

Council Member Motion For the Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting of April 23, 2015

To: Governance & Priorities Committee Date: April 17, 2015

From: Councillors Marianne Alto and Ben Isitt

Subject: Good Neighbour Agreements

BACKGROUND

The City of Victoria continues to utilize 'Good Neighbour Agreements' (GNAs) to guide collaboration among service organizations, neighbourhood associations, residents and others in the vicinity of social service centres, when such agreements add value to the delivery, receipt and impact of these services.

Conventional GNAs often leave out an important partner in the relationship – the individuals who use the services provided.

In many cities, GNAs are evolving to recognize that service users bring an important perspective to the design and operation of GNAs. A 'better neighbour agreement' can enable consideration of all residents' needs, and be accessible to all those who are affected by the GNA.

Reviewing and improving its GNAs allows the City of Victoria to align these agreements with its 2015-2018 strategic priorities of 'Engage and Empower the Community' and 'Facilitate Social Inclusion and Community Wellness'.

MOTION

"That the City of Victoria works to facilitate Better Neighbour Agreements to include service users and to commit to building understanding and eliminating stigma and discrimination towards service users."

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Marianne Alto

Councillor Ben Isitt