

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, July 24, 2024**

A Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee convened on Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at 7:01 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Steve Kim, Chair
Councillor Trish Mandewo, Vice Chair
Mohammad Darwish, Citizen Representative
JJ Lee, Citizen Representative
Marion Lochhead, Citizen Representative
Rohith Manhas, Citizen Representative
Deryck Persaud, Citizen Representative
Matthew Sebastiani, Citizen Representative
John Toor, Citizen Representative (arrived at 7:03 p.m.)
Vanessa Wideski, Citizen Representative
Catherine Williams, Douglas College-Coquitlam Campus
Leslie Courchesne, Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce

REGRETS: Zorica Andjelic, Citizen Representative
Emma Friess, Citizen Representative
Elizabeth Mayorga, Citizen Representative

STAFF: Eric Kalnins, Manager Economic Development
Edward Tain, Business Growth Manager
Camille Oliveira, Police Community Services Manager
Sergeant Jaime Myles, Coquitlam RCMP
Jacint Simon, Major Project Planner
Julia Power, Committee Clerk
Amalee Truong, Auxiliary Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgement.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES**1. Minutes of the Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, April 24, 2024**

The Minutes of the Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, April 24, 2024 were approved.

John Toor arrived to the meeting at this time — 7:03 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS**2. Community Policing Overview**

The Police Community Services Manager and Sergeant Jaime Myles provided a presentation entitled “Community Policing: A Road Map to the Future” that covered the following topics:

- Overview of Community Policing including, strategic plan, organization structure, community engagement, volunteerism, programs and future plans
- Overview of the Mobile Integrated Crisis Response (MICR) Team including objective, staff composition and future plans
- Overview of several programs including, Inadmissible Patrons Program (IPP), Senior Safe Tea and overdose awareness workshops

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Desire to be informed of programs designed to keep neuro-divergent youths safe
- Desire to understand how RCMP supports businesses affected by theft and vandalism and to implement the Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) approach
- Desire to know of crime statistics available to the public
- Desire to increase campaigns that target distracted driving

Committee gave thanks and expressed appreciation for the work of the Coquitlam RCMP.

3. Recap of Coquitlam Business Tours

The Business Growth Manager provided a presentation entitled “Economic Development Advisory Committee” that covered the following topics:

- Overview of the business tour taken by Committee Members on Wednesday, July 24 including locations, products, challenges faced by businesses and the Business Visitation Program

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Desire to know more about the City’s approach to business attraction and retention
- Desire for more business tours to be organized and rationale on how staff decide which businesses to visit

4. Commercial Space Demand Study Update

The Major Projects Planner provided a presentation entitled “Economic Development Advisory Committee” that covered the following topics:

- Overview of the Commercial Space Demand Study including, background, relevant statistics, comparative markets, challenges resulting from new Provincial housing legislation and future plans

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Concerns related to the cost of renting commercial space and the effect of commercial space vacancy on the job market
- Desire to see more businesses on the ground floor of residential buildings in Transit Oriented Areas (TOA)

5. Summer Events Update

Manager Economic Development provided a presentation entitled “Economic Development Advisory Committee” that covered the following topics:

- Overview of upcoming City events including, Summer Concert Series, Caribbean Days Festival, and the BC Dumpling Festival

There was no discussion to this item.

6. Committee Members’ Roundtable / Emerging Issues

The Chair invited Committee members to share information and emerging issues from their communities.

The following information was shared:

- Douglas College hiring opportunities for businesses, co-op students and interns for Fall 2024
- Low Entropy Foundation opened a new thrift store in Port Coquitlam
- Chamber of Commerce shared information regarding Fall events including, the Mayor’s Barbecue at Gordon Ramsay’s Burger on September 26, and the Business Tradeshow and Meet the Candidates event on October 8
- Update regarding development of the North Road Business Improvement Association (BIA)
- Desire to improve youth engagement in economic development
- Desire for the annual Sports Fair to be held on a weekend and for increased public engagement for the event

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE - Wednesday, October 23, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Steve Kim, Chair

Julia Power, Committee Clerk