

# 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, January 27, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

### CLBC – Surrey Office and

**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. Linda Beck  
**Regrets:** (guest: Emily Raven,) Jennifer Benjamin, Vernon Hudson  
**Guests:** Bernadette Pughe, Marie Sabine, Carolyn Tinglin  
**CLBC staff:** Real Bernier, Facilitator  
**Recorder:** Edwina Jeffrey

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#### 1. Recognize and welcome to everyone

- a) Everyone introduced themselves, followed by guest Marie Sabine presenting at 6:15 pm. (refer to item 3. below)

After thanking the Marie Sabine for her presentation, Akshay called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. and acknowledged the traditional indigenous territories of the: Kwikwetlem, Kwantlen, Katzie, and Semiahmoo

#### 2. Motions

- a) Review and motion to approve January 27, 2021 Agenda.

**Motion:** *Alison motioned and Akshay seconded to approve the meeting agenda.  
Carried unanimously*

- b) Review and motion to approve November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 minutes.

**Motion:** *Alison motioned, and Tracey seconded to approve the November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting minutes.  
Carried unanimously*

3. **Welcome to Marie Sabine (6:15 pm) Re: Presentation on her role as: Disability Community and Housing Advisor and the Disability Action committee, within South Surrey and White Rock catchment.** Marie explained her role as the Advisor and how the Disability Action committee works. E.g., volunteers on the committee will gather information from people about their experiences with housing or isolation with Covid-19, or, whatever it is that is on their minds. More information is provided in a questionnaire.

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Her hope is that a policy platform will be created. As an example, a Disability benefit that is Federal, meaning a uniform process rather than provincial. Among the most pressing issues that she sees includes Inclusion BC's number one issue of the lack of income; followed by housing, and third is mental health. Think about what does our community need? Perhaps, creating a platform for housing.

Anyone who is interested can contact Marie via email (Edwina will forward email and questionnaire). The time commitment involved as a committee member is meeting once every two weeks on Zoom, on Tuesdays at 1:30 pm for no more than an hour. The committee will go into April or May.

**Note:** If you are interested in being a part of the committee, it would be as an individual not associated with the CLBC Community Council.

## 4. Updates from Previous Council Business:

### a) Status: Council info poster:

Real followed up with Christopher Rae to have this online and then secondly, having it in the community. Real is waiting for confirmation to use the picture of two other people on poster.

### b) Incoming Council emails:

- i. No new emails received; will follow up after meeting to confirm.  
(*confirmed January 27, 2021*)

Discussion:

How does someone contact the Council? Go to the CLBC website and the Council information is there. The best and quickest option is to phone the Surrey office who will forward the information to Real.

For information on Welcome Workshops? Call the Surrey office and ask them to speak to Real.

Real is waiting for Christopher Rae to have notifications linked to Edwina and/or Real, and/or having an automatic reply. (In progress)

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## 5. New Action items to be discussed:

### a) Provincial Advisory Council meeting:

A summary was provided: **These are not formal or approved minutes (notes) and should not be circulated beyond our Council please.**

The new Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, Minister Nicholas Simons, opened the meeting by talking about his background and a few things he wants to address.

- Policies and programs to help people get out of poverty
- Creating standards of accessibility in BC, so everyone has equal opportunities and access to their community
- Staying connected to the people CLBC serves

Questions from members were about PWD rates, access to technology and the BC COVID Recovery Benefit. He will work hard at trying to get a raise on the PWD rate and talked about the one-time provincial relief benefit of \$500 for individuals.

CLBC CEO Ross Chilton then talked about:

- Covid-19 vaccination plan released. Link to the plan: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/vaccines#phases>
- More flexibility for families using direct funded respite, until June 30<sup>th</sup>. (refer to CLBC website)
- CLBC is providing grants to five self-advocates groups who are creating safe activities etc. to help people with diverse abilities stay strong and connected during the pandemic.
- Funds are being provided from the government to help people get back to work, including Inclusion BC will help get money to employment service providers of which some money will be used to teach and train people with diverse abilities how to use technology.

Reminder that the Reimagining Community Inclusion (RCI) Working Groups will begin in February; there are four topics: Health and well-being, Inclusive housing, Employment, and Self defined services for Indigenous people.

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There was a quick board update noting that the PAC is one way that Councils can bring forward issues and trends they are hearing about in their community. The Board Chair, Michael Prince, is on a Registered Disability Savings Plan task force to review how this benefit is working and how it can be improved. Councils can give feedback to this task force through Jessica Humphrey.

A Self Advocate CLBC Board Director opening is happening this spring (April). The mentioned Board Director was previously part of our council. It was suggested that we invite him back to our Council.

Jessica Humphrey talked about the Toolkit for Connection and what our Council can do, and the Calendar for Connection (found on the Family Support (FSI) website:

- Share with people who are at risk of loneliness and are looking for social connection. Create and share your own accessible and inclusive events on this calendar for connection.
  - Question from Council meeting: how can we find individuals to share these resources? Perhaps through IT to 100's of individuals?
- Another new tool is a template for local resources.

Action for Council: Review the Toolkit for Connection at a meeting; brainstorm local resources, fill in the template and post in the community. Or, review the Toolkit to see if there are any other tools to promote and share with people and families.

Randy Schmidt, CLBC Communications shared the Key to Home website, created by the Inclusive Housing taskforce. The website includes a video and presentation templates etc. to share with self-advocates, families, and housing decision makers. [Open the door to inclusive housing - Key to Home \(keytohomebc.ca\)](https://keytohomebc.ca) <https://keytohomebc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Final-Report-Digital.pdf>

Action for Council: Explore the Key to Home website and consider making a presentation to the local municipality or city council to spread the word about the importance of inclusive housing.

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Strengthening Communications: How can we communicate and share together?

- Ask Council to suggest a success story or what has gone well for us
- Or - Are we interested in a Workshop for Community of Practice
- \*Hold a Community of Practice together so that we can share what works

**ACTION:** \*Alison will email Jessica sharing the Council's interest but needs more information on Community of Practice workshop

**Other News:** BC Peoples First is holding annual conference on February 25 and 26: topics Rights and Wellness. Tickets are free to all self-advocates  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bcpf-conference-2021-rights-wellness-free-to-be-me-tickets-135599462643>

Next PAC meeting is April 17, joint meeting end of May 2021

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. Trying to balance life. There are challenges with loneliness. But there is positivity with the technology that is available. Frustration with putting in work to get a job and to manage the situation. Very able to get outside and explore alternatives to occupy the time. Hugs to all and keep on staying positive.

7. **Adjournment at 7:30 pm and Reminders:**

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

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