy Advisory Committee recommend that Council endorse the draft letter to be sent to the Members of Parliament, requesting elimination of the Refugee Transportation Loan.

Carried

**E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**

There were no items referred by Council.

**F. CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence this meeting.

**G. INFORMATION ITEMS**

There were no information items.

**H. OTHER BUSINESS****1. Committee Member Resignation and Terms**

The Chair noted that the terms for committee members Linda Coyle and Devinder Chattha have expired and Jeff Callbrick, United Way has resigned. Linda Coyle was present and thanked for her work on the Committee. The Chair also commended Jeff Callbrick and Devinder Chattha, who were not in attendance, for their contribution to the Committee.

**2. 2015 SPAC Fun Schedule**

- There are two delegations for the April meeting that will be presenting on the following: Housing First and the Hello Project.
- Signatures to be collected for the Refugee Transportation Loan petition in April
- The Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) update will take place at the June meeting.

**3. Committee Member Updates****Lynne Rhead**

SOS Children's Villages is a worldwide organization that works with children who have been abandoned or are orphans. SOS BC supports foster children and vulnerable children. When foster children are out of government care at age 19, they often find it difficult to live in society on their own. The SOS BC has 4 houses in Surrey for ages 16 to 24. The children have access to a variety of programs that assist them to learn to live on their own.

**Linda Coyle**

The UN has established the first week in February as World Interfaith Harmony week and the Surrey Interfaith Council is hosting an event at the Central City Library on February 7 from 1 to 4 pm.

**Dale Toor**

The Lion's Club will be hosting the Backpack program (food for children to take home to feed the family over the weekend) and the first school will be Old Yale Elementary School.

**I. NEXT MEETING**

The next Social Policy Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 1, 2015, at 4:45 p.m.**

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

It was


Moved by E. Milavic  
Seconded by M. Shaw

That the Social Policy Advisory Committee

meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Social Policy Advisory Committee adjourned at 7 p.m.

  
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Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

  
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Chairperson, Councillor J. Villeneuve  
Social Policy Advisory Committee