

Spokane Human Rights Commission



Thursday, April 2, 2026

5:30-7:30

The Thursday, April 2, 2026 meeting will provide for in person attendance. The meeting will be held in the City Council Briefing Center–Lower Level of City Hall, 808 Spokane Falls Blvd. *Members of the public, Commission members, City staff, and presenters will still have the option to participate remotely via Teams by clicking the “[Meeting Link](#)” on this page or by calling the number provided.*

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Access Code: 577 455 431#

Mission Statement/Purpose: The Human Rights Commission advises and makes recommendations to the City Council regarding issues related to human rights and unjust discrimination and the implementation of programs consistent with the needs of all residents of the City of Spokane.

TIMES GIVEN ARE AN ESTIMATE AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

5:30 - 5:40 Land Acknowledgement

Public Comment. Citizens are invited to address the Commission. (3 min each)

5:40 - 5:45 Roll Call & Approval of Agenda (McFadden)

5:45-6:45—Harm reduction outreach, Katelyn Costanza, WSU Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine

6:45-7:00 Courageous conversations part 3—Both sides of the badge (Robinson)

7:00-7:15—What we’ve been up to:

- Commemoration of Otto Zehm—How has Spokane changed in the 20 years since Otto Zehm’s death?
- No-Kings protest

7:15-7:30—Future planning:

- Housing Issues for Older Adults in Spokane (follow up from Lynn Kimball)
- Pride Spokane—How do we want to participate?

What we believe—what do we want to add?

December start:

- We believe in a transparent, public-facing city budget that prioritizes the needs of our most marginalized residents.

Next Human Rights Commission meeting is scheduled for **May 7, 2026**

All flourishing is mutual.

~~Robin Wall Kimmerer

**Letting people be people is one of the things I cherish most
about Harm Reduction.**

~~Mary Wheeler

United Nations International Declaration of Human Rights

~Adopted by the UN Assembly December 10, 1948

Article 1: All human beings are born free and equal.

Article 2: Everyone is equal regardless of race, color, sex, language, religion, politics, or where they were born.

Article 3: Everyone has the right to life (and to live in freedom and safety).

Article 4: Everyone has the right to be free from slavery.

Article 5: Everyone has the right to be free from torture.

Article 6: Everyone has the right to be recognized before the law.

Article 7: We are all are equal before the law.

Article 8: Everyone has the right to seek justice if their rights are violated.

Article 9: Everyone has the right to freedom from arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 10: Everyone has the right to a fair trial.

Article 11: Everyone has the right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Article 12: Everyone has the right to privacy and freedom from attacks on their reputation.

Article 13: Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and to be free to leave and return to their own country.

Article 14: Everyone has the right to seek asylum from persecution.

Article 15: Everyone has the right to a nationality.

Article 16: Everyone has the right to marry and to have a family.

Article 17: Everyone has the right to own property.

Article 18: Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

Article 19: Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression.

Article 20: Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

Article 21: Everyone has the right to take part in government and to have equal access to public service.

Article 22: Everyone has the right to social security.

Article 23: Everyone has the right to work, to equal pay, to protection against unemployment and the right to form and join trade unions.

Article 24: Everyone has the right to rest and leisure.

Article 25: Everyone has the right to a decent standard of living, including food, clothing, housing, medical care and social services.

Article 26: Everyone has the right to education.

Article 27: Everyone has the right to participate in and enjoy culture, art and science.

Article 28: Everyone has the right to a social and international order where the rights in this Declaration can be fully realized.

Article 29: We have a duty to other people and we should protect their rights and freedoms.

Article 30: Nobody can take away these rights and freedoms from us.

What does **Amnesty International** say about the UN Declaration of Human Rights?

For the first time, the world had a globally agreed document that marked out all humans as being free and equal, regardless of sex, color, creed, religion or other characteristics.

The 30 rights and freedoms set out in the UDHR include the right to be **free from torture**, the right to **freedom of expression**, the right to **education** and the right to **seek asylum**. It includes civil and political rights, such as the rights to **life, liberty and privacy**. It also includes economic, social and cultural rights, such as the rights to **social security, health and adequate housing**.

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/what-we-do/universal-declaration-of-human-rights/>

Want to learn more?

Check out the United Nations website:

<https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>