

**MULTICULTURALISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE
INFORMAL MEETING NOTES
Wednesday, September 8, 2021**

In the absence of quorum, the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee convened an Informal Meeting on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 7:05 p.m. in Council Chambers, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, B.C., with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Brent Asmundson, Chair
Simin Ahmadian
Carolina Echeverri
Ann Johannes
Andrea Kwasnicki (arrived at 7:32 p.m.)
Iris Sun
Zahra Zaker

REGRETS: Adrienne Ahn
Carolina Echeverri
Leticia Pamela (Pam) Garcia
Honore Gbedze
Jessica Liu
Priti Shah

STAFF: Torill Gillespie, Social Planner
Jacint Simon, Social Planner
Stephanie Lam, Legislative Services Manager
Adam Shroff, Committee Clerk

Due to technical difficulties with maintaining dedicated Internet access, the member's active meeting participation and inclusion as part of quorum was not possible.

CALL TO ORDER

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

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

The Chair noted that due to the absence of quorum the Minutes could not be considered for adoption.

NEW BUSINESS**2. Housing Needs Assessment Presentation**

Jacint Simon, Social Planner, introduced Peer-Daniel Krause who gave an on-screen presentation entitled “City of Coquitlam Housing Needs Report” and referred to slides titled as follows:

- Housing Needs Reports
- Data Snapshot
- Population (2006-2016)
- One-Year Ago Migrants (2016)
- Median Household Income (2016)
- Households by Household type (2016)
- Households by Tenure (2016)
- Visible Minority in Coquitlam (2016)
- Visible Minority in Metro Vancouver (2016)
- Language Spoken Most Often at Home (2016)
- Period of Immigration (2016)
- Core Housing Need Based on Immigration Status (2016)
- Mobility Status 1-year Ago (2016)
- Discussion
- Questions
- Closing
- Thank you!

The Legislative Services Manager noted that, in the absence of quorum, this item should be deferred until such time that a committee with quorum could address it.

3. Child Care Strategy Update

Torill Gillespie, Social Planner, gave an on-screen presentation entitled “Draft Child Care Strategy – MAC” with slides titled as follows:

- Draft Child Care Strategy: <https://www.coquitlam.ca/3666/Child-Care>
- Child Care Planning Process
- Community Engagement
- Federal & Provincial Context
- Municipal Role
- Draft Child Care Strategy
- Vision
- Equity
- Targets
- Actions

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- Action Prioritization
- Implementation & Reporting
- Next Steps
- Discussion

The Committee members were encouraged to provide their comments to the Social Planner via the e-mail address noted in the presentation.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Appreciation for the Coquitlam Childcare Strategy and the work undertaken by staff
- The possibility of offering a program at school locations after school hours in order to reduce the transportation needs to get children to childcare sites

4. Cross Cultural Dialogues: Intentional Multiculturalism Draft Project Charter - Discussion

The Chair introduced the report and opened the floor for feedback from the members.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The acknowledgement that racism exists between diverse groups
- The desire to bring diverse groups together in order to discuss common problems, build trust, and gain a better understanding of each other
- The desire to bring this item back as a work plan item in the future
- The importance of dialogue in combatting racism
- The understanding that there has been work performed by staff on this matter

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

Due to the lack of quorum, the Chair asked that the members e-mail any emerging issues to him so that he could authorize circulating them by email to the Committee.

The following information was shared:

- That there would be a “Conversations about Race in BC” speaker series with events at the Coquitlam Library over the next few months
- That a list of resources for new immigrants would be put online and a link circulated to the Committee when it was ready.

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – Wednesday, October 13, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

INFORMAL MEETING NOTES CERTIFIED CORRECT

CHAIR



Adam Shroff
Committee Clerk