

**Creation of Anti-Racism Task Force**

**WHEREAS** Burnaby RCMP reported a 350 percent increase in anti-Asian hate crimes during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS** a recent federal study reported that, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, fear and misinformation about the virus might have disproportionately impacted the sense of personal and community safety of some ethno-cultural groups; and

**WHEREAS** we must condemn all forms of hate in public spaces as it creates unsafe conditions for members of the Asian, Black, Indigenous, People of Colour, and Racialized Communities; and

**WHEREAS** *Burnaby Together - Coalition Against Racism and Hate* strives to increase knowledge and awareness of anti-racism, collaborate with community partners, and respond to hate crimes' reporting; and

**WHEREAS** the City of Burnaby's Social Sustainability Vision states that Burnaby strives to be a caring, inclusive, vibrant, safe, livable and just city; therefore, we must embrace diversity, celebrate culture and creativity, foster belongings and participation and adapt well to a changing world; and

**WHEREAS** the City of Burnaby established a successful model of the Mayor's Task Force on Housing.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** staff report to the Social Planning Committee and Council on the feasibility and advisability of creating a special task force on anti-racism.