

MULTICULTURALISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday, February 21, 2024

TIME: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

PLACE: Council Committee Room, Coquitlam City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, November 15, 2023 be approved.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Committee Welcome (Introductory Comments by the Committee Clerk)

7:05 – 7:15 p.m. (10 minutes)

3. Review and Adoption of the 2024 Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Work Plan

7:15 – 7:35 p.m. (20 minutes)

Recommendation:

That the Committee recommend to Council to approve the 2024 Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Work Plan.

4. Metro Vancouver Housing Data Release (Presentation by the Planning Data Analyst – Community Planning)

7:35 – 8:00 p.m. (25 minutes)

5. Cultural Understanding Project Update (Presentation by the Sub-Committee Lead)

8:00 – 8:30 p.m. (30 minutes)

6. Committee Members' Roundtable / Multicultural Communities and Emerging Issues (Standing Agenda Item)

8:30 – 9:00 p.m. (30 minutes)

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE - Wednesday, April 17, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

MULTICULTURALISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

A Regular Meeting of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee convened on Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Brent Asmundson, Chair
Councillor Robert Mazzarolo, Vice Chair (arrived at 7:08 p.m.)
Simin Ahmadian, Citizen Representative
Shannon Alves, Citizen Representative
Silvia Luigia Camolese, Citizen Representative
Honore Gbedze, Citizen Representative
Lucie Wee, Citizen Representative

REGRETS: Carolina Echeverri, Citizen Representative
Arun Ghag, Citizen Representative
Ann Johannes, Citizen Representative
Nikki Kasravi, Citizen Representative
Bitra Rezaei, Citizen Representative

STAFF: Ryan Voon, Climate and Energy Manager
Zeralynne Te, Community Social Development Manager
Laura Beattie, Sustainability Programs Specialist
Caley Amundsen, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18, 2023

The Minutes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Climate Action Plan Engagement

The Climate and Energy Manager and Sustainability Programs Specialist provided a presentation and engagement activity entitled “City of Coquitlam Climate Action Plan” that covered the following topics:

- Overview of the City’s Climate Action Plan (CAP)

- Synergy between the City's CAP and Environmental Sustainability Plan (ESP)
- Breakdown of Coquitlam's carbon pollution, greenhouse gas (GHG) emission sources and emission reduction targets

Councillor Mazzarolo arrived to the meeting at this time (7:08 p.m.).

Staff's presentation also covered the following topics:

- CAP priority areas, next steps and desire for the Committee's feedback
- CAP engagement methodology and how feedback will be utilized to create actionable items

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Barriers to *how we build* CAP priority, including high costs of retrofitting old buildings, BC Step Code changes and impact on new building costs, lack of public awareness and education regarding GHG emission reduction behaviours, low return on investment and high maintenance costs for low-carbon energy systems, insufficient electrical grid capacity, electric systems being less reliable and more expensive than natural gas, lack of federal funding for climate initiatives and federal emission reduction targets being misaligned with municipal goals
- Motivators for *how we build* CAP priority, including mixed-use developments with commercial and residential space to maximize land use, promoting complete neighbourhoods to cluster community amenities and reduce commuting times, promoting work from home opportunities to reduce automobile emissions, maximizing natural lighting, utilizing energy efficient/LED lightbulbs to save energy, implementing "dark sky zones" to reduce light pollution effects on wildlife and designing green buildings to recirculate water and reduce water waste
- Barriers to *how we steward* CAP priority, including development impacting creek and watershed management, federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans' (DFO) regulations restricting City efforts to manage water drainage and river flow and desire for more lighting at night by residents impacting efforts to reduce light pollution
- Barriers to *how we consume* CAP priority, including restrictions on rooftop and community gardens and lack of education regarding growing home gardens
- Motivators to *how we consume* CAP priority, including promoting local farmers' markets, buying locally and growing small home gardens to reduce plastic and food waste, incentivizing businesses to reduce packaging waste by charging lower recycling fees and encouraging low-carbon transition and reduction of waste through legislation
- The BC Step Code and whether the City has any role in setting its standards
- Creating local job opportunities by incentivizing more office space and attracting satellite office spaces to reduce commuting times
- The desire for residents to not have to commute as far for work
- The City's Carbon Cutters Program, including transition to more energy efficient lightbulbs for street lights
- Support for the City's Inspiration Garden and challenges of finding space in

Coquitlam for community gardens

3. Cultural Understanding Project Sub-Committee Update

This item was deferred to the next Committee meeting to be held in 2024.

4. 2023 Year-End Review/Identify Potential Items for Draft 2024 Work Plan

The Community Social Development Manager provided a presentation entitled “City of Coquitlam Multiculturalism Advisory Committee – 2023 Year in Review November 15, 2023” that covered the following topics:

- Review of 2023 Work Plan items and meetings
- 2024 Work Plan drafting process
- Overview of the Committee’s mandate and objectives

Discussion ensued relative to the possibility of inviting kwikwəłəm to a future meeting.

5. Committee Members’ Roundtable / Multicultural Communities and Emerging Issues

The Chair invited Committee members to share details regarding upcoming events and emerging issues in the community.

There were no comments from the Committee.

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING – TBD (2024)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Brent Asmundson, Chair

Caley Amundsen, Committee Clerk



2024 Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Meeting Schedule

Meetings are generally scheduled bi-monthly on the third Wednesday of the month from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Exceptions to this schedule are noted below with an asterisk (*).

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
February 21, 2024 (Wednesday)	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Council Committee Room
April 17, 2024 (Wednesday)	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Council Committee Room
June 19, 2024 (Wednesday)	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Council Committee Room
No meetings in August		
*September 25, 2024 (Wednesday)	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Council Committee Room
November 20, 2024 (Wednesday)	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Council Committee Room
No meetings in December		

Notes:

- *September 25: Scheduled to avoid conflict with UBCM (September 16 – 20)
- Meeting dates are subject to change, as needed.

DRAFT 2024 Work Plan

Multiculturalism Advisory Committee

Committee Mandate

The mandate of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee is to provide a local perspective and advice to Council in support of achieving the City's strategic goals and accompanying strategic directions. The Committee's objectives are as follows:

- Foster awareness and understanding of the City's multicultural population and diversity
- Initiate and facilitate discussion around existing and emerging multiculturalism issues
- Identify barriers relative to citizen involvement in the community
- Review and provide input to Council regarding the City of Coquitlam's Multiculturalism policy
- Assist in the development of a multiculturalism policy implementation strategy for the City of Coquitlam
- Identify opportunities for public education and discussion regarding multiculturalism in the City
- Provide input into the development and implementation of programs and services that enhance the culture of the community and create educational opportunities; and
- Review and provide input on other items and matters as directed by Council.

WORK PLAN ITEMS	DEPARTMENT AND/OR PRESENTER	COMMENTS (i.e. Initiated by, Priority assignment A, B, C)
1) Committee Welcome	Chair/Staff	Chair/Staff
2) Review and approval of 2024 Work Plan	Chair / Committee / Staff Lead	Staff
3) Cultural Understanding Project Update - Opportunity to re-establish a Sub-Committee (Standing Agenda Item)	Committee	Chair/Committee
4) Multicultural Communities and Emerging Issues (Standing Agenda Item)	Committee	Chair/Committee
5) Metro Vancouver initiatives – Committee input, as needed, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Data Release • Social Equity Project 	P&D / Metro Vancouver Staff	Staff

DRAFT 2024 Work Plan Multiculturalism Advisory Committee

WORK PLAN ITEMS	DEPARTMENT AND/OR PRESENTER	COMMENTS (i.e. Initiated by, Priority assignment A, B, C)
6) Planning and Development Initiatives – Committee input, as needed	P&D	Staff
7) Parks, Recreation, Culture and Facilities initiatives – Committee input, as needed	PRCF	Staff
8) Finance and City Lands and Real Estate initiatives – Committee input, as needed	FCLRE	Staff
9) Corporate Services initiatives – Committee input, as needed, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Update 	CS	Staff Priority A
10) City Manager / Deputy City Manager – Committee input, as needed, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development Strategy • Festivals and Events Strategy 	CM / DCM	Staff Priority B Priority B
11) Canada Day 2024 event planning and review – ideas/involvement to tie-into PRCF event planning	Staff Lead / PRCF / Committee	Staff
12) Welcome to Coquitlam – 2024 discussion, event planning and review	P&D	Staff/Committee
13) Engineering & Public Works initiatives for Committee input, as needed, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Transportation Plan Update • Climate Action Plan 	E&PW	Staff Priority A Priority A
14) HEROS Community Emergency Preparedness Volunteer Program	Community Safety	Priority B
15) Tri-Cities Local Immigration Partnership presentation	TCLIP Manager	Committee
16) Guest presentation on anti-racism	Committee	Committee

**DRAFT 2024 Work Plan
Multiculturalism Advisory Committee**

WORK PLAN ITEMS	DEPARTMENT AND/OR PRESENTER	COMMENTS (i.e. Initiated by, Priority assignment A, B, C)
17) 2024 Year-end Review / Identify potential items for the draft 2025 Work Plan – Committee feedback/input	Chair / Staff Lead / Committee	Staff

DRAFT