

Special Meeting Agenda

Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs

Date: June 5th, 2023 **Time:** 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Location: Hybrid Tacoma Municipal Building

747 Market Street

Conference Room #243 Tacoma, WA 98402

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

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86525048471?pwd=aUNHTVl0d01sMDludHY0M3ByaHZLdz09

| I. | Call Meeting to Order – Chair Emani Donaldson | | | | |
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| I. | Record of Attendance and Excusal of Absences - Chair Donaldson | | | | |
| | ☐ Emani Donaldson | ☐ Alicia Sands | | | |
| | ☐ Natalie Ghayoumi | ☐ Maricres Valdez Castro | | | |
| | ☐ Samantha Le | ☐ Alma Villegas | | | |
| | ☐ Maurice Lekea | ☐ Lydia Zepeda | | | |
| | ☐ Hieu Nguyen | ☐ Vacant | | | |
| | ☐ Hugo Nicolas | ☐ (Vacant)Alternate | | | |
| | ☐ Thierry Ruboneka | ☐ (Vacant)Youth Position | | | |
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III. Statement of Purpose – Commissioner Vice Chair Alma Villegas

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."

IV. Land Acknowledgment – Commissioner Lydia Zepeda

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.

V. Consent Agenda – Chair Emani Donaldson

a. Approval of June 2023 Special Meeting Agenda (Aye/Nay Votes)

Commissioners

Emani Donaldson Natalie Ghayoumi Stacy Kowakski Samatha Le Maurice Lekea Hieu Nguyen Hugo Nicolas Thierry Ruboneka Maricress Valdez-Castro Alma Villegas Leena Vo Lydia Zepeda

VI. Public Comment

VII. Commission Affairs

- a. Certified Welcoming Chair Emani Donaldson
 - i. Review Certified Welcoming program (ppt)
 - ii. Discussion on primary concerns
 - iii. Decision on the next steps

VIII. 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

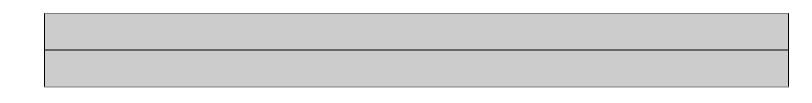


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| NOTES | | |
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Commissioners

Emani Donaldson Natalie Ghayoumi Stacy Kowalski Samatha Le Maurice Lekea Hieu Nguyen



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