

Present:

Councillor LeFranc, Vice-Chair
A. Begalka
D. Jimeno
M. Bains
M. Dhillon
M. Shaw
R. Gunderson
S. Dooley
Y. Guo

Absent:

Councillor Villeneuve, Chair
A. Keitlah
C. Mohr
K. Thiara
M. Schaafsma
W. Al-Jabiri

Staff Present:

A. Murphy, Senior Planner
D. Gill-Badesha, Healthy Communities Manager
K. Patten, Social Planner
C. Eagles, Administrative Assistant

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of January 10, 2018.

It was

Moved by M. Bains

Seconded by Y. Guo

That the minutes of the Social Policy

Advisory Committee meeting held on January 10, 2018, be adopted.

Carried

B. DELEGATIONS

1. **Refugees & Indigenous Youth Cross-Cultural Dialogue Project (FRAFCA and Local Immigration Partnership)**

Jennifer Basu, Surrey Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) and Jeska Slater, Fraser Region Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA).

Youth Leaders from the LIP Refugee and FRAFCA Youth Committees shared their experience from a series of dialogue events that brought together Indigenous and refugee youth. The events explored issues such as racism, displacement and colonization. The delegation noted it is important to build relationships and participants found that many of them shared similar experiences with displacement from traditional lands.

At a day-long retreat at the Kwantlen First Nation Cultural Building hosted by Chief Marilyn Gabriel and her family, one of the activities was the KAIROS Blanket Exercise. Blankets were laid on the floor and used to represent lands belonging to Indigenous people prior to contact. As the game goes on, blankets become smaller representing colonization. Two refugee youth and two Indigenous youth were called upon to witness the day and recount their experiences. The day was very emotional for the participants.

The Committee thanked the youth for leading this project and staff advised that Community Foundations of Canada and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada provided the funding for the project.

A video regarding Refugees & Indigenous Youth Cross-Cultural Dialogue Project was presented.

2. Surrey Child Care Report

Daljit Gill-Badesha, City of Surrey, Gerard Bremault, The Centre of Child Development, Rhea Hubbard, Youth and Family Programs for Alexandra Neighbourhood House and Sharlene Wedel, Child Care Resource and Referral for Options Community Services.

File: 0250-20

The delegation provided a Power-Point presentation on the Surrey Child Care Report and highlighted the following information:

- The Surrey Community Child Care Taskforce is actively seeking stakeholder commitment that will enhance, expand and support the long-term sustainability of a community planned continuum of high quality, accessible, affordable, comprehensive child care services for Surrey families with children up to 12 years of age. The Report focuses on a mandate, principles and priorities.
- Challenges for child care in Surrey include expensive childcare: shortages in spaces for infants, toddlers and school aged care; shortage of qualified early childhood educators (ECE); limited local ECE training; limited spaces for children with special needs; and desperate parents enrolling their children in unlicensed childcare operations.
- The report highlighted five priority areas: operating capacity; capital infrastructure; talent development and labour supply; accessibility and equity; and integration and coordination.

The Committee discussed the lack of child care resources in so many communities. Non-profit organizations tend to have waitlists, and parents join any child care centers with availability. The Committee suggested an in-depth analysis be conducted to determine what of what would be required for non-profit centers to expand their services.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

1. Social Innovation Summit and SPAC Working Group

The 2018 Surrey Social Innovation Summit will be held at Surrey City Hall on September 5 - 6, 2018.

The Committee discussed sharing resources that members could read in advance of the Summit to enhance their knowledge. A meeting of the SPAC Social Innovation Sub-Committee will be scheduled for May.

2. **SPAC / Surrey Local Immigration Partnership Immigrant Advisory Roundtable Meeting**

Staff advised that a Sub-Committee will be meeting in June to plan for a joint roundtable meeting to be scheduled in September.

3. **Surrey Vulnerable Women and Girls: Update**

In support of International Woman's Day, 300 care packages were delivered to places where vulnerable woman access services. A resource card that was included in the packages was distributed to the Committee. Various City Hall departments contributed to collecting donations for the packages.

4. **Refugee Transportation Loan: Update**

Staff clarified that due to recent changes by the Federal Government's Immigration Loans Program: the transportation loan repayments for refugees will now begin one year after arrival into Canada; new loans will be interest free; existing loans will have no further accumulation of interest; and the repayment period has been extended by 2 years.

It was

Moved by M. Shaw

Seconded by D. Jimeno

That the Social Policy Advisory Committee support the City's position that the Government Assisted Refugee Transportation Loan program be eliminated.

Carried

5. **New accommodation for the homeless: Update**

Staff advised that 160 beds will be constructed in three temporary accommodation projects in City Centre for people that are homeless. A Fraser Health Integrated Case Management (ICM) team will be located in one of the projects in order to provide support for those with mental health and addictions. The goal will be to transition people into long-term, permanent housing.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Smart Cities Challenge**
www.smartertogether.ca

The City of Vancouver and the City of Surrey have partnered together to compete for \$50 million in the Government of Canada's Smart Cities Challenge. The competition recognizes Canadian cities that use data and connected technology to address local issues.

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Delegation Request

The delegation request from the Surrey Board of Trade, Options and Board Voice was approved by the Committee. The delegation will be scheduled to attend a future SPAC meeting.

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. 2018 Social Innovation Summit

File: 0390-20

2. Local Immigration Partnership Stakeholder Forum

File: 5080-01

3. Refugee Transportation Loan

File: 5080-01

H. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Committee Member Updates

2. 2018 SPAC Fun Schedule

I. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Social Policy Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at 4:45 p.m. in 2E Community Room B.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by S. Dooley


Seconded by A. Begalka

That the Social Policy Advisory Committee


meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Social Policy Advisory Committee adjourned at 6:44 p.m.



Jane Sullivan, City Clerk



Councillor LeFranc, Vice-Chair