

## NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEMBERS' MOTION

### 4. Ensuring Equity for Speakers Using Translation

Submitted by: Councillor Swanson

#### WHEREAS

1. The City of Vancouver is committed to using an equity lens on social issues;
2. Vancouver is one of the most linguistically diverse cities in Canada;
3. The Procedure By-law No. 12577—which outlines procedures for Council meetings, including speakers—limits all speakers to five minutes;
4. Therefore, speakers using translation must share their thoughts, experiences, and concerns in a shorter amount of time than those not using translation;
5. This limits the amount that Council can hear from speakers who use translation and who may be directly impacted by Council decisions;
6. This inequity has been raised by speakers before Council who are or who work with seniors, migrants, Indigenous people, and/or low-income people who don't speak English; and
7. The City of Vancouver's 2010 Seniors in Vancouver report states that "Vancouver's diversity means that both government and community services need to [...] provide enhanced supports to address language and cultural barriers".

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to prepare for consideration at a future Council meeting amendments to the Procedure By-law No. 1257, including sections 7.5, 13.18 and 13.20 and elsewhere as necessary, to provide speakers using translation or interpretation services with up to ten minutes to speak to Council.

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