

April 17, 2024 V-MCC Equity Committee Meeting Notes

Attendees: James, Kevin, Jessica, Kathleen, Armen, Milla

Meeting started at: 6:06 pm

Ice Breaker – If the US Coast Guard commissions a new icebreaker vessel to join the Polar Star and easy, what would you name it?

- aarluk - Inuit name for Orca
- North Star
- Icebreaker
- May the “thaw” be with you

Land Acknowledgement was shared by Kevin

Review and approve or revise this agenda: Approved as written

Approve or revise notes from 4-3 meeting: Approved as published

Discuss proposed revisions to the DRAFT V-MCC By-law and Standing Rules recommendations

By-Laws

Reviewed proposed changes in language and content; all were approved.

Standing Rules

- Group decided to keep the term “Sectors”
- Business and Workforce (sector title): should they be separated into two sectors or kept together. If not, then the Board will have challenges assigning two separate members, one to each group, resulting in even more division. Keeping them together was discussed and left as one group.
- Section 3: Liaisons - proposed language: their role includes “foster community engagement”. Discussion followed as to whether or not the term/title liaison has liability associated with it versus using advisor as the title. The committee agreed to keep liaison.
- Definition of sectors didn't include “low income and income inequality”. it was agreed that they should be part of the sectors.

- Add “people with substance abuse challenges” to Healthcare sector
- All items in Green were agreed to unless there was some amplifying commentary in pink.
- Reviewed text in yellow: “Alternate communications” section.
 - Discussed use of text/e:mails to connect with island employers and social services.
 - Reviewed recommended changes that would make it easier for people with disabilities to have more effective communications. This was approved.
 - Can a liaison be someone not a member of the Board? This was approved .

Discussion: Are the current VMCC by-law / standing rules equity provisions adequate?

- Age is currently not in the Fairness definition in By-laws: adding it was supported
- Notice of Board meetings: group agreed the current definitions are too restrictive and difficult to navigate. Group agreed to modify to have the same provisions as used for announcing Council meetings.
- Discussion regarding how Board members are selected (8 elected, 4 chosen by the 8 based on their ability to represent a particular Sector). Jessica Anakar will research the history and basis for this current process and provide information at the next meeting.

Topics for 1 May meeting.

- Continue review By-Laws and Standing rules and potential changes
- Updates regarding Outreach initiative
- Update re: INN

Meeting adjourned: 7:37pm