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Diversity Advisory Committee Update of Activities

Presenters:

Shirley Honyust, Scott Fisher and Donna Mary Simpson June 20, 2007

8 Priority Areas of the Diversity Plan

- Governance
- Role of the City of Greater Sudbury
- Education, Marketing and Relationship-Building
- Economic Growth and Employment
- Youth Involvement
- Cultural Acceptance/Celebration
- Settlement and Immigration
- Leadership and Capacity-Building







Enji Bmaadjidwad Maampii! Diversity Thrives Here! Vive la diversité chez nous!

Governance

 Vision: A Community Diversity Committee will be created with a mandate to advise City Council on measures to strengthen the Aboriginal, Francophone and multicultural communities. Starting in 2007, members will be appointed to the Committee for 2year and 3-year terms. One member from each representative group (Aboriginal, Francophone, Multicultural, Youth and Community) will have a 2year term and the other member of the same groups will have a 3-year term



The formation of the Diversity Advisory
 Committee in 2005 has contributed to
 better representation of all people and the
 creation of a welcoming and inclusive
 community for all citizens and visitors in
 the City of Greater Sudbury

Members of the Diversity Advisory Committee

Representation	Members
Youth	Marianne Savage
Aboriginal	Jim Eshkawkogan, Nancy Recollet
Francophone	Marc Tassé
Multicultural	Tayyab Butt, Ines Habara, Zenaida Odense, Polly Rutenberg
Community	Scott Fisher, Genevieve Gibbons
Greater Sudbury Police Services	Al Lekun
Council Representative	Councillor Ted Callaghan
City of Greater Sudbury Staff	Marla Buist, Chris Gore, Karen Makela







Role of the City of Greater Sudbury

 Vision: Commitment to the value of cultural diversity by Council and the Corporation is the starting point of all positive change in the community. A Council and Corporation that believe in cultural diversity will actively seek out internal and external ways to ensure that citizens of the Aboriginal, Francophone and multicultural communities are respected and wellserved. The Corporation models respect for a diverse community



- The Diversity Advisory Committee has considered the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination and endorses it for the City of Greater Sudbury
- The Diversity Advisory Committee adopted the Enji Bmaadijdwad Maampii! Diversity Thrives Here! Vive la diversité chez nous! logo and has plans for the distribution of logo pins and pens for the public
- The Aboriginal Cultural Sharing for City of Greater Sudbury Council and senior staff is scheduled for October and November 2007
- International holiday decorations were displayed in Tom Davies Square in December 2006
- The Diversity and Community Partnerships Internship was established and an intern was hired in November 2006

Education, Marketing and Relationship-Building

 Vision: Enlighten all citizens about the Aboriginal, Francophone and multicultural communities and promote understanding, respect and interaction among all communities



- The Greater Sudbury Diversity Website was recently updated. It now includes a Community Calendar of Cultural Events and the Diversity in the Media Toolkit
- A directory of newcomer and immigrant services in the City of Greater Sudbury is available at the City of Greater Sudbury
- Members of the Diversity Advisory Committee are currently working to publish local author Pat Aitken's book, Embracing Cultural Diversity, and translate it from English into French for distribution to the City of Greater Sudbury community

Economic Growth and Employment

 Vision: Put a face on diversity by maximizing opportunities for all people and make the vision of a vibrant local economy a reality by promoting understanding, respect and interaction among all people



- Research has been completed concerning cultural sensitivity training at various municipalities across Canada and this research is being considered by the organizers of the Aboriginal Cultural Sharing sessions
- City of Greater Sudbury publications such as the Leisure Guide have been designed to reflect the cultural diversity of the community

Youth Involvement

 Vision: To bring young people of the Aboriginal, Francophone and multicultural communities together so that they can celebrate their differences through activities that they lead themselves. These activities will increase confidence and involvement among youth and promote leadership



Two workshops were held in Greater
Sudbury during National Youth Week in
May 2007: "The Missing Chapter" explored
Anishinaabe culture and "Cultural
Sensitivity" examined multiculturalism and
strategies to improve relations among
culturally diverse groups in Canada

Cultural Acceptance/Celebration

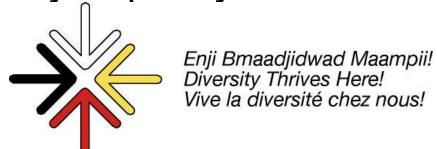
 Vision: The City of Greater Sudbury will be a place where people from the Aboriginal, Francophone and multicultural communities can freely develop, share and celebrate their cultures to the benefit of the whole community



- Asian Heritage Month was marked in Greater Sudbury on May 18, 2007 with an evening of educational, cultural and artistic presentations
- Two upcoming events are scheduled on June 21 to celebrate National Aboriginal Day and June 27 to commemorate Canadian Multiculturalism Day

Settlement and Immigration

 Vision: To ensure that Aboriginal people and immigrants coming to the City of Greater Sudbury have the support necessary to access services; develop their skills to their full potential; and, contribute to and enjoy Sudbury's quality of life



- Members of the Diversity Advisory
 Committee have attended the Ontario
 Human Rights Commission's Consultation
 on Human Rights and Rental Housing in
 Ontario on June 13, 2007
- The Diversity Advisory Committee has provided input into the development of an immigration portal by mysudbury.ca
- The Diversity Advisory Committee has supported and endorsed the work of the Paris Street Flag Project to promote the national and cultural backgrounds of residents living in Greater Sudbury

Leadership and Capacity-Building

 Vision: The goal of developing leadership in promoting cultural diversity will be met by identifying members of the Aboriginal, Francophone and multicultural communities who have already shown leadership and recruiting others with leadership potential



- Members of the Diversity Advisory Committee attended the Northern Ontario Symposium on Diversity Awareness and Race Relations in North Bay on February 2 and 3, 2007
- The Diversity and Community Partnerships Intern participated in the Forum of the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination in Windsor on March 28 and 29, 2007
- The Aboriginal Sub-Committee of the Diversity Advisory Committee is currently leading in the development and programming of the upcoming Aboriginal Cultural Sharing sessions

Future Steps

- The City of Greater Sudbury partner with the Diversity Advisory Committee to create new opportunities for citizens from the Aboriginal, Francophone and multicultural communities
- Create forums for open discussion about the challenges faced by cultural groups
- Create appropriate tools for Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition
- Establish a business charter, by which businesses could commit publicly to promote diversity

Aboriginal Cultural Sharing Schedule

- October 19, 2007
- October 25, 2007
- November 2, 2007



Signatory Municipalities of the Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination (as of March 2007)

- Saskatoon
- Windsor
- Toronto
- Wood Buffalo
- Calgary
- Thunder Bay
- Halifax
- Montréal
- Gatineau
- Edmonton
- Drayton Valley
- Brooks



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