



# Agenda

## Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs

**Date:** March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Time:** 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

**Location:** Zoom (Click the following link to join the meeting):

<https://zoom.us/j/91791840410?pwd=d3lyYW44Tm8wT1NrNIU4ekRsWERnQT09>

Meeting ID: 967 9184 0410

Passcode: 264285

Real-time Spanish translation will be available during the meeting.

### 1) Call Meeting to Order – Chair Sych

### 2) Statement of Purpose – Chair Sych

We convene this meeting to advance the City of Tacoma’s mission to “reducing barriers to access and participation in Tacoma’s economic, cultural, and civic life for immigrants and refugees.” This Commission aspires to help “make the City more vibrant, inclusive, and welcoming for all.”

### 3) Land Acknowledgment – Vice Chair Donaldson

*The Commission acknowledges that the meeting is being conducted on Indigenous lands of the Puyallup People, who cared for their ancestral lands before the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854 removed native peoples to clear way for colonial settlement. It is important to this Commission as settlers here, aspiring to care for immigrants and refugees in this place and to call it home, that we acknowledge and send gratitude to the Puyallup Tribe of Indians who continue to be leaders for justice in our community today.*

### 4) Consent Agenda – Chair Sych

- a) Approval of Meeting Agenda (Aye/Nay Votes)
- b) Approval of February 2022 Meeting Minutes (Aye/Nay Votes)

### 5) Record of Attendance and Excusal of Absences – Chair Sych

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant         | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Perla Gamboa   | <input type="checkbox"/> Emani Donaldson (Vice-Chair) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hieu Nguyen    | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rafael Saucedo | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandra Sych (Chair)          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lydia Zepeda   | <input type="checkbox"/> Alma Villegas                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant         | <input type="checkbox"/> Alternate Position (Vacant)  |

### 6) City Staff Updates – Liaison Raeshawna

#### Commissioners

Sandra Sych (Chair)

Emily Calhoun

Lydia Zepeda

Emani Donaldson (Vice Chair)

Alma Villegas

Perla Gamboa

Hieu Nguyen

Rafael Saucedo

a)

7) **Group Get-To-Know-You Activity:** Vice-Chair Donaldson

8) **Historic Preservation month** (20 min) – guest speaker

9) **Commission Affairs** (90 min)

a) Committee Updates (30 min)

- Community Safety Committee
- Governance (of CIRA) Committee
- Language Access Committee

b) Discussion about CIRA budget needs (20 min)– Chair Sych

c) On-boarding updates and discussion (20 min)– Chair Sych, Liaison Raeshawna

i) Mentoring new members

ii) Interpretation services during next CIRA meeting

10) **Public Comment**

11) **Items to Consider for Next Meeting:**

12) **Adjourn**

#### **Why do we recognize the land?**

To recognize the land is an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory you reside on, and a way of honoring the Indigenous people who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial. It is important to understand the long-standing history that has brought you to reside on the land, and to seek to understand your place within that history. Land acknowledgements do not exist in a past tense, or historical context: colonialism is a current ongoing process, and we need to build our mindfulness of our present participation. It is also worth noting that acknowledging the land is Indigenous protocol.

–<http://www.lspirg.org/knowtheland>



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## **NOTES**

#### **Commissioners**

Sandra Sych (Chair)

Emily Calhoun

Lydia Zepeda

Emani Donaldson (Vice Chair)

Alma Villegas

Perla Gamboa

Hieu Nguyen

Rafael Saucedo


**Commissioners**  
Sandra Sych (Chair)  
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