

## Exchange Inner City Membership Meeting Notes

*Date:* April 29, 2019

*In Attendance:* Anna Godefroy (Binnars' Project), Bobby MacDonald (UGM), Chris Neale-Clark (Local Resident/DTES Business Directory), Colleen Hamilton (City of Vancouver), Deanna Wing (Central City Foundation), Elizabeth Ballantyne (DTES Neighbourhood House), Haley Bain (VCC Nursing Student), Jarett Rude (Open Door Group), Johanna Li (EMBERS), Judy McGuire (Our Place), Luke Coad (CleanStart BC), Lydia Meister (Transitions Program), Marcia Nozick (EMBERS), Matt Smedley (Mission Possible), Scott Clark (ALIVE), Shari LaLiberte (VCC Nursing/MVA), Shazia Hudda (VCC Nursing Student), Wes Regan (City of Vancouver), Wilson Liang (Local Resident), Steven Johnston (Exchange Inner City Director), Alisha Masongsong (Exchange Inner City Project Manager)

*Regrets:* Ambrose Williams (ALIVE), Anastasia Gaisenok (Check Your Head), Austin Lui (EMBERS Eastside Works), Brennan Fitzgerald (HxBIA), Brian Rutledge (Local Resident), Christina Wong (Employ to Empower), Dakota Shelby (Check Your Head), David LePage (Buy Social Canada/CIRES), Davin Boutang (Local Resident), Dylan Goggs (CleanStart BC), Farhad Farhangfar (SUCCESS), Gavin Jones (EMBERS), Glenn (Local Resident), Grace Tait (YWCA Crabtree Corner), Jean- Paul Beran (JustWork), Jennifer Guest (RayCam Board), Jose Fernandez-Garcia (City of Vancouver), Jennifer Froese (Directions-Greater Vancouver Family Services), Kellie Carroll (NICCSS), Kit Rothschild (PACE Society), Lucia Woolgar (Let's Speak Up Program), Ludvik Skalicky (Resident), Maija Fiorante (Buy Social Canada), Marc Lawrence (Local Resident), Minshu Mo (NICCSS), Peter Crawford (Working Gear), Rocky James (MVAEC), Sean Condon (312 Main), Shaugh Schwartz (CIRES), Shelley Bolton (East Van Roasters/PHS), Shirley Vivian (Local resident), Suddhodan Baidya (SUCCESS), Theo Lamb (Strathcona BIA), Tom Wanklin (City of Vancouver), Viveca Ellis (BC Poverty Reduction Coalition-CAN Program)

### **1. Welcome & Traditional Acknowledgement:**

- Meeting started at 4:03pm
- Anna welcomed everyone, conducted the traditional territorial acknowledgement and a quick round of introductions.

### **2. Approval of Agenda & Previous Meeting Notes:**

- Agenda and previous meeting notes approved by everyone in the room nodding in agreement.

### **3. Questions re: Exchange Inner City Personnel & Working Group Updates:**

- No questions

### **Director Update (Steve):**

- See meeting package for updates. No questions.

### **CED Planner Update (Wes/Colleen):**

- Updates presented by Wes and Colleen on implementation of CED strategy phase 2. See “2019 Priorities” presentation, “Poverty Reduction Strategy” and “Phase 2 Update Report” for details.
- Colleen and Wes will be sharing the CED Strategy Phase 2 Update Report to Vancouver City Council around October 2019.
- **Action item: Colleen to circulate the report to Alisha and Alisha to share with EIC mailing list when it’s available.**
- Q: concerns raised regarding DTES Market RFP process.
- A: Suggestion to invite Kim Buksa, City of Vancouver Manager of Sustainability and Ethical Purchasing to a future EIC General meeting to discuss changing COV’s general RFP process and to get an update on the City’s Social Procurement Framework.
  - **Action Item: Alisha & Steve to invite Kim Buksa to the June EIC General Meeting.**
- Kim Buksa will be sharing the City’s Social Procurement Framework with City Council sometime this fall.
- The CED Strategy will be a key driver under the Income Generation chapter within the City’s Poverty Reduction Strategy.
- Q: Will there be an opportunity to see the City’s Poverty Reduction Strategy before it goes to City Council in October?
- A: The City will be hosting community engagement session re: the Poverty Reduction Strategy’s emerging directions and do some ‘ground truthing’ between now and the end of June. The report will be available to the public in late September.
- Q: What is the relationship between the City’s Poverty Reduction Strategy and the Federal Government’s strategy?
- A: The Federal, Provincial and City Poverty Reduction Strategies have different focuses, but do have some high level similarities and advocacy efforts.
- The City has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Executive Council (MVAEC) regarding Indigenous economic development. The City recognizes that there are other Indigenous focused groups in Vancouver that are doing great work in economic development and invites those groups to reach out to the City of Vancouver to share their work.
  - Particularly the City would like to work with more Indigenous based economic development groups on the 1st and Clark project and the Social Procurement Framework.

- A suggestion was raised that the City talk to EIC members about what they're doing when it comes to reconciliation and capturing that information for their CED Strategy Phase 2 Report and the City Wide Planning process.
  - City staff agreed to mention the above suggestion to the planning team, and will encourage them to involve and engage EIC members in the process.
- Q: Is there any research being done regarding the employment rate of urban indigenous people in the local community? (eg. we know that many are being employed by RISE ALIVE's Park Board project, Eastside Works, EMBERS, and Binnars' Project)?
- A: There is no research on the same.
- The City is currently organizing a list of developments that will be required to do a Community Benefit Agreement (CBA) and will publicly share the list later this year. In the meantime the City will be reaching out to the various developers to prepare them for the City's CBA process.
- The City is also planning to support local CED groups by increasing their communication and proactive media engagement efforts on local CED initiatives. Therefore, if anyone has any CED related stories, press releases or news they'd like to share, send it to Wes and/or Colleen.

#### **Project Manager Update (Alisha):**

- See meeting package for updates. No questions.

#### **Community Benefit Agreement (CBA) Working Group Update:**

- See meeting package for updates. No questions.

#### **Retail Gentrification & Social Inclusion Working Group Update:**

- See meeting package for updates. No questions.

#### **Social Procurement Roundtable:**

- See meeting package for updates. No questions.

### **4. Exchange Inner City Project Updates Presentation:**

#### **Updates on St Paul's CBA**

- Alisha presented updates. Refer to EIC's powerpoint presentation for details.
- Alisha has sent out EIC's Invitation and Purpose letter to several community centres and neighbourhood house contacts across various inner city neighbourhoods asking them to join the CBA working group.
- **Action Item: Alisha to share City's CBA Policy report with Marcia.**
- **Action Item: Shari to share health system contact links with Alisha. Alisha to invite contacts to the CBA Working Group.**

- Q: Interested to know what the timelines are for St. Paul's building/permit process and CBA process.
- A suggestion was made that Alisha ask City staff how they plan to involve other City departments (beyond planning and policy) in the St. Paul's CBA process at the May 23rd meeting.
  - City staff shared that the biggest priority across all City departments is workforce transition.
- A suggestion was made to share EIC's agenda/questions with City Staff; Sandra Singh and Gil Kelly prior to May 23rd meeting. Also Alisha should ask Sandra and Gil for the list of developers to enter into a CBA.
- Suggestion made to do a recognition event for developers who work well with the DTES community on development projects even though they are not part of a CBA process. Example of developers to include are: Icon West, Wesgroup, and Onni.
  - City Staff mentioned there is a 'recognition framework' written into the CBA Policy process.

#### **Update on the Vending Study**

- Steve presented updates. Refer to EIC's powerpoint presentation for details.
- Involved and supported peer researchers in the vending study via the surveying and data collection, the public forum and arranged a meeting between peer vendors and City of Vancouver staff. All of these opportunities with the Vending Study have really showcased the value of peer work and the excellent contribution and knowledge the peers bring.
- Next steps: There will be another round of peer research data collection on May 6, 10-12. EIC will then consult analysis of the results and provide feedback on solutions with researchers from MIT on May 22nd and then organize a public forum on the final results for May 27th during the EIC General Meeting time.
- The DTES Market RFP going out in July 2019 will include a requirement that the contract holder use the data collected from the Vending Study to make improvements to the market.

#### **Update on meeting with Councillor Boyle**

- Alisha along with staff from Buy Social Canada met City Councilor Boyle on April 25th to share information about EIC, Buy Social and CIRES and how all three organizations can support the City to achieve CED, Health City Strategy and Poverty Reduction Strategy goals. Alisha also asked specific questions about the implementation of the City's CBA Policy. Refer to EIC'S powerpoint presentation for more details.
- Q: Who initiated the meeting? A: Alisha initiated it along with Buy Social Canada.

- Q: Is there a plan for EIC to speak with other City Councillors. Yes, Alisha is working on same.
- Comment: City Staff shared that Councillor Boyla had acted on EIC questions/requests right after the meeting that day, and City Staff have responded.

### **Upcoming Events**

- See slides attached in the email re: upcoming events.

### **5. New Business Arising and Announcements from Members:**

- Anna is leaving her Director position at the Binner's Project, effective September 5th. The Binner's Project will be circulating a job posting shortly.
  - **Action Item: Anna to circulate job posting with Exchange Inner City mailing list.**
- Union Gospel Mission's Repair to Wear Program: ask EIC members to spread the work for the program and help to expand to other garment based providers to work with.
- Ray-Cam will be hosting a Youth Matters & Reconciliation In Action event on June 14th, all are welcome.
  - **Action Item: Scott to share invitation with Exchange Inner City mailing list.**

### **6. Traditional Closing and Adjournment:**

- Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.