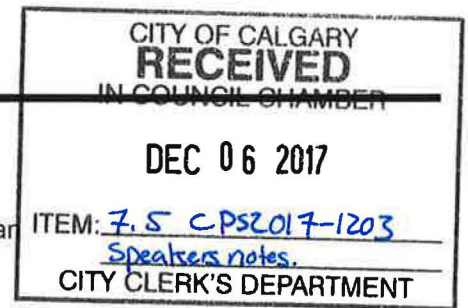


Rowe, Timothy S.

From: Marichu Antonio <marichu.antonio@eccccalgary.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 12:02 PM
To: Rowe, Timothy S.
Subject: [EXT] Marichu Antonio's Presentation re City Cultural Plan



Good morning Madame Chair my name is Marichu Antonio. I work as Executive Director of the Ethnocultural Council of Calgary and I am also Founding Director of the Philippine Festival Council of Alberta that organizes Fiesta Filipino every year. ECC is an umbrella organization of 70 ethnically diverse organizations. We promote active citizenship. We engage leaders and the communities to take active role and have a voice on issues and public policies that impact our society.

-Through the Chair, I would like to share my firm belief that the Cultural Plan will help Calgary to realize its full potential as an exciting, ethnically diverse city with deep indigenous roots

- ECCC and its communities have been a part of shaping the FW and implementation strategies of the Cultural Plan since day one. We engaged ethnocultural communities in the entire process up to its initial implementation stage. The beauty of this process is that there is some level of ownership and commitment from. People are embracing this idea.

-To update the community on the Cultural Plan, we presented a Report to Community that occurred as part of Culture Days at cSpace. It was a good opportunity to learn about the progress that has been made by many partners who have volunteered to help implement aspects of the Plan, including:

- Tourism Calgary
- Federation of Calgary Communities
- Calgary Heritage Authority
- the National Music Centre

And ECCC

- the ECCC has, itself, made connections and developed projects as a result of working together with the City and other partners on the Cultural Plan,

for example:

- Fiesta Filipino and Arts Commons
- ECCC is partnering with Arts Commons, CADA, the City CSIP City Social Innovation Program and indigenous groups to celebrate the 15th anniversary of ECCC and Canada 150 this month.
- through the Chair I would like to also state my support to the proposed Cultural Leadership Council. I believe that this will help the City and partners to ensure that the actions articulated by citizens during the year-long engagement will be acted upon so that we can:

- grow the cultural sector and creative industries,
- conserve and celebrate our heritage,
- activate our neighbourhoods
- make the centre city an exciting Cultural district

And

- Maximize our diversity advantage
- The communities play an important role as partners of the City in delivering the Plan. As they work with City departments, the communities will help them better understand opportunities for considering cultural vitality in their plans

Boosting the leadership of the Cultural Plan with diverse community perspectives and participation will help Calgary realize its full potential as an exciting, ethnically diverse city with deep indigenous roots.

Thank you

Marichu Antonio
Executive Director
Ethno-Cultural Council of Calgary
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