

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER

**Meeting of the Multicultural Community Festival Task Force
Held at City Hall, 141 West 14th Street, North Vancouver, BC
In the Conference A Meeting Room on Thursday, February 9th, 2023**

MINUTES

Present:	O. Bornik N. Cottingham Powell J. Dantes Councillor Girard A. Goel-Stevens A. Hazfi P. Huntsman B. Ng M. Rezaei Councillor Shahriari C. Soriano T. Sun
Staff:	N. Lindemere, Office Supervisor K. Pighin, Cultural Services Supervisor, NVRC J. Spitale, Community Development Coordinator
Regrets:	R. Greene S. Ischenko L. Lawry L. Orr, Acting Director E. Xie

1. Call to Order

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. The meeting minutes of November 22nd, 2022 were approved as circulated.

2. Welcome / Land Acknowledgement / Introductions

The Community Development Coordinator provided a land acknowledgement and conducted introductions between Task Force members, new staff liaisons and Facilitators from Patricia Huntsman Culture & Communication. Staff confirmed that the letters to Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations were sent in early February and have not yet received a response with regard to representation at the Task Force.

3. Facilitation Session

The Facilitators provided a brief overview of the goals to gain consensus over what the festival should be and explained the active workshop on refining elements. A presentation on the context of festivals held within BC was shared with the Task Force, highlighting the following:

- Historical deficiencies in cultural grant funding within BC
- Enhancing community pride through regional identity, cultural roots and sense of place
- Equity, Truth & Reconciliation and accessibility are necessary to secure grant funding

Task Force members were asked to share input for the proposed festival and write their findings on post-it notes. Participants were given 15 minutes to add their post-its to a collaborative sheet under respective headings for Purpose, Model, Programming Elements, Time of Year and Length.

The Facilitators reported back on elements of the respective categories and discussed benefits of each element. The Task Force confirmed that:

- The **Purpose** of the proposed festival is to learn about and celebrate diversity and culture through showcasing local talent
- The **Model** is a stand-alone, apolitical festival taking place both indoor and outdoor, open to the public, affordable, accessible to all ages and abilities and a multi-venue event
- **Programming Elements** include performing art, visual art and culinary arts
- **Time of Year** is during the spring or summer (March-June)
- **Length** of the festival is 2-3 days (weekend Friday-Sunday)
- The **Outcome** is an increased understanding and recognition of other cultures in the community, connecting neighbours and creating opportunities for community connections

4. Next Steps

The Facilitators recommended that City staff look into the feasibility and viability of the proposal, determine a budget, site availability and engage organizations to support the festival and follow up with their findings.

The Facilitators confirmed they would send along a summary of findings following the meeting.

5. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:59M.

The next regular meeting of the Multicultural Community Festival Task Force is scheduled for Tuesday, April 4th, 2023.


Co-Chair

May 18/23
Date


Co-Chair

May 19, 23
Date