

**City of Chilliwack
MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON
INCLUSIVENESS, DIVERSITY AND ACCESSIBILITY
MINUTES OF MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2020 – 3:00 pm
Chilliwack Curling Club**

Council Members:

Ken Popove, Mayor, Co-Chair
Bud Mercer, Councillor, Co-Chair

Task Force Members:

Justin Mallard, Business Development Manager
Derek Epp, Chief, Tzeachten First Nation
Saylesh Wesley, Aboriginal Education Enhancement and Learning Support Teacher
Leanna Kemp, Executive Director, Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce
Fatima Zaidi, CEO, Project Instigate, Board Director of KPU Alumni Association, Crisis Interventionist, & Learning Strategist
Leandra Ndayifukamiye, Aboriginal Representative, Student (via Zoom)

City Staff: Jamie Leggatt, Director of Communications, Staff Liaison
Trish Alsip, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Jason Lum, Councillor, Co-Chair
Helen Edwards, Deputy Executive Director, Chilliwack Community Services
Julia Lamb, Disability Advocate and Activist
Dan Coulter, Board Chair, Chilliwack School District #33

Guest: Kathleen MacKinnon, CEO Nine Rising, Consultant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ken Popove, Mayor, acknowledged we are on the unceded territory of the Stó:lō people and called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved /) That the Agenda for the Mayor's Task Force on Inclusiveness, Diversity and Accessibility
Seconded (meeting of Tuesday, September 29, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

Carried unanimously

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved /) That the Minutes for the Mayor's Task Force on Inclusiveness, Diversity and
Seconded (Accessibility meeting of Wednesday, August 5, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

Carried unanimously

4. DELEGATION / PRESENTATION

5. OLD BUSINESS / ACTION ITEMS

6. NEW BUSINESS

Kathleen MacKinnon acknowledged a member of the MTFIDA, Reverend John Sovereign, who recently passed away. The Committee observed a minute of silence in memory of Reverend Sovereign.

Aligning in Equity and Equality

Kathleen facilitated a discussion regarding 'Aligning in Equity and Equality in our Community'.

The group reviewed an illustrative graph outlining the status of where the MTFIDA is at with respect to new opinions, various lens', different frames of reference, understanding and patience with understanding people's perspectives.

Kathleen posed the following questions to the Committee for consideration in bridging zoom and in-person meetings for future:

1. What are barriers to accessibility that exist in this meeting/space?
2. How can we bring people in equitably?
3. What values are we prioritizing?

Discussion ensued and the following comments were provided:

- Listen twice as hard
- Recognize when someone has not had an opportunity to speak
- Respect
- Actively listening (listen to listen and not listen to respond)
- Silence – feel comfortable with silence; not everyone will feel they have something to share
- Be comfortable to ask questions when we might not understand something
- Be mindful of others' triggers
- Knowing your presence – what does it look like to step back to ensure other voices are heard
- Ableism – prioritize that person's voice
- Patience, perseverance and active empathy (accountable and growth together)

Fatima Zaidi arrived at 3:26 pm.

The Committee broke into groups to discuss equity and equality within the community.

Justin Mallard left the meeting at 4:26 pm.

6. NEW BUSINESS (continued)

A suggestion was made to define the MTFIDA's objectives, goals and purpose and strategize on how to prioritize, creating a more decisive and focused strategy.

A suggestion was made that more outreach work is needed and could be best done through youth with smaller scale Inclusiveness, Diversity and Accessibility committees in schools. Staff noted there is currently a Youth Advisory Committee (YAC), an initiative implemented by Chilliwack Community Services. Funding partners include the Ministry of Child and Family Development (MCFD) and the City of Chilliwack. It was noted that this recommendation is outside the authority of the City of Chilliwack and would fall under the Chilliwack School District's jurisdiction.

7. INFORMATION

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at the call of the Co-Chairs.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:36 pm.

Co-Chair