



Arts, Culture and Economic Development Advisory Committee

**Thursday, February 13, 2025
10:00 a.m.**

**Committee Room G, Ground Floor & Zoom
New Westminster City Hall, 511 Royal Avenue**

Present: Councillor Ruby Campbell, Chair
Councillor Paul Minhas
Gerardo Corro Amador
Amandeep Duhra*
Laura Grady
Gwendolyn Maddock*
Janelle Mikka Lim*
Fikayo Ogundare*
Angelene Prakash
Jessica Schneider*
Paige Strand
Catherine Williams*

Absent: Jorden Foss
Vera Kobalia
Saurabh Sood

**Attendance by electronic means*

1. CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and recognized with respect that New Westminster is on the unceded and unsurrendered land of the Halkomelem speaking peoples. It was acknowledged that colonialism has made invisible their histories and connections to the land. It was recognized that, as a City, we are learning and building relationships with the people whose lands we are on.

2. INTRODUCTIONS & ICEBREAKERS

2.1 Advisory Committee Introduction and Member Affirmations

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, staff provided an introduction to the City's advisory committees and highlighted key responsibilities for members.

3. AGENDA ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

MOVED and SECONDED

1. *THAT the following items be added to the agenda under New Business:*
 - i. *Election of Vice-Chair;*
 - ii. *Economic Indicators;*
 - iii. *Pattullo Bridge Project Management Team Information Session;*
 - iv. *Volunteer Incentive; and*
 - v. *Arts, Culture, and Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting time; and*
2. *THAT the Agenda of the Arts, Culture and Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held on February 13, 2025 be approved, as amended, with the addition of (i) Election of Vice-Chair, (ii) Economic Indicators, (iii) Pattullo Bridge Project Management Team Information Session, (iv) Volunteer Incentive; and (v) Arts, Culture, and Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting time, under "New Business".*

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 August 8, 2024

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held on August 8, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4.2 October 10, 2024

Discussion took place and it was noted that there was an error with respect to those recorded as in attendance to the October 10, 2024 meeting. As a result, there was agreement to revise the minutes to indicate that Jessica Schneider was present.

4.3 December 12, 2024

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held on December 12, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

5. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

5.1 Committee Terms of Reference Amendment

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Terms of Reference of the Arts, Culture and Economic Development Advisory Committee be amended to include a position for the Sapperton Business Collective as a representative on the Committee.

CARRIED

5.2 Community Liaison Officers – Crises Response Pilot Project

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation (attached to and forming part of these Minutes as Schedule 1), Shawn Sheehan, Manager, Street Use Compliance & Liaison, spoke regarding the Crises Response Pilot Project.

S. Sheehan advised that the Program has been active since January 2025 and is focused on building relationships throughout the community by conducting foot patrols, primarily in commercial and high density areas, as well as at events and festivals.

It was noted that staff will seek voluntary compliance as a first measure and conduct wellness checks; this effort is aimed at facilitating respectful dialogue between businesses and individuals.

S. Sheehan advised that staff are unable to address any concern on private property; however, every effort is made to support those in need.

In response to questions from the Committee, it was noted that the Crises Response Team focuses on outreach and establishing long-term relations with individuals while the Community Liaison Team focuses on bylaw compliance.

5.3 Canucks Playoff Viewing Parties in the Downtown

Jen Arbo, Acting Manager, Economic Development, provided background information on the potential for the City to host Canucks playoff viewing parties in the downtown area, a motion which was referred to the Arts, Culture and Economic Development Advisory Committee (ACEDAC) at the January 27, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.

J. Arbo spoke to a number of factors to host a viewing party event, such as:

- cost;

- traffic management;
- NWPD and other stakeholder consultation; and
- location.

In response to questions from the Committee, staff advised that the dates of the playoff games are not known at this time and that there are potentially up to 28 games in the post-season, April through June.

Discussion ensued and the following comments of the Committee were noted:

- the Downtown Business Improvement Association has circulated a public survey on the community desire for Canucks playoff viewing party events through their newsletter, along with an additional member survey for businesses;
- Arts New West may contribute to the event promotion and survey event attendees to inform future events;
- concerns were raised regarding limited parking in the Downtown; and
- there is potential to hold an event or multiple events in the Sapperton area.

5.4 Arts, Culture and Economic Development Advisory Committee & Economic Development 2025 Work Plans

J. Arbo presented on the 2025 ACEDAC Work Plan and the 2025 Economic Development Work Plan. J. Arbo reminded that timelines listed in the Work Plan are fluid based on emergent work and consultant availability; the 2025 Economic Development Work Plan provides an opportunity to review strengths in the Plan, as well as identify areas of improvement. It was noted that the Committee could be ambassadors in the broader business community.

An Arts Strategy Refresh information session hosted by Arts New West will be held on February 27, 2025 at 6:30 p.m., at Century House in the Fir Room.

7. STAFF UPDATES

7.1 Anvil Centre Conference and Local Business Collaboration Update

Vali Marling, General Manager, Anvil Centre, notified that a meeting was held with the Downtown BIA, the New Westminster Chamber of Commerce, and Tourism New West to review how conferences are planned and how to communicate more effectively with local businesses.

V. Marling informed that the Downtown BIA will be creating a map of coffee shops near the Anvil Centre.

7.2 Arts & Culture Update – Anvil Centre 10-Year Review, Public Art Plan and Arts Strategy Refresh

J. Arbo, representing the Manager, Community Arts & Theatre, highlighted that staff have progressed with a number of initiatives of the Anvil Centre 10-Year Review.

J. Arbo then commented on the forthcoming Arts Strategy Refresh, noting that the first community dialogue around the Arts Strategy Refresh is scheduled for February 27, 2025 in collaboration with Arts New West. She advised that staff anticipate bringing information to the ACEDAC in the second quarter of 2025.

J. Arbo then noted that internal engagement for the Public Art Plan is complete, and staff are anticipating a report back from the consultant, with the intention to conduct a survey in late Spring 2025. She advised that staff anticipate that specific components or discussion items will come to the ACEDAC in the second quarter of 2025.

Fikayo Ogundare left the meeting and did not return (11:30 a.m.).

8. ROUNDTABLE UPDATES

Members shared their activities with the Committee.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Election of Vice Chair

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Angelene Prakash serve as Vice Chair for the Arts, Culture and Economic Development Advisory Committee for 2025.

CARRIED

9.2 Economic Indicators

The Chair Campbell drew attention to the City Economic Indicators, as provided on the City web site, highlighting that various economic metrics have been tracked and published since 2019. It is collected from several sources so as to indicate that economic health is not just a reflection of the number of new business licences. The information has been updated every year for the last five years, though some data points are not published by Stats Canada anymore. This site is used frequently to track the City's progress as it works through the Economic Development Plan.

9.3 Pattullo Bridge Project Management Team Information Session

A public information session of the Pattullo Bridge Project will be held at the Anvil Centre on February 27, 2025, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

9.4 Volunteer Incentive Discussion

The Committee considered exploring extra incentives and shows of appreciation for volunteers. A suggestion of offering an annual pass for the community centre or the aquatic centre was put forth. Staff advised that this would have to go to Council as a specific request.

Additionally, it was suggested that the Committee could review the capacity and best practices of Community Volunteer Connections, a not-for-profit volunteer coordinating society.

9.5 ACEDAC Meeting Time

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Arts, Culture and Economic Development Advisory Committee meetings for the 2025 committee term be held at 10:00 a.m.

CARRIED

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourn (11:56 a.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Arts, Culture and Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting held on February 13, 2025.

Councillor Ruby Campbell
CHAIR

Kristin Unger
COMMITTEE CLERK