



Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism Committee

Thursday, June 5, 2025

6:00 p.m.

Annacis Room, Delta City Hall

4500 Clarence Taylor Crescent, Delta, BC

Present:	Councillor Jennifer Johal	Chair
	Councillor Dylan Kruger	Vice-Chair
	Raminderjit Dhami	
	Nancy Dhillon	
	Warren Dean Flandez	
	Carol Johnson	
	Rajeev Kainth	
	Corinne Kessel	
	Michelle Renee	
Absent:	Tanya Corbet	
	Jovyl Kumar	
Staff:	Donny van Dyk	City Manager
	Larry Rourke	General Manager, Human Resources
	Guy McKintuck	Fire Chief
	Michelle Jansson	City Clerk
	Gwyneth Vaughan-Smith	Inspector, Delta Police Department
	Pat Ansell	Director, Parks, Recreation & Culture
	Olga Shcherbyna*	Manager, Social Planning
	Emily Gray	Manager, Planning
	Muneesh Sharma	Manager, Community & Business Initiatives
	Paula Kolisnek	Manager, Corporate Events & Initiatives
	Alex Callaghan	Housing Advisor, Planning
	Jessica Gruchey	Committee Clerk

By Zoom videoconference*

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair acknowledged that this meeting took place on the shared, traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the scəwáθən (Tsawwassen), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), and other Coast Salish Peoples. We extend our appreciation to these First Nations for the opportunity to hold this meeting here today.

AGENDA ENDORSEMENT

MOVED By W. D. Flandez,

SECONDED By C. Kessel, THAT the June 5, 2025 Diversity, Inclusion & Anti-Racism Committee meeting Agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the September 11, 2024 Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism Committee meeting

MOVED By M. Renee,

SECONDED By R. Kainth, THAT the Minutes of the September 11, 2024 Diversity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism Committee meeting be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PRESENTATIONS

2. **Empowering Community Together Report**

Delegates: Shirley-Ann Reid, Delta Housing Be Mine Society
Lorraine Copas, Delta Housing Be Mine Society
Karla Verschoor, InclusionBC*

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, representatives of the Delta Housing Be Mine Society (the “Society”) and InclusionBC provided background information on the Society and spoke to two recent events that served as milestones in addressing housing needs for people with intellectual disabilities. Representatives highlighted the need for inclusionary zoning, inclusionary housing and inclusive housing.

Staff provided additional information on initiatives the City is undertaking to address the need for housing for people with intellectual disabilities and referenced the City’s Housing Action Plan and several policy implementations.

MOVED By W. D. Flandez,
SECONDED By R. Kainth, THAT the DIAC recommends to Council that Shirley-Ann Reid of Delta Housing Be Mine Society and Karla Verschoor of InclusionBC present at a future Regular Council meeting regarding Empowering Community Together.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **Council Committees, Terms of Reference and Procedure**

Materials:

- PowerPoint presentation titled “Council Committees, Terms of Reference and Procedure” (On Table)

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, staff provided an overview of the Diversity, Inclusion & Anti-Racism Committee’s Terms of Reference, and spoke to the City’s Council Procedure Bylaw, Committee appointment process, the 2026 General Local Election, as it relates to the Committees of Council, as well as current legislation.

MOVED By M. Renee,
SECONDED By C. Kessel, THAT the PowerPoint presentation by Michelle Jansson, City Clerk, regarding Council Committees, Terms of Reference and Procedure be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. Gray, A. Callaghan, and M. Jansson departed the meeting (6:28 p.m.)

4. **City of Delta’s Events Strategy**

Materials:

- Extract of Minutes of the March 3, 2025 Regular Council meeting regarding Diwali / Bandi Chhor Divas Event in Delta

Staff provided a verbal update on the City’s events strategy that was brought forward in 2024, advising that staff are seeking partnerships and collaboration opportunities as they relate to cultural events within Delta.

Feedback was then sought from the Committee with regard to hosting a Diwali event on October 17, 2025 in North Delta.

MOVED By D. Kruger,
SECONDED By W. D. Flandez, THAT the Diversity, Inclusion & Anti-Racism Committee endorse the framework for the Diwali event, as presented by the Manager of Corporate Events and Initiatives.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

P. Kolisnek departed the meeting (6:44 p.m.)

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5. **Space for South Asian Seniors**

Staff provided background information on a request that was received from a group of South Asian seniors for a sheltered place to meet during the winter. A pilot program was undertaken and concluded in May and staff advised that additional options are being sought for the fall. The group was encouraged to utilize the Seniors' Shuttle Bus and Seniors' centers, as staff emphasized the need to sustain the current programming.

MOVED By R. Kainth,

SECONDED By C. Johnson, THAT the verbal update by Muneesh Sharma, regarding Space for South Asian Seniors be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

M. Sharma and P. Ansell departed the meeting (6:59 p.m.)

VERBAL UPDATES

6. **Pride Month Activities**

Carol Johnson, President, Delta Pride Society, spoke to Pride Month and highlighted several initiatives that are being undertaken, notably, the City's flag raising ceremony, ally pin campaign, an educational session for City staff with the Delta Pride Society, as well as the Delta Pride Picnic.

Staff also highlighted that a pride art project will take place and following its completion, it will be shared at various recreation centers and presented at the Delta Pride Picnic.

MOVED By M. Renee,

SECONDED By W. D. Flandez, THAT the verbal update by Carol Johnson, Delta Pride Society, regarding Pride Month Activities be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. **EDI Framework**

Staff provided an update on the process for developing the City's EDI framework, a suggestion made by Committee members. Staff researched other municipalities who were conducting similar work and found that public engagement and engagement with internal staff was a large component of the work undertaken.

MOVED By C. Kessel,

SECONDED By W. D. Flandez, THAT the verbal update by Olga Shcherbyna, Social Planning Manager, regarding EDI Framework be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ROUNDTABLE

8. W. D. Flandez advised that an event will be held on June 22, 2025 in Delta called *Never Dim My Light: A Lapu-Lapu Benefit Concert*; the event will be in recognition of the Lapu Day Festival tragedy that took place on April 26, 2025. Proceeds of the event will support initiatives such as the Filipino BC's Kapwa Centre for Community Resilience.

The Committee Clerk was directed to circulate information regarding the event to the Committee.

NEXT MEETING

The Chair advised that the next meeting would be held in either October or November; the Committee will be advised closer to the date.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED By R. Kainth,

SECONDED By N. Dhillon, THAT the meeting adjourn (7:20 p.m.).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Jennifer Johal
Chair

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Jessica Gruchey
Committee Clerk