

MULTICULTURALISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 13, 2021

A Regular Meeting of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee convened on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	Councillor Brent Asmundson, Chair Simin Ahmadian Adrienne Ahn (arrived at 7:02 p.m.) Carolina Echeverri Leticia Pamela (Pam) Garcia Honore Gbedze Ann Johannes Andrea Kwasnicki (arrived at 7:02 p.m.) Iris Sun Zahra Zaker
REGRETS:	Priti Shah
ABSENT:	Jessica Liu
STAFF:	Genevieve Bucher, Director Community Planning Tiina Mack, Manager Recreation and Culture Facilities Planning Caresse Selk, Manager Environment Torill Gillespie, Social Planner Raj Singh, Park Planner 2 Jeri Hohn, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair congratulated the former Committee Vice Chair, Bonita Zarrillo, for her recent election as the Member of Parliament serving Port Moody—Coquitlam.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, June 16, 2021

The Minutes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee meeting held on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 were approved.

2. Informal Notes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, September 8, 2021

The Informal Notes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee meeting held on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Blue Mountain Park Master Plan - Presentation

The Park Planner 2 introduced himself and provided a presentation, referring to on-screen slides titled as follows:

- Blue Mountain Park Master Plan
- Agenda
- Location
- Master Plan Process
- Project Timeline
- Existing Park Amenities
- Three Zones
- The Field
- The Core
- The Grove
- Multicultural Engagement
- Multiculturalism
- Questions and Feedback
- Committee Engagement Opportunities
- Thank You!

The Committee considered the following focus question:

- Are there any Committee priorities, particular and/or emerging practices for staff to consider in the development of the Blue Mountain Park Master Plan?

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Positive input regarding the great popularity of the park and its service as a community hub and as a location for the Coquitlam Public Library Link
- The desire that a power plug for the Library Link generator be installed proximal to the park playground
- Whether parking space in the park could be expanded upon
- Staff's intention to review parking capacities in areas surrounding the park to plan for and alleviate future parking challenges
- The City's plan to improve wayfinding signage in and around the park
- The desire that the future fieldhouse include a covered space for all season/inclement weather use
- Whether the future fieldhouse would have a user-friendly booking system
- What the event capacities of the outdoor and indoor spaces in the park would be
- The desire that park pathways be well-lit with safe, sustainable lights or lamp posts to help ensure users' safety in the park
- The desire that all communities be engaged to provide input to the Master Plan process
- Whether a community centre could be built in the park
- Information on the locations of new community facilities being constructed, and to be constructed, in Coquitlam
- What Indigenous engagement would occur relative to the Master Plan process
- Whether it could be possible to include multicultural/indigeneity recognition and/or

- installations of some kind in the park to elevate and celebrate various communities
- The suggestion that a covered stage, such as the one in Town Centre Park, be provided in the park for the year-round use and enjoyment of users
- Some details of the archeological assessment being conducted relative to the Master Plan process
- Staff's plan to consult with the Legion regarding potential upgrades to the cenotaph in the park
- The suggestion that permanent or semi-permanent space and hookups be provided for food and ice cream trucks
- Deep appreciation for the park's urban forest and the desire that it be retained as is
- Whether staff could consider locating other amenities within the park (i.e. a concession or smaller, community-based servery)
- The belief that the park needs recreational activities for adults and the elderly and the desire that the Master Plan address that gap
- The desire that the waterpark be upgraded
- The desire that the park include a quiet, self-reflection area such as a garden with a water feature
- The suggestion that an assessment of the trees in the park be conducted to ensure the integrity and safety of tree cores and limbs
- The belief that a long-term parking plan for the park is needed
- The suggestion that additional parking be provided in the park in the form of an underground parkade with useable green space above
- The belief that it is important to consult with various Coquitlam communities regarding the types of sports that they enjoy playing in the park
- The suggestion that the field space in the park could be multi-purpose and flexible

The Chair and the Park Planner 2 thanked the Committee for its robust input.

4. Environmental Sustainability Plan - Presentation

The Manager Environment introduced herself and provided a presentation, referring to on-screen slides titled as follows:

- Draft Environmental Sustainability Plan
- Outline
- Purpose
- Background
- Progress to Date
- Coquitlam Environmental Sustainability Plan
- What We Heard from the Community
- What We Heard from You
- Themes
- ESP Structure
- Climate Action
- Built Environment
- Waste Management
- Water Management
- Natural Areas, Wildlife and Habitat
- Implementation and Monitoring
- Top 10 Priority Actions

- Highlights of Key Performance Indicators
- New Climate Targets
- Next Steps
- Have Your Say!
- Translation Feature on Website
- Questions? Thank You!
- Jamboard Activity

During the presentation, the Manager Environment previewed a video titled “Coquitlam’s Draft Environmental Sustainability Plan”. She encouraged the Committee members to visit theletstalkcoquitlam.ca/enviroplan URL to complete the ESP online survey before October 18th or to email staff directly.

The Committee participated in an online engagement (Jamboard) activity. The following focus questions were considered:

- What is something you heard today that you liked?
- What is something you maybe have questions or concerns with or maybe feel like you don’t understand?
- What is something you didn’t see today that you think should be considered in one of the 5 themes?

Further to the input provided by the Committee during the engagement activity, the Chair and the Manager Environment spoke to the following:

- What steps the City could take if the ESP’s key performance indicators are not met in a given year
- How the community in general could contribute to keep the plan sustainable
- That the burning of fossil fuels to run boilers in the facilities on the Riverview lands and their resultant GHG emissions falls under the purview of the Province
- That offering additional sustainable transportation services in Coquitlam’s downtown core, including the potential for adding tramways and electric buses, falls under the purview of TransLink
- Waste management initiatives, including the Adopt-A-Street Program, and some of the goals of the Single-Use Item Bylaw

The Chair thanked the Manager Environment for her presentation.

5. Barriers to Inclusion in Sport Discussion

The Manager Recreation and Culture Facilities Planning introduced herself and led the discussion topic, referring to on-screen slides titled as follows:

- Multiculturalism Advisory Committee – October 13, 2021
- Discussion Topic
- Question #1
- Question #2
- Questions?
- Thank You

On behalf of her team, the Manager Recreation and Culture Facilities Planning thanked the Committee for its previous input to the Financial Assistance for Recreation (FAR) Program.

The Committee considered the following focus questions:

- How is the Parks, Recreation, Culture and Facilities Department successful in providing inclusive access to sport and recreation today?
- What barriers should the Parks, Recreation, Culture and Facilities Department focus on removing in order to improve inclusivity in, and access to, sport and recreation spaces and programs?

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The belief that limitations to the number of available registration spots is the greatest barrier to inclusivity and access to recreation spaces and programs
- How residents could have better access to the City's recreation facilities and programs
- The number of Coquitlam's sports and recreation facilities relative to its population increases
- The importance of residents ensuring that they waitlist themselves for program spots
- That the City captures waitlist metrics to help determine programming needs
- Upcoming facilities upgrades and construction projects in the City
- A logistical challenge (email related) that a member experienced with the current registration system
- The belief that current program pricing and financing is very accessible
- The desire that special pricing be maintained (post-COVID) to allow residents with low-incomes continued access to beneficial recreation and exercise
- The desire that the trails in the Pinecone Burke Provincial Park be mapped and marked to make them safer for users, and that the City could relay that desire to the Province
- The Crystal Falls Park access closure due to issues with private land and whether the City could do anything to ensure continued access to the falls
- Appreciation for the accessible sports and recreation programming in Coquitlam, including costs across-the-board and the FAR Program
- The desire for future "come try this sport" programming
- The desire that those with membership cards to parks and recreation facilities be provided with a free 'bring a friend' guest pass
- Whether there was a way to provide residents with mental respite through parks and recreation programming
- The suggestion that the City could focus on reducing barriers or costs for newcomers
- The desire that fun, less organized, sports and recreation opportunities be offered by the City, so that children and adults could learn sports in a non-competitive way
- The belief that barriers to newcomers' participation in sports and recreation programming could be improved through sports education
- That ISSofBC has a monthly curriculum and there could be opportunities for speakers to provide sports education talks to newcomers
- The belief that offering newcomers a three-month free pass to sports and recreation spaces and programs could be beneficial for many reasons
- Whether the City could provide language supports as part of its sports and recreation registration system

The Manager Recreation and Culture Facilities Planning provided her contact information and invited the Committee members to provide follow-up questions or comments by email.

6. Multicultural Communities and Emerging Issues Updates (Standing Agenda Item)

The Chair invited the Committee to share items of information and emerging issues from their communities. The following was shared:

- A link to the Tri-Cities Local Immigration Partnership 'Upcoming Events' webpage
- That IssofBC would reopen its drop-in registration for English language classes beginning the week of October 18th
- To please visit the Coquitlam Public Library's website for more information about its featured speakers' series, including Early Immigrants, Black History, and an upcoming Community Conversation.

OTHER BUSINESS

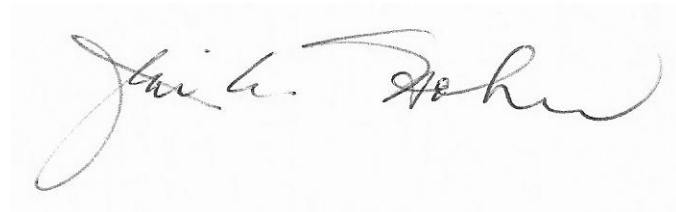
NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, November 17, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT

CHAIR



Jeri Hohn
Committee Clerk