

## City Clerk

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**Subject:** Motion regarding free Menstrual products

**From:** Carol Day

**Sent:** December 7, 2020 3:55 PM

**To:** Jesson, Claudia <[CJesson@richmond.ca](mailto:CJesson@richmond.ca)>; Brodie, Malcolm <[MBrodie@richmond.ca](mailto:MBrodie@richmond.ca)>; McNulty, Bill <[BMcNulty@richmond.ca](mailto:BMcNulty@richmond.ca)>; Loo, Alexa <[ALoo@richmond.ca](mailto:ALoo@richmond.ca)>; McPhail, Linda <[LMcPhail@richmond.ca](mailto:LMcPhail@richmond.ca)>; Wolfe, Michael <[MWolfe@richmond.ca](mailto:MWolfe@richmond.ca)>; Au, Chak <[CAu@richmond.ca](mailto:CAu@richmond.ca)>; Day, Carol <[CDay@richmond.ca](mailto:CDay@richmond.ca)>; Steves, Harold <[hsteves@richmond.ca](mailto:hsteves@richmond.ca)>

**Subject:** Motion regarding free Menstrual products

Hi Council Team

Please add this motion to the agenda of the next available General purposes committee meeting.

FYI: Lesley Sherlock will provide a report on this issue in the first quarter of 2021 as part of a pilot project package. This issue was brought up to council Nov 6, 2019 and I think we have had enough time to move forward on this simple initiative. The report will include the next steps so we should have the information to start this worthwhile program.

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Motion : City of Richmond to initiate a program that provides free menstrual products in City facilities.

Rational :The provincial government created a new policy that all BC schools province access to free menstrual products in school washrooms and the City of Coquitlam approved a 4 month pilot project to provide free menstrual products in 21 civic facilities.

Lack of access to menstrual products can be a barrier for women to fully participate at community events and city spaces.

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*Best regards,*

**Carol Day**

Richmond City Councillor

## City Clerk

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**Sent:** December 17, 2020 11:49 AM  
**Subject:** menstrual equity initiative

**From:** Day,Carol <[CDay@richmond.ca](mailto:CDay@richmond.ca)>  
**Sent:** November 28, 2020 9:02 AM  
**To:** Jesson,Claudia <[CJesson@richmond.ca](mailto:CJesson@richmond.ca)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: menstrual equity initiative

Hi Claudia

I would like to add this item to the next council meeting I think this is a great idea.

Thanks Carol Day

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Laura Greenwood  
**Date:** November 27, 2020 at 12:48:09 PM PST  
**To:** "Day,Carol" <[CDay@richmond.ca](mailto:CDay@richmond.ca)>  
**Subject:** **menstrual equity initiative**

November 27<sup>th</sup> 2020

Dear Ms. Day,

As a Richmond resident I am writing to ask for your support in exploring the feasibility of providing free menstrual products in our civic facilities. Periods are a fact of life and menstrual products can be expensive. Vulnerable residents and families living in poverty often struggle to afford the basic products they need. Every month, this financial barrier, along with ongoing stigma, prevents vulnerable people who menstruate from attending school, going to work and contributing to their community.

In 2019, the provincial government of British Columbia issued a new policy requiring that all BC schools provide access to free menstrual products in school washrooms by the end of 2019. This initiative aims to provide students with convenient access to menstrual products to help support their full participation in school activities, reduce stigma and promote gender equity.

In 2020, Coquitlam city council approved a 4 month pilot project where free menstrual products were provided in 21 civic facilities at a cost of \$19,000. The overwhelmingly positive response from community members to this initiative has prompted Coquitlam city council to commit to a full and ongoing roll out of this service in their community. They estimate that the installation of the remaining dispensers will cost \$35,000 and the annual product replenishment cost of the program to be \$25,000 from their facilities budget.

I would like to ask Richmond city council to support a comparable pilot project in our community. Such an initiative would support Richmond city council's strategic goals of an active and thriving Richmond that encourages robust, affordable and accessible recreation, wellness and social programs for people of all ages; as well as the goal of strategic and well planned community growth that supports Richmond's most vulnerable populations.

Lack of access to menstrual products and stigma surrounding menstruation should no longer be able to act as barriers to the full and equal participation of all community members in our city spaces.

Thank you for your consideration and support,

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Laura Greenwood

she | her | hers

*I am honored and acknowledge that I live, work and play on unceded Coast Salish lands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations*