

Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the  
General Purposes Committee  
meeting of Richmond City  
Council held on Monday, January  
18, 2021.

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**From:** Karina Reid <karinareid@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** January 15, 2021 10:16 AM  
**To:** MayorandCouncillors  
**Subject:** Menstrual equity  
**Attachments:** Richmond City Council letter - menstrual equity.docx

**Categories:** - TO: MAYOR & EACH COUNCILLOR / FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

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Good morning Mayor Brodie and City Council,

Please find my attached letter.

Thank you,

Karina

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January 14, 2021

Dear Richmond City Council,

As a Richmond resident I am writing to ask for your support to implement free menstrual products in our civic facilities. Periods are a fact of life and menstrual products can be expensive. Richmond has one of the highest child poverty rates and residents and families living in poverty often struggle to afford the basic products they need. Imagine having to choose between food or menstrual products?

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. There are several cities that have already created free Menstrual Products in Civic Facilities Washrooms such as Coquitlam, Vancouver, Victoria, North Vancouver, Burnaby, and the list continues to grow.

Vancouver City Council also has a City of All Women, Women's Equity Strategy 2018-2028. This is also something I would like to see Richmond City Council create. This pandemic has pushed so many women out of the workforce, and we must create a strategy to support women. Periods should not hold anyone back, period. Therefore, we must support menstrual equity.

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.

The Period Promise initiative by United Way mobilizes local citizens to be a part of the solution. I would the City of Richmond to be a part of this solution.

Thank you for your consideration and support,

Karina Reid