

**MULTICULTURALISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE****Wednesday, October 18, 2023**

A Regular Meeting of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee convened on Wednesday, October 18, 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  
Shannon Alves, Citizen Representative  
Silvia Luigia Camolese, Citizen Representative  
Honore Gbedze, Citizen Representative  
Arun Ghag, Citizen Representative  
Nikki Kasravi, Citizen Representative  
Bitia Rezaei, Citizen Representative  
Lucie Wee, Citizen Representative

REGRETS: Simin Ahmadian, Citizen Representative  
Carolina Echeverri, Citizen Representative  
Ann Johannes, Citizen Representative

STAFF: Zeralynne Te, Community Social Development Manager  
Natasha Lock, Planner 3  
Ryan Klemencic, Planner – Analyst  
Caley Amundsen, Committee Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER****ADOPTION OF MINUTES****1. Minutes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, September 6, 2023**

The Minutes of the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, September 6, 2023 were approved.

**NEW BUSINESS****2. Review Framework for Developer Initiated Art on Private Property**

The Planner 3 provided a presentation entitled “Review Framework for Developer Initiated Public Art on Private Property” that covered the following topics:

- Background and overview of the Review Framework Project (hereon “the Project”)

- The importance and benefits of public art
- Toronto Metropolitan University Study
- City Centre and Burquitlam Area Plans
- The City's Public Art Policy & Project Plan (2010)
- Conceptual sketch of "Gateways", public art pieces that are defining entry points for buildings and communities
- The necessity of establishing formal criteria and procedures for public art in community spaces
- Possible amendments to Coquitlam's Citywide Official Community Plan and Public Art Policy
- The potential to install public art on private properties with public access such as a plaza
- Timing and expectations for public art application process
- Public engagement opportunities and collaboration with local non-profit organizations

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Northstar Gateway at North Road and Gatineau Place and potential future gateway sites across the city
- The desire for multicultural public art to celebrate the Trinidadian and Tobagonian steelpan musical instrument
- Possibility of surveying Town Centre Park visitors for a more in-depth multicultural picture of their origin
- The possibility of installing activated and interactive public art
- The importance of installing public art created by artists from different ethnic backgrounds
- The importance of public art representing the multicultural community and people from different ethnic backgrounds
- The importance of community member involvement in public art design process
- The purpose of the Project's formal criteria and procedures for developer initiated public art
- Involvement of citizens and staff in the Project
- The City not being a judge of what constitutes acceptable developer initiated public art

### **3. Cultural Understanding Project Sub-Committee Update**

The Cultural Understanding Project Sub-Committee Lead provided a presentation entitled "Cultural Understanding Project" that covered the following topics:

- Background and overview of the Cultural Understanding Project (hereon "the Project")
- Limited resources being a hindrance to the Project's work
- The necessity for a needs assessment by collaborating with existing community groups such as Coquitlam Public Library
- Acquiring community cultural data and devising actionable items for the Project

- Guiding questions and considerations for the Project's proposed community survey (hereon "the Survey")
- The desire for Committee feedback on the Survey's guiding questions
- Sub-Committee budget request of \$5,000 for the Project's work

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Challenges of open-ended questions and the possibility of refining questions with specific examples to draw out key themes for the Survey
- Language barriers as a possible detractor to the Survey results and responses
- Coquitlam Heritage Society's exhibit displaying traditional cultural attire
- Possibility of the Project providing the broader community with a traditional cultural attire display to foster cultural understanding
- Concern regarding community members not hearing about local cultural events
- Survey details, including storage of collected data, timelines and surveyors' commitment considerations
- The Project's funding sources, including the possibility of using community grants as one source
- The process for making formal recommendations to Council to secure funding for the Project
- The importance of presenting a refined proposal at a future meeting prior to requesting funding from Council
- Committee support for the Project's proposed budget request of \$5,000

The Chair advised that a refined proposal should be presented at a future meeting prior to the Committee formulating a motion to request a \$5,000 budget from Council.

#### **4. 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.

The Community Social Development Manager advised the Committee of the 2023 Welcome to Coquitlam event's cancellation and the rationale for its cancellation.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, November 15, 2023**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

**MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

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Brent Asmundson, Chair

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Caley Amundsen, Committee Clerk