

REPORT

Legislative Services

To: Mayor Cote and Members of Council **Date:** December 13, 2021

From: Jacque Killawee
City Clerk **File:**

Item #: 2021-670

**Subject: Social Inclusion, Engagement and Reconciliation Advisory Committee
Terms of Reference**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approve the establishment of the Social Inclusion, Engagement and Reconciliation Advisory Committee and

THAT Council approve the Terms of Reference for the Committee as attached to this report.

PURPOSE

To receive Council's approval to establish the Social Inclusion, Engagement and Reconciliation Advisory Committee and approve the committee's terms of reference.

BACKGROUND

In 2019, the City Task Forces were created in alignment with the City's Strategic Priorities, which included the establishment of the Reconciliation, Social Inclusion and Engagement Task Force. The same report recommended streamlining the advisory committee structure within the City to also align them with the strategic priorities and to dissolve the Youth Advisory Committee, the Seniors' Advisory Committee and the Multiculturalism Advisory Committee. Although the original direction from Council was to complete the transition in January 2021, due to the impact of COVID-19, the existing committee structure was extended to January 2022.

ANALYSIS

The new Social Inclusion, Engagement and Reconciliation Advisory Committee will act as a conduit for communication and engagement, providing advice and recommendations to the Reconciliation, Social Inclusion and Engagement Task Force and through them to Council on social equity, inclusion, public engagement and initiatives related to reconciliation. The new Social Inclusion, Engagement and Reconciliation Advisory Committee will continue on with the unfinished initiatives from the three committees that are ending (Youth, Seniors, Multiculturalism). This includes but is not limited to: the Hey Neighbour Collective, the Sanctuary City Policy, the Seniors Festival, the Seniors Integrated Support Pilot Project, and the Welcome Centre.

By moving away from the specific demographic-group committees, Council hopes to ensure that youth, seniors and members of our multicultural communities and equity seeking groups would be appointed and heard on all of Council's advisory committees. Staff are committed to engaging these voices through the recruitment process this winter.

Review Process

The Terms of Reference for the Social Inclusion, Engagement and Reconciliation Advisory Committee, as attached to this report (Attachment 1), were informed through consultation with the Reconciliation, Social Inclusion, and Engagement Task Force as well as the existing Youth Advisory Committee, Seniors' Advisory Committee and Multiculturalism Advisory Committee. All these bodies endorsed the intent, roles and responsibilities, and, membership for the committee.

Members from all three of the committees that are ending expressed disappointment that the committees would not continue. Members shared feedback about how valuable they felt the committees were, and how it will be vital for staff to ensure voices from these demographic groups and perspectives continue to be heard on the new committee and all advisory committees.

As part of the review process, committee members expressed the desire that New Westminster community organizations representing seniors, new immigrants and refugees and Indigenous be included in the membership of the committee. This is reflected in the terms of reference, including representation from Century House Association, Welcoming and Inclusive New West Local Immigration Partnership Council, and a local Indigenous support organization.

FINANCIAL and SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial or sustainability implications.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL LIAISON

The Supervisor of Community Planning, Manager of Museums and Heritage Services and the Manager of Public Engagement were all consulted on this report.

OPTIONS

1. That Council approve the establishment of the Social Inclusion, Engagement and Reconciliation Advisory Committee and
2. That Council approve the Terms of Reference for the committee as attached to this report.
3. That Council provide other direction to staff.

Staff recommend options 1 and 2.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Terms of Reference: Social Inclusion, Engagement and Reconciliation Advisory Committee

This report was prepared by:
Jacque Killawee, City Clerk

This report was reviewed by:
Rob McCullough, Manager, Museum and Heritage Services
Jennifer Miller, Manager Public Engagement
John Stark, supervisor of Community Planning

This report was approved by:
Lisa Spitale, Chief Administrative Officer