



MINUTES – WELCOMING CITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 3, 2022, 5:31 P.M.
sxʷenxʷəŋ təŋəxʷ James Bay Branch
385 Menzies St

The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees and Esquimalt People

PRESENT: Florentien Verhage, Maureen Sawa, Kareece Whittle-Brown, Nora Butz, Jerome Thomas, Jibril Mohamed, Sandra Hough

ABSENT: Mayor Helps, Councillor Dubow, Agnes Myhre, Daniela dos Santos Pinto, Karen Hira

STAFF PRESENT: A. Galiev – Equity Diversity & Inclusion Lead, S. Mangué – Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator, S. Stoltz – Committee Secretary

1. Welcoming

Acting Chair Sylvia Mangué called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

2. Discussion

The Committee discussed the following:

- *The ConnectVictoria app and potential improvements that could be made*
- *Ideas and recommendations for the information package for refugees destined to come to Victoria*
- *Future scheduling of Welcoming City Committee discussions*
- *Potentially reaching out to host families to then distribute the information packages to them so that they can pass them along to newcomers they are hosting*
- *Direction for the Equity, Diversity, Inclusion staff to continue conducting internal research in order to move ahead with the information packages*
- *Timing regarding the information packages being considered & approved by the new Council*
- *The event to be held on October 28th from 1-4 p.m. to meet artists who will be participating at the Better Together gala at the Belfry Theatre and have a tour of the City of Victoria*
- *The potential for Welcoming City Committee members to volunteer at external events in order to meet newcomers to the City of Victoria; Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator to send more information to Committee members*
- *How the election may affect the work of the Committee; how the Committee's strategic plan has been endorsed by the current Council and how the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion office can act on those recommendations*

- *The need to recalibrate with the new Council members once the new Council liaisons are appointed to the Committee*
- *The upcoming events in October*

3. Land Acknowledgement

The Acting Chair acknowledged that the City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations communities.

4. Adjournment

The Welcoming City Committee Meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

CITY CLERK

CHAIR