



REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject: **Terms of Reference for Socio-Cultural and Economic Development Advisory Committee**

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From: Francis Cheung, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer

Date: December 5, 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT City Council approve the terms of reference for the Socio-Cultural and Economic Development Advisory Committee.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from City Council for the terms of reference for the Socio-Cultural and Economic Development Advisory Committee.

POLICY:

The terms of reference establishes the mandate, composition, authority, and terms of the committee.

COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:

The current Terms of Reference for the Economic Development Task Group (EDTC) was adopted by City Council on February 14, 2022, which aligns with the current Strategic Plan.

City Council is currently undergoing the process of developing a five-year rolling Strategic Plan with the mission to building a vibrant, safe and inclusive community together with current and future generations.

We have a unique opportunity to now embrace ‘intelligent community’ concepts in creating a Vibrant Economy for our City. By recognizing that people are central to policy and decision making and that social, cultural and economic initiatives are all interconnected as we strive for an accelerated, thriving community.

While we acknowledge the need to capitalize on the arrival of SkyTrain that is coming to Langley City. The train is the catalyst but it is not the reason. People are the reason —the ones who are already here and deserve an improved quality of life and better services, and the ones yet to come, who will bring new vitality to our city. The families that will grow and stay, building on our rich history and sustaining our community from a position of strength and diversity.

Imagine a future Langley City with an Innovation District that is driving research and entrepreneurship opportunities right at the community’s heart, surrounded by a variety of new mixed-use developments that offer a diversity of housing, community services, education, jobs, and business opportunities for residents – all in one place. Imagine a thriving downtown core that provides meeting places for our residents young and old. Daytime and evening cultural activities, shops, restaurants and events drawing locals and visitors into the city centre. These dreams and aspirations are part of our future, our connected, intelligent community.

To realize our vision and mission, the current mandate of the EDTC needs to be expanded and transitioned to a committee that will allow the committee to contribute, support and advise on a number of key initiatives from Council’s Strategic Plan. The new committee will be named the Socio-Cultural and Economic Development Advisory Committee (SCEDAC) with the following mandate:

- Promote Langley City as the Regional Hub of the Fraser Valley, the Place to be; an intelligent and thriving community that embraces social, cultural and economic innovations that improve the quality of life for our residents.
- Create and embrace innovative opportunities and models across sectors and the community to foster prosperity, diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Provide advisory input to the creation of an innovative Socio-Cultural Economic Framework.
- Provide advisory input to update the Attract and Retain Business Plan.
- Develop policies that will support KPU 2050 Master Plan that will focus on student housing, employment opportunities, transportation, and support for international and commuter students and students with families.
- Develop strategies and partnership with KPU, businesses, entrepreneurs and others to realize the vision for the Glover Road Innovation District. A dynamic neighbourhood that encourages student housing, tech and research businesses, creative industries, start-ups, and maker spaces.

- Promote new investment opportunities with the development industry with emphasis on Transit Oriented Development with high performance and sustainable built form.
- Develop strategies and partnership with government agencies, community groups and entrepreneurs to secure capital funding for an iconic destination arts and cultural facility.
- Advocate to senior levels of government to create partnerships that support the City's progressive socio-economic pathways of equity, integration, diversity and inclusion through an implementation plan that emerges from the Socio-Cultural Economic Framework.
- Provide advisory inputs to the creation of a solutions-based social-economic implementation plan that supports outputs from community dialogues.
- Implement a comprehensive approach that integrates the City's Strategy Domains including Natural and Built Environments, Social Infrastructure, Cultural Infrastructure, and Economic Infrastructure through a principle-based approach.

Membership of the SCEDAC will be drawn from community/social service/cultural diversity sector, First Nation within the unceded territories that Langley City resides on, Post-Secondary Education Institution, Downtown Langley Business Association, Greater Langley Chamber of Commerce, development industry sector, and business community at-large.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

Budget to support the committee will be allocated from existing funds or additional budget will be requested form City Council by the committee to implement specific projects or initiatives.

ALTERNATIVES:

That City Council amend the terms of reference for the Socio, Cultural and Economic Development Advisory Committee.

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Page 4

Respectfully Submitted,



Francis Cheung, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer
Attachments:

1. Terms of Reference, Socio-Cultural and Economic Development Advisory Committee