

July 15, 2019

TO: Vancouver City Council Nomination Sub-Committee
Councillor Boyle (Chair)
Councillor Bligh
Councillor Wiebe

FROM: Vancouver City Planning Commission, Nomination Committee

SUBJECT: VCPC Vacancy - closing July 26, 2019

The City of Vancouver has invited applications to fill one vacancy on the Vancouver City Planning Commission, with a deadline of July 26.

VCPC has traditionally provided input to Council on appointments to fill VCPC vacancies, based on the Commission's annual work plan and the knowledge and skills of current members.

VCPC currently has eight women and four men serving on it. Consistent with the city's diversity policy, more than 50 per cent of the current Commission identify themselves as members of one or more equity-seeking groups. The occupations of current commissioners are architects, urban planners, engagement specialists, a professor of transportation and urban affairs, a social-purpose developer, an urban sustainability expert, and journalists.

To further our 2019 work plan, VCPC would encourage the appointment of an applicant from the indigenous community, a person from the disabilities community or a person with a strong interest in the VCPC's Chronology program which focuses on the milestones of planning and development from pre-colonial times to the present.

In the past VCPC's nomination/recruitment committee has reviewed the applications (with identifying characteristics removed), and submitted our preferences. We would be pleased to do so again.

The Commission is strongly committed to its Chronology project, and in the event that the newly appointed Commissioner does not engage in a leadership role in the Chronology, we anticipate that one Commissioner could resign this Fall so as to create an opening for another appointee who would commit to leading work on the Chronology project. We would thus suggest that the Council's Nomination Committee identify one or two alternate appointees as well as a recommended candidate, so that this alternate could then be appointed to fill any vacancy that might subsequently emerge this year. This approach worked well with appointing Robyn Chan to fill another vacancy on our Commission earlier this year.

For further information, please contact the Commission's Nominations Committee Chair, Professor Anthony Perl, at aperl@sfu.ca or on 778-782-7887.
