

## MOTION

### 9. Ensuring Equity for Speakers Using Translation

At the Council meeting on October 6, 2020, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on October 7, 2020, to hear from speakers.

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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