



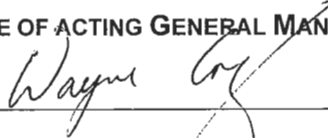


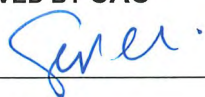
To: Planning Committee **Date:** January 5, 2024
From: Kim Somerville **File:** 01-0100-30-RIAD1-01/2024-Vol
 Director, Community Social Development 01
Re: **Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee 2023 Annual Report and 2024 Work Program**

Staff Recommendation

That the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee’s 2023 Annual Report and 2024 Work Program, as presented in the staff report titled “Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee 2023 Annual Report and 2024 Work Program” dated January 5, 2024, from the Director of Community Social Development, be approved.

Kim Somerville
Director, Community Social Development
(604-247-4671)

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF ACTING GENERAL MANAGER	
	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:
	
APPROVED BY CAO	
	

Staff Report

Origin

The Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee (RIAC) was established in 2002 to act as a resource and to advise City Council by providing information, options and recommendations regarding intercultural issues and opportunities to enhance intercultural harmony in Richmond.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022–2026 Focus Area #6 A Vibrant, Resilient and Active Community:

Vibrant, resilient and active communities supported by a wide variety of opportunities to get involved, build relationships and access resources.

6.3 Foster intercultural harmony, community belonging, and social connections.

This report also supports the Cultural Harmony Plan Strategic Direction #2 Collaboration and Partnerships:

2.1 Continue to work with the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee (RIAC) members to implement the RIAC Intercultural Strategic Plan and Work Program.

Analysis

2023 Annual Report

Activities undertaken by the RIAC are outlined in the 2023 Annual Report (Attachment 1).

Highlights of the Committee's work include:

- Provided an intercultural lens on various City initiatives, including the Lansdowne Parks and Open Space project, and the development of the City's new Social Development Strategy and Child Care Strategy.
- Assisted in the planning and implementation of the 2023 Diversity Symposium by participating on the steering committee and acting as session hosts during the event.
- Stayed informed of intercultural issues by inviting City staff, RIAC members, and community partners to present on programs, services and initiatives available to the Richmond community, including:
 - Overview of the *Richmond Community Protocol: Responding to Racism and Hate* led by Richmond Multicultural Community Services;
 - Observations on cultural harmony overseas and intercultural indices from international hubs and cities, presented by RIAC member Vladimir Choi; and
 - The Richmond RCMP Diversity and Inclusion Section's approaches in fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion in the Richmond community.

As an Advisory Committee to City Council, the RIAC's activities are fully supported by the City's operating budget. In 2023, the City allocated an operating budget of \$2,500.00 and \$618.98 of this was utilized. Unspent funds will be returned to the City's operating budget.

Looking ahead, the RIAC seeks to participate actively in initiatives and dialogues that promote cultural harmony and further support the City in fulfilling the objectives of the Cultural Harmony Plan by bringing diverse community voices and perspectives to various City initiatives as requested.

2024 Work Program

The proposed 2024 Work Program (Attachment 2) priorities for the committee include:

- Providing input on initiatives related to the implementation of the Council-adopted Cultural Harmony Plan as referred by City Council or City staff;
- Assisting City staff with the planning and implementation of the 2024 Diversity Symposium; and
- Inviting guest speakers and facilitators to present on intercultural issues and emerging trends facing the community to inform RIAC members' role in enhancing cultural harmony.

The 2024 Work Program outlines the RIAC's priorities in the coming year to continue to advance the committee's mandate of enhancing and strengthening intercultural harmony and cooperation in Richmond, and to act as a resource to City Council for matters related to cultural diversity, equity and inclusion.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

The RIAC 2023 Annual Report provides a summary of the activities undertaken by the Committee during the 2023 calendar year. The RIAC 2024 Work Program outlines the Committee's priorities for the upcoming year to enhance cultural harmony and strengthen intercultural connections in the Richmond community. Staff recommend that the RIAC 2023 Annual Report and 2024 Work Program be approved.



Peggy Chen
Planner 2 (Inclusion)
(604-276-4104)

- Att. 1: Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee 2023 Annual Report
2: Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee 2024 Work Program

Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee 2023 Annual Report

Introduction

The Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee (RIAC) was established by City Council in February 2002 to act as a resource and provide advice to City Council in support of enhancing and strengthening intercultural harmony and cooperation in Richmond. The committee also provides information and recommendations regarding intercultural issues and opportunities referred to the RIAC by Council.

The 2023 RIAC Annual Report is prepared for City Council in accordance with the Terms of Reference. This document serves as a summary of the RIAC's activities during the 2023 calendar year and is based on input from RIAC members with support from the Staff Liaison.

Highlights of 2023

Cultural Harmony Plan

The RIAC continues to support the implementation of the recommended actions of the Council-adopted Cultural Harmony Plan, which informs the City's response to building awareness of and enhancing cultural harmony among Richmond's diverse population, by providing an intercultural lens in response to staff requests for input on various City strategies and initiatives. Throughout the year, City staff have consulted with the RIAC on various strategies and initiatives across the organization.

City of Richmond Diversity Symposium

As in previous years, many RIAC members were actively involved in the planning and implementation of the ninth annual Diversity Symposium. Under the theme of "Resilience," the 2023 Diversity Symposium offered virtual sessions as well as a special in-person presentation. Overall there were 504 registrations, with most of the registrants joining from the Lower Mainland and some registrants from across Canada. A number of RIAC members participated on the steering committee and served as session hosts during the virtual sessions. The steering committee included Tahzi Ali, Diana Leung, Michael Ma, Rubina Mahal, and Mikaela Nuval from the RIAC.

Activities for 2023

Guest Speakers and Organizational Presenters

Throughout 2023, guest speakers and organizational representatives presented innovative and collaborative approaches to strengthening intercultural connections and removing barriers to participation in our community.

January

- Miriam Plishka, Park Planner at the City of Richmond gave a presentation on the City's Lansdowne Parks and Open Space project and sought feedback from RIAC members on the draft guiding principles of the project.

February

- Joyce Dieudonne, Program Lead for Youth at the City of Richmond, provided an overview of the City's draft Youth Strategy 2022-2032.

March

- Melanie Burner, Program Manager for Social Development and Sarah Erceg, Social Planning Analyst at the City of Richmond shared information about the City's Recreation Fee Subsidy Program.

April

- Constable Jace Rondario from the Richmond RCMP's Diversity and Inclusion section provided an overview of the RCMP's approaches in fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion in the Richmond community.

May

- Dorothy Jo, Program Manager for Social Planning and Grace Tiu, Planner for Community Social Development at the City of Richmond conducted a focus group with the RIAC to guide the development of the City's new Social Development Strategy.

June

- Alan Hill, Inclusive Communities Program Coordinator at Richmond Multicultural Community Services shared a presentation on the Richmond Community Protocol, a resource designed to help organizations and community members respond to racism and hate.

September

- Vladimir Choi, citizen appointee to the RIAC, shared his observations on cultural harmony overseas and intercultural indices from international hubs and cities.

October

- Chris Duggan, Acting Manager, Community Social Development and Tiffany Mallen, Child Care Planner at the City of Richmond invited the RIAC to provide input on current and future child care needs that would inform the development of Richmond's new 10-year Child Care Strategy.

Members of the 2023 Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee

Citizen Appointees

1. Tahzi Ali
2. Yun-Jou Chang
3. Vladimir Choi
4. Rubina Mahal
5. Michael Ma
6. Mikaela Nuval
7. Kanwarjit Sandhu
8. Randy Sandhu

Organizational Representatives

1. Baren Tsui, Richmond School District
2. Adena MacLean, Vancouver Coastal Health (June to December)
3. Ian Lai, Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee (January to August)
4. Allie Lin, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. (January to February)
5. Diana Leung, Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee
6. Ashok Rattan, Richmond Multicultural Community Services
7. Daniel Remedios, Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee
8. Roy Wong, RCMP
9. Ian Yeung, Richmond Centre for Disability

Council Liaison

Councillor Bill McNulty

Staff Liaison

Peggy Chen, Planner 2 (Inclusion)

Financial Summary

As an Advisory Committee to City Council, the RIAC's activities are fully supported by the City's operating budget. In 2023, the City allocated an operating budget of \$2,500.00 for RIAC and part of these funds were used for refreshments:

Revenue	
City funding	\$2,500.00
Expenses	
Refreshments	\$618.98
Balance	\$1881.02

Conclusion and Acknowledgements

2023 was another busy year for the RIAC. The Committee achieved a full slate of nine meetings and fulfilled its mandate of acting as a resource and providing advice to City Council on intercultural issues. The RIAC supported another successful year of the Diversity Symposium and RIAC members actively engaged in various City consultation opportunities. Through various presentations and dialogues, RIAC members have also discussed ways to measure intercultural harmony, deepen community connections as well as enhance representation within the committee.

The RIAC has an important role to play in advancing cultural harmony in the community. Looking ahead, the RIAC seeks to participate actively in initiatives and dialogues that promote cultural harmony and further support the City in fulfilling the objectives of the Cultural Harmony Plan by bringing diverse community voices and perspectives into various City initiatives as requested.

We acknowledge the significant commitment and contributions of outgoing members in 2023, namely Ian Lai from the Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee and Ian Yeung from the Richmond Centre for Disability. We thank Councillor Bill McNulty for his support of the RIAC. We also express our appreciation to Peggy Chen, Staff Liaison and Kristy Ng and Jennifer Wong, Minute-Takers, for their work in supporting the committee's needs. We look forward to furthering our work together in 2024.

Respectfully submitted by:



Yun-Jou Chang
Chair, Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee

Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee 2024 Work Program

The proposed 2024 Work Program aligns with the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee's (RIAC) mandate to act as a resource and provide advice to City Council in support of enhancing and strengthening intercultural harmony and cooperation in Richmond.

This work program supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022–2026 Focus Area #6 A Vibrant, Resilient and Active Community:

Vibrant, resilient and active communities supported by a wide variety of opportunities to get involved, build relationships and access resources.

6.3 Foster intercultural harmony, community belonging, and social connections.

This work program also supports the Cultural Harmony Plan Strategic Direction #2 Collaboration and Partnerships:

2.1 Continue to work with the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee (RIAC) members to implement the RIAC Intercultural Strategic Plan and Work Program.

2024 RIAC Budget

RIAC annually receives an operating budget of \$2,500.00.

2024 RIAC Work Program

Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee (RIAC) 2024 Work Program		
Initiative	RIAC Actions	Expected Outcome
1. Act as a resource to the City on issues relating to intercultural harmony in Richmond.	1.1 Participate in consultation on City plans, updates, strategies, projects and new policies relating to intercultural harmony. 1.2 Provide an intercultural lens to City events and initiatives, as they arise. 1.3 Respond to Council requests and provide advice on issues relating to intercultural harmony in Richmond, as appropriate.	1.1.1 RIAC members will be able to provide an intercultural lens to City strategies and initiatives, and advise City Council, as needed.
2. Build on and improve RIAC members' knowledge of intercultural issues through information sharing, guest speakers and educational opportunities.	2.1 Invite guest speakers and facilitators to present on intercultural issues facing the community, including professional development opportunities. 2.2 Present on intercultural initiatives from member organizations and/or other groups that can inform the City's policies or practices. 2.3 Monitor intercultural issues and emerging trends. 2.4 Include an environmental scan on relevant items and media coverage as a standing item on the RIAC agenda.	2.1.1 A summary of key findings from the various speakers is included in the RIAC Annual Report. 2.1.2 Members are better informed and well equipped to provide an intercultural lens to City strategies and initiatives, as requested.
3. Support and promote initiatives that address incidents of racism and discrimination in the community.	3.1 Identify and participate in anti-racism initiatives and relay relevant information back to the RIAC.	3.1.1 RIAC members share information on best practices from other organizations and/or municipalities that can be applied in Richmond.

Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee (RIAC) 2024 Work Program

Initiative	RIAC Actions	Expected Outcome
<p>4. Participate in external committees that align with the RIAC’s goals and objectives.</p>	<p>4.1 Participate in external committees that align with the RIAC’s mandate and provide updates to the RIAC.</p> <p>4.2 Promote the RIAC’s role as an advisory body to City Council and the City’s contributions to fostering intercultural harmony in the community.</p>	<p>4.1.1 Community partners are aware of the RIAC’s role in fostering intercultural harmony in Richmond.</p> <p>4.1.2 RIAC members are informed of other committees and initiatives that align with the RIAC’s mandate.</p>
<p>5. Participate in initiatives related to the implementation of the Cultural Harmony Plan in Richmond, as appropriate.</p>	<p>5.1 Provide advice and feedback on initiatives that support actions related to the Cultural Harmony Plan, as requested.</p>	<p>5.1.1 RIAC members are involved in the implementation of actions listed in the Cultural Harmony Plan, as appropriate.</p>
<p>6. Assist with the planning and implementation of the 2024 City of Richmond Diversity Symposium.</p>	<p>6.1 Encourage RIAC representatives to sit on the 2024 Diversity Symposium Steering Committee to develop ideas for themes and topics, review options for keynote speakers and presenters, and select final presenters for the workshop sessions.</p> <p>6.2 Provide event support, including promoting the event to RIAC representatives’ networks, acting as session hosts, networking, and representing the RIAC at a community resource table.</p>	<p>6.1.1 RIAC members support staff in the planning and implementation of the 2024 Diversity Symposium program.</p>
<p>7. Support initiatives related to Truth and Reconciliation.</p>	<p>7.1 Identify and support Truth and Reconciliation initiatives and relay relevant information back to the RIAC.</p>	<p>7.1.1 RIAC members share information on best practices from other organizations and/or municipalities that can be applied in Richmond.</p>