

# Surrey – Delta – White Rock Community Council

#2017 – 7495 – 132 Street, Surrey, BC V3W 1J8

T: 604-501-8310

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## Community Council Minutes Wednesday, February 24, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

### CLBC – Surrey Office

**Note: Meeting held via MS Teams, due to Covid-19 Social Distancing**

From 6:00 to 8:00 pm

**Present:** Akshay Sachdeva, Alison Scholefield, Tracey Chan. (Jennifer Benjamin joined meeting at 6:30 pm)

**Regrets:** Linda Beck, Vernon Hudson, and: Emily Raven, Bernadette Pughe, Carolyn Tinglin

**Guests:** **CLBC attendees:** Jai Birdi – Director, Regional Operations (South Fraser Region); Jagdeep Rakhara – Integrated Service Manager, Regional Operations (South Fraser Region)

**CLBC staff:** Real Bernier, Facilitator

**Recorder:** Edwina Jeffrey

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### 1. Recognize and welcome to everyone

- a) Members introduced themselves to the guest CLBC attendees.
- b) Tracey chaired the meeting and it was called to order at: 6:17 pm. Acknowledgements were done to the traditional and unceded indigenous territories of the: Kwantlen, Katzie, QayQayt, Semiahmoo and Tsawwassen people. Upon meeting commencement, a quorum was not present, but members agreed to have an unofficial meeting. Follow-up (before the next meeting) via email with regard to Motions.

### 2. Motions

- a) Review and motion to approve February 24, 2021 Agenda.  
**Motion:** Deferred (with follow-up by email) before March meeting.
- b) Review and motion to approve January 27, 2021 minutes. Deferred to next meeting.  
**Motion:** Deferred (with follow-up by email) before March meeting.

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## 3. Discussion with Jai Birdi, and Jagdeep Rakhara (CLBC)

### a) The Community Council's current situation:

Jai Birdi started the conversation by thanking everyone for inviting him, and then recognized the indigenous territories. Jai mentioned he wanted to refamiliarize himself by reconnecting with the Council to learn any areas of support that are needed, and secondly to share his appreciation of the work projects that this Council has done. He is aware that there is pressure to increase membership for the Council. However, as far as recruitment goes, Jai mentioned, historically, the council members are 7 formal attendees and despite all the challenges there are good representations with usually 4 who can attend.

Jagdeep Rakhara introduced herself and thanked everyone for the invite to get to know the Surrey council better. She gave a detailed history about her relationship with CLBC including employment for fourteen years. She has a brother with developmental disabilities.

Council members shared their experiences with being a Council member, their length of Council service, what brought them to the Council, and their home situations. They also talked about what types of services they have within CLBC or other types, and how much they have learned being part of the Council. The self-advocate member and a family member are presenters for Welcome Workshops.

A member queried why Surrey is mentioned most but the Council also covers Delta (and White Rock).

### b) Potential support related needs:

Jagdeep mentioned supporting the recruitment of members and noted that other councils have done community relation forums and is aware that we are working on a Recruitment flyer.

Council members responded on the information shared:

- It is hard to get motivated with minimum number of council members.

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- The council members recognize that more parents and more organizations are needed to share information and to glean new members.
- Having a manager at a meeting to hear their thoughts enhances communication.
- Housing for the future is important.

## Council highlights:

- Online learning opportunity with getting consensus on points of view?
- Workshops or forums varied from Marshall arts for self-advocates, or other workshops meant for parents. However, after exploration recognized other organizations were doing these. Council looked at the gaps and what we could do to fill them; e.g., the ID bracelets for Translink were investigated and a positive outcome learned.
- The recruitment flyer is being confirmed; to be virtual and in the community. Other avenue is to have a newspaper Ad.
- Re-implemented the email for the Council and it has been an aid for potential interested members.

## c) CLBC related updates

- i. Announcement of Integrated Services Manager Anthony (opdenVries) has moved on to work in another province. This vacancy is open and will be looked at in the next few weeks.

Last year another manager was hired into the role of Regional Manager; and Jagdeep Rakhara, will move into the vacancy left by Anthony for now. She is currently covering for Anthony's team right now. Conversations are occurring about whether she will be doing both Councils within South Fraser.

- ii. Exploration and discussion is in process to have one Manager for both Councils: Upper Fraser and Surrey. A support person can support from each location to one Manager. A decision has not been made on this and is for conversation only.

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- iii. Changes in communication between both Councils in South and Upper Fraser Region (Langley/Abbotsford/Chilliwack); i.e., are now being done annually with all Councils.

Council member feedback from the discussion is that this could be hard to do during the Pandemic (although there are pros and cons for having virtual vs. live).

#### 4. Discussion with members and attendees, about interest in reviewing the work plan and/or creating one or more goals associated with current points of focus, at the next Council meeting

- a) The goals are still very relevant; but psychologically its hard to get motivated. However, housing is something we should be focusing on.
- b) How to connect with people so that you can build friendships possibly through a self-advocates group?
- c) Potentially review the workplan for the next meeting and suggest leave the longer-term goals and focus on short-term achievable goals.
- d) Look at the goals that can be attained/accomplished. Discuss at next meeting.

#### 5. Updates from Previous Council Business:

- a) Status: Council info/flyer poster:

Real followed up with Christopher Rae to have this online and then secondly, having it in the community. Real is waiting for confirmed approval to use the picture of two other people on poster. Ads are also a possibility with a link to the flyer. Other option may be able to put this on the CLBC website.

- b) Incoming Council emails:

No new emails received.

Jagdeep asked about the use of the email account: the email was used for the (2015) Inclusive Employer Awards nominations, then intermittently after this until again regularly in 2019. Most of the received emails were spam but there have been some from individuals who want to learn more about joining the Community Council. They have attended meetings and resulted in new members.

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6. **Round table check-in: How is everyone doing? What is working well and what are challenges? (time permitting)** Members shared how they have been doing with Covid-19 fatigue, finding things to do, or wearing a mask. A member mentioned that she appreciates and values Jagdeep's support. Worries about hygiene with our individuals but it's getting better. Thankful for flexibility for respite funding. Geocaching, i.e., going outside as a treasure hunt, has been fun. Optimistic from CLBC call about the vaccinations; just will need to hang in there and get through this stretch. Still trying to understand all about the vaccinations. (Most of the information about this can be found on the CLBC website). Talked about prioritization for vaccinations, and it was mentioned that Fraser Health is advising CLBC. We are fortunate that we can get outside and explore alternatives to occupy the time.

7. **Adjournment at 7:47 pm and Reminders:**

**Next Community Council meeting is March 24, 2021 at 6 pm.**

**ACTION:** Real will email confirmation of next virtual Community Council meeting and will provide the appropriate associated documents.