



**MINUTES**  
**SOCIAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING HELD TUESDAY, 2013-MAR-05, 4:45 PM**  
**BOARD ROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE, 411 DUNSMUIR STREET**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Terre Flower, Chair  
Bill Anderson  
Elizabeth Forrester  
Linda McCandless  
Angelika Valchar

Val Alcock-Carter  
George Anderson  
Helena Green  
Ralph Meyerhoff

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Suzanne Andre  
Dot Neary

Diane Brennan  
Jan Tatlock, ex officio

**STAFF PRESENT:**

John Horn, Social Planner

Cindy Hall, Recording Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Chris Beaton, Project Manager, Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 pm. New members Helena Green and Bill Anderson were welcomed to the committee. Introductions were made.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with the addition of a letter from Nanaimo District Secondary School regarding the Social Development grant they received.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes from 2012-Feb-05 be adopted. The motion was carried.

4. ITEMS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5. DELEGATIONS

a) Chris Beaton, Project Manager, Tillicum Lelum Aboriginal Friendship Centre - J. Horn distributed a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and C. Beaton gave an update on the process to date. Some of the discussion was:

- The City should acknowledge being on a traditional first nation village site prior to the start of any meeting.

- An outcome of the MOU will be an annual report stating what progress has been made.
- Still to be determined is whether the reports will go first to SPAC, and then on to City Council; or directly to City Council.
- Should the MOU focus on all children, and not just Aboriginal children?
- It is very important from Tillicum Lelum's perspective to highlight the fact that the Aboriginal population is a very young one. Policies are already being developed for their older population, so focusing on early intervention will capture children and youth.
- Tillicum Lelum is the largest urban aboriginal organization in Nanaimo that provides services.
- The Aboriginal community is not actively accessing services provided outside of Tillicum Lelum's due to various factors such as cost, not being relevant, lack of Aboriginal staff, or location. Need to find a way to make those services more accessible.
- The City will benefit through the flow of information between the parties.
- The MOU supports the social equity pillar in the City's Strategic Plan. Urban Aboriginals will be a huge economic driver in the future.
- Would benefit both parties if they acknowledge the MOU when delivering their programs.
- Encourage Aboriginals to apply for positions on City committees - sometimes that involves a difference in the ways things are done.

It was moved and seconded that the presentation be received. The motion was carried.

C. Beaton was thanked for the information and he left the meeting.

Discussion continued:

- Include in the document that Tillicum Lelum's philosophy is one that encompasses all people in the community who request their assistance.
- Another benefit to the City would be access to cultural learning.
- Say something definitive about the economic benefit to the City as a whole by the younger and faster growing Aboriginal youth population.
- MOU's usually tackle specific imbalances.
- City Council will need more context when this is presented to them.
- SPAC should have a role in this. Maybe request a written progress report every six months.
- The MOU would get more exposure by being presented at a public open City Council meeting, rather than by being documented in SPAC Minutes.
- Council may need to be educated on the difference between Tillicum Lelum and Snuneymuxw First Nation.
- Consider changing the wording "supporting urban Aboriginal children and youth to realize their aspirations" to "inspiring urban Aboriginal children and youth to have aspirations".
- Need to be careful to not be maternalistic., but to support the ideas that come from the urban Aboriginal community.
- Should the focus of the MOU include adults, seniors and families as well as children and youth?

- Tillicum Lelum wanted to address one part of the community (children and youth) but not to negate the others.

It was moved and seconded that J. Horn amend the draft MOU accordingly and bring it back to the next SPAC meeting. The motion was carried.

SPAC requested that staff develop a context/background document to accompany the MOU and that a draft of this document be brought to the next SPAC meeting.

6. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) A letter from St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church advising how their 2011 and 2012 Community Service grants were utilized was received. It was noted that St. Andrew's have started received bread from Loaves & Fishes through the Food 4U program.
- b) A letter from Nanaimo District Secondary School thanking the City for their 2012 Social Development grant was received.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a) 2013 Community Service Grants – The Committee discussed whether to continue with food infrastructure as grant criteria, and whether to have one round or two.

Some of the discussion was:

- At SPAC's priority setting session, the other main priorities identified were poverty, mental health and addictions, and social exclusion.
- The largest demand in the community however is for food.
- Have to decide whether to give out small grants or make a direct impact with a large grant.
- VIHA's Local Health Area Profile also highlighted crime and seniors.
- It is difficult to make an impact on a large problem such as food with \$12,500.
- The organizations at the priority setting session stated they valued these small Community Service grants as seed money.
- Can still continue making an impact on food by using the Social Development grant. By then, the Committee would have received a progress report from Loaves & Fishes, as well as information from the City's Food Strategy.
- Have two grant rounds.
- The guidelines/application form should request applicants to be specific about the demographics they plan to serve.
- The application form should ask about scalability of the project.

The Committee decided that criteria for this grant round should address social exclusion of people in the community such as: seniors, persons with disabilities, new arrivals to Canada, low income adults between 22 and 40 years of age, and individuals of aboriginal ancestry

9. OLD BUSINESS

- a) Update on Food Strategy Workshop – J. Horn advised that the City is preparing a Food Charter and Strategy. An Open House will be held on 2013-Mar-09 at the Conference Centre to learn about Nanaimo's food system and provide input on Nanaimo's vision for food. Committee members need to register online if they are interested in attending.
- b) Update on 2013 Social Development Awards – J. Horn advised that advertising has been done seeking nominations for the awards. Nomination forms were distributed to the Committee members. The deadline to have nomination forms in to the Community Planning office is 2013-Mar-29. (As that date is a statutory holiday, forms can be placed in the drop box at City Hall.)

10. COMMITTEE UPDATES / COUNCIL UPDATE / INFO ITEMS

- a) Grants Advisory Committee – No report.  
E. Forrester and V. Alcock-Carter left the meeting.
- b) Safer Nanaimo Advisory Committee – No report.
- c) Nanaimo Working Group on Homelessness – No report.
- d) Council Update – No report.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting date is Tuesday, 2013-Apr-02.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.