

The **Agenda** for the **MISSION COMMUNITY WELLNESS COMMITTEE** meeting to be held in the Board Room of Riverside College, 33919 Dewdney Trunk Road, Mission, British Columbia, on Tuesday, January 10, 2017 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**3. MEETING MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

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**4. FOLLOW UPS, UPDATES & PRESENTATIONS**

**(a) Delegation – Volunteer Mission Update**

J. McBride (Volunteer Mission)

**(b) School Based Social Work Pilot Program in Mission Schools**

K. Hargreaves (District of Mission) and L. Wilson (Early Childhood Development Committee)

**(c) Stone Soup Planning 2017, Raffle Follow Up**

P. Horn (Riverside College)

**(d) Homeless Count Process and Training 2017 / Homelessness Partnership Grant/SMART Model**

K. Hargreaves (District of Mission)

**(e) Sustainable Housing Committee**

K. Hargreaves (District of Mission) and Judith Ray (Seniors' Housing / Community Member)

**(f) Outreach Committee / Harm Reduction Workshop Update**

L. Kelly (MSDSI / Community Outreach Network)

**(g) Community Cares 2017**

P. Horn (Riverside College)

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

# *District of Mission*

## **Mission Community Wellness Committee WORKSHOP REPORT**

**September 13, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Board Room of Riverside College, 33919 Dewdney Trunk Road, Mission, BC

Present:

- Michele Chapman, Member at Large
- Cynthia Coyle, Fraser House
- Trish Garner, BC Poverty Reduction Coalition
- Sanjay Gulati, Mission Community Services Society
- Kirsten Hargreaves, District of Mission
- Paul Horn, Riverside College
- Leesa Kelly, Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation
- Andrew Larder, Fraser Health Authority
- Anita MacKeigan, Mission Friendship Centre Society
- Joanna McBride, Volunteer Mission
- Nicole Martin, Fraser Health Authority
- Judith Ray, Seniors' Housing / Community Member
- Maureen Sinclair, District of Mission
- Elizabeth Thomas, Community Member
- Ann Todd, Fraser Health Authority
- Laura Wilson, Ministry of Child and Family Development

### **1. PRESENTATION ON POVERTY REDUCTION – TRISH GARNER, BC POVERTY REDUCTION COALITION**

Trish Garner presented the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition's poverty reduction plan along with the 'Time is Now – a Poverty Reduction Plan for BC' PowerPoint. She noted that BC has the second highest poverty rate in Canada, with one in ten people living below the poverty line. She also stated that, although BC has the largest gap between rich and poor in Canada, we are the last province to implement a legislated poverty reduction plan.

The BC Poverty Reduction Coalition has identified BC's low minimum wage, combined with one of the highest costs of living in the country, as the main causes of poverty in BC, which is supported by the fact that the majority of BC's poor are employed.

Ms. Garner stressed that the government's role is to facilitate some redistribution of the wealth and resources as, historically, tax cuts have benefited the richest members of society. The BC Poverty Reduction Coalition's plan is to focus on the provincial government to launch a legislated poverty plan for BC which would include a timeline to raise the minimum wage, provide childcare, and provide affordable housing. Ms. Garner also noted that a comprehensive plan would be required to capture the root causes of poverty and would include:

- support to those who are unemployed;
- raising the minimum wage to at least \$15 per hour to raise all BC workers' income above the poverty line;

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- focus on marginalized groups;
- deal with the housing crisis;
- bring in universal childcare;
- provide training and education; and
- enhance community health care, (as BC is the only province that charges MSP premiums).

Ms. Garner advised the Committee that it is estimated that poverty costs the province eight to nine billion dollars in health care, criminal, and other costs, however a poverty reduction plan would cost three to four billion dollars. Ms. Garner advised the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition works to end the root causes of poverty by working with people and lobbying the government. They have been asking city councils to pass a resolution calling for a provincial poverty reduction plan. She noted they are meeting with the new Liberal Members of Parliament and representatives from the Mission Community Wellness Committee could meet with their local Member of Parliament, Jati Sidhu, to discuss this issue.

Ms. Garner invited the Mission Community Wellness Committee to join the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition, which currently includes a membership of over four hundred agencies.

Kirsten Hargreaves advised the Committee that their “Call for a Poverty Reduction Plan for British Columbia” municipal resolution was brought to Council on August 15, 2016, but did not receive endorsement as Council felt it was too generic and would not achieve measurable results. She noted that Council did recognize the Committee’s efforts to help end poverty but requested actionable initiatives which could achieve better results.

**ACTION ITEM: as Ms. Garner could not stay for the entire workshop, the Mission Community Wellness Committee will follow up with her and advise her of how the Committee decided to move forward on this issue.**

Moved by Paul Horn, and

RECOMMENDED:

That the following resolution be endorsed by the Committee and brought to Council:

- Whereas the members of the CWC work closely with individuals and families who are impacted by poverty; and,
- Whereas we are aware that a provincial strategy for reducing poverty is essential to the success of local programs; and,
- Whereas we see poverty reduction as a key element of economic and Mission’s community development,
- We support the implementation of a comprehensive provincial plan for addressing poverty’s contributing factors (insufficient wages and welfare; a lack of affordable housing and child care; barriers to healthcare services and

vocational training; barriers experienced by marginalized people such as seniors and single mothers).

CARRIED

## 2. DELEGATION BY JOANNA MCBRIDE, VOLUNTEER CENTRE IN MISSION

Joanna McBride gave an overview of the progress on the development of 'Volunteer Mission'. She advised 'Volunteer Mission' is committed to building a vibrant community by:

- connecting people through meaningful involvement;
- match individuals and groups interested in volunteering with opportunities in Mission;
- managing information on a comprehensive range of local volunteer opportunities;
- being committed to building and sharing knowledge through the delivery of personal and professional development training, learning and networking opportunities;
- working in close partnership with Mission's organizations, businesses and municipality as well as community groups, faith groups to develop local volunteering opportunities; and
- endeavor to provide specialized services and resources that will advance the quality of all volunteer programs.

Over the past two months she has done a lot of research on volunteer software and has narrowed the choices down to three options: Volgistics, VROOM! and Volunteer Impact which is part of Better Impact. All the programs offer good online customer support, customized volunteer profiles and organizational profiles, flexible scheduling, tracking and reporting on hours, outputs, feedback, online applications, availability for criminal record checks, individual and mass targeted communications, desktop and mobile online portals and professional data protection.

She has met with many organizations and obtained a lot of feedback of their wants and needs and how they see their involvement. The feedback shows that everyone wants to be involved, some organizations are willing to pay a small percentage of the costs, however most are not in a position to offer financial support on a larger scale. Many are happy to offer in-kind services. All the organizations have noted that this is a great opportunity to network.

Ms. McBride noted the concerns were the financial upkeep, and it is recognized that fees need to be kept low. As such, they are looking at designing a website which profiles all of the non-profit organizations and incorporates a basic volunteer software into that site to keep costs low.

She noted some other concerns which included:

- The downfall of the Info Mission site. They are looking to see if the site can be turned into the Volunteer Mission site. They have already purchased the domain, but noted it will depend on the costing and how user friendly it is.
- The closure of Volunteer Abbotsford and Volunteer Chilliwack. She advised that they are attending a meeting next week with a group which is in the beginning phase of implementing Volunteer Fraser Valley and noted that it could be a perfect time to network and potentially secure more support for the project.

She advised the way they hope to engage the community once the program is running by:

- ensuring each organization's events will be noticed;
- demonstrating the commitment to strengthening the impact of the non-profit sector;
- connecting with local non-profit organizations through different online forums;
- making a greater impact through program partnerships;
- having access to interact learning opportunities and an extensive volunteer library; and
- keeping everyone up to date on funding opportunities, critical developments of relevant local, provincial and federal policies, obtaining letters of reference to access funding and receive information on new strategies for engaging volunteers and strengthening operations.

She advised she would like to obtain feedback from the organizations on this initiative. They would like to know why they are losing volunteers. She advised they hear the frustration of the road blocks to volunteers as there are many people who would like to volunteer but don't know where to start. She advised the decision, at this point, is to start with the computer software and maybe expand to a bricks and mortar site later. She recognized that more complex software is needed than FETCH, and noted it wouldn't replace FETCH but would fit well with it.

**ACTION ITEM: Ms. McBride requested that Committee members to go back and orient their organizations and ask if they're willing to support the notion in principle.**

### 3. DELEGATION BY MICHELE CHAPMAN-SHEAVES, MISSION CENTRAL COMMUNITY GARDEN

Ms. Chapman-Sheaves advised that there have been a decrease in enrollment for École Mission Central Elementary School due to the issues of homelessness, drug use and crime in the area. In an effort to help the school raise their enrollment numbers, the school parent group, Neighbourhood School Champs, have researched the concept 'Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design'. The idea is that areas which are kept clean tend to have lower incidents of crime.

One of the 'Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design' initiatives they have implemented is a community garden. The Central Community Garden is located at 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Welton Street and officially opened on June 23, 2016. With the help of several organizations and many volunteers, the District providing the land and \$5,000 in grants the Neighbourhood School Champs were able to turn the empty lot

into a community garden. The garden plots were rented out to private citizens, with one plot left free for anyone in the community who is in need of food. Three plots have also been reserved for the school which is being used as an outdoor classroom, with an area for growing berries which is also free for the community. They have also provided a seating area, a sandbox, and a donation bucket for personal gardens which have extra to give to the needy. Ms. Chapman-Sheaves advised the community garden has been very well received and she has taken some of the homeless there to benefit from the donated food, and has also hired vulnerable people in the community to help with the harvest.

Mr. Horn invited Ms. Chapman-Sheaves to the next Stone Soup Dinner, which will be held at Riverside College, to tell people about the garden and the availability of the food for anyone in need.

Ms. Chapman-Sheaves noted that since the garden opened, the crime in the area has drastically been reduced and there has been no vandalism to the garden area. She did advise though, that they are finding used needles again near the school and the brush is starting to grow back.

Moved by Michele Chapman-Sheaves, and

RECOMMENDED:

That the Mission Community Wellness Committee ask the District of Mission to routinely maintain the brush and pick up used needles in the area around École Mission Central Elementary School, and consult with the Mission School District in regards to any other schools which may also require this maintenance.

CARRIED

#### **4. BC RURAL AND REMOTE HOMELESSNESS PARTNERING STRATEGY PROPOSAL – KIRSTEN HARGREAVES**

Ms. Hargreaves distributed a handout and advised that one of the biggest changes the District of Mission has had in applying for funding, specifically to address homelessness and the affordable housing issue, is that the District has been ineligible due to its population size. Historically, the District has been considered too small to qualify for the large federal funds and too big for the rural funds.

Fortunately, the District is now eligible to apply for a \$50,000 grant through the BC Rural & Remote Homelessness Partnering Strategy as their population size stipulation has been lifted. Ms. Hargreaves noted that, as applications that demonstrate an ability to match funds have a stronger chance of approval, in August she obtained approval for \$50,000 in matching funds from Council. The District's application was submitted with the following two project priorities, 'to ensure coordination of resources and leveraging' and 'to improve data collection and use'. The District will be advised of the decision on the grant application either at the end of September or in early October.

**5. AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE – KIRSTEN HARGREAVES**

Ms. Hargreaves advised that several years ago there was an Affordable Housing Task Force which had provided several good recommendations. As the affordable housing issue in Mission has reached crisis levels, Council has requested the task force be resumed. Ms. Hargreaves advised that Gina MacKay, Judith Ray and herself will be on the task force. The new Terms of Reference will be going to Council this month and then a call out for membership will begin.

**6. STONE SOUP POSTERS/WINNERS – PAUL HORN**

The announcement of the Stone Soup poster winners was postponed due to a lack of time. Kirsten Hargreaves will send an email to the group in regards to this agenda item.

**7. COMMUNITY CARES CONTINUATION – PAUL HORN**

Paul Horn reviewed the history of the Community Cares: Mental Health Response Training program for first responders. He advised the course is currently offered, free of charge, as an eight module course online which provides a certificate upon successful completion.

Discussion ensued as to how the program could be evolved to target first responder concerns such as PTSD and substance abuse, and how the program may fit with other education centres and organizations.

Mr. Horn suggested an ad hoc committee be formed and, with input from the RCMP, Fire Hall, and other agencies, review the funding model, grant opportunities and other items. He asked members of the MCWC to advise him if they would be interested in joining this ad hoc committee.

Ms. Hargreaves noted that, as this is a valuable resource, this initiative could be discussed at the 'Outreach Table', who are a specialized 'focus group' and Council could be advised of its progress.

**8. WORKSHOP PART II (Continuation of Part I from the June 30, 2016 MCWC Workshop) – FACILITATED BY PAUL HORN AND KIRSTEN HARGREAVES**

Mr. Horn reviewed Part I of the workshop which was held in June and noted the Committee undertook a two-step process of strategic planning. He advised that they heard presentations with qualitative and quantitative descriptions of social and health issues in Mission with the hopes of extracting data which could demonstrate an impact of the strategic plan. He advised that it became evident that the Committee didn't have a comprehensive picture of data. It was hoped that the Committee could aim for two or three targets for action which could then be measured in concrete terms.

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The Committee had decided to focus on areas which require cooperation to hopefully make an impact. The Committee also felt they had been trying to take on too many projects and wanted to make strategic decisions on projects that would be manageable.

Mr. Horn noted that the Committee identified some key themes and priorities:

- Priority 1 was identified as comprehensive information collection (data reliability, cross section sharing, backstories of people, looking at what is working); and
- Priority 2 being incremental action and possibilities, (housing, one stop shop, wrap around model, food hub, collective and collaborative practice).

He advised that the Committee agreed on the next steps as:

- Future choices about priorities based on data collected as part of Priority 1;
- Mr. Horn and Ms. Hargreaves will draft provisional goals based on this workshop; and
- The Committee will work on two goals at a time.

The Committee's proposed goals were discussed. It was noted that the Committee's goals should be concrete but can be adjusted along the way. Mr. Horn requested input from the Committee on the following two goals:

- Goal #1 – approximately a year from now, we will have completed Phase I and identified five people to track for data collection to bring to the local, provincial and federal government.
- Goal #2 – by June 30, 2017 the Committee members who are actively delivering social and health services in a multi-use facility with multiple partnerships between agencies.

The Committee decided for the next meeting to consider proposed action plans and provide updates on the progress.

Discussion ensued regarding reactive versus proactive approaches, how the data needs to drive which projects are chosen, looking at other, possibly multi-sites, for a food hub, and the need to make the best use of the Committee's time and resources to have the greatest impact.

The Committee identified Mission's affordable housing crisis as the main social issue the organizations are facing right now and the Committee members stressed that a 'Housing First' approach needs to be taken.

Committee members were invited to bring more people to the next meeting Mission Community Wellness meeting.

The workshop concluded at 7:16 p.m.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

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**Next Meeting: November 8, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.**

The **Minutes** of the **Mission Community Wellness Committee meeting** held in the Board Room at of Riverside College, 33919 Dewdney Trunk Road, Mission, British Columbia, on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Paul Horn, Riverside College  
Elizabeth Thomas, Community Member

Members Absent: Michele Chapman-Sheaves, School Champions  
Judith Ray, Seniors' Housing / Community Member

Others Present: Katy Brookes, Mission Child & Youth Committee  
Laura Wilson, Early Childhood Development Committee  
Shona Brown, Mission Division of Family Practice  
Bob Ingram, Acting Committee Chair, Mission Seniors' Centre Assn.  
Kirsten Hargreaves, Manager of Social Development, DOM  
Cynthia Coyle, Executive Director, Fraser House Society Mission  
Sanjay Gulati, Executive Director, Mission Community Services Society  
Danny Plecas, District of Mission Council  
Anne Todd, Fraser Health Authority  
Leesa Kelly, MSDSI / Community Outreach Network  
Joanna McBride, Volunteer Mission

1. **CALL TO ORDER** at 4:04 p.m.  
B. Ingram chaired the meeting.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**  
Moved by Sanjay Gulati, and  
RECOMMENDED:

That the agenda for the Mission Community Wellness Committee meeting of November 8, 2016 be adopted.

CARRIED

3. **FOLLOW UPS, UPDATES & PRESENTATIONS**
  - a) **Volunteer Centre Update – Joanna McBride**

J. McBride gave an update on the status of 'Volunteer Mission' and the preparations for the website which is anticipated to be launched at the beginning of January. She will provide the link and temporarily publish the website for a few weeks for the committee to review and provide feedback. A handout was also distributed for the committee members to bring to their respective organizations as they are currently looking for partners, sponsors, and volunteers. Ms. McBride answered questions from the committee and requested

photographs be submitted to post on the website. It was suggested that a recognition/appreciation program be implemented for this initiative.

**b) Community Cares Continuation – Paul Horn**

P. Horn provided an update on the status of the Community Care Mental Health Response Training program. He advised that the program has the potential for in-class presentation but is currently being offered online and noted that, to date, almost 4,000 people have completed the program. Although the program has continued to run, the funding ran out before the end of the year. The working group is looking at a new model for the program and to upgrade the course to meet community needs. As these changes will not take effect until the new year, there is an opportunity for people to still register and finish the modules before that time. The working group is looking to re-label the current videos in order to isolate particular modules to post online. For people requiring certification, they are considering a hybrid model where grant funding would be in place to help continue the program. The option of a \$10 charge per module could be implemented and the program could be offered in a tailor made way to different organizations.

**c) Sustainable Housing Task Force Update / Homeless Count 2017 / Stone Soup – Kirsten Hargreaves**

Sustainable Housing Task Force - K. Hargreaves noted that there has not been a sustainable housing task force that has lasted from year to year. She advised that the District is aware that Mission is currently in critical need of affordable housing. A new 'terms of reference' and membership list will be prepared and presented to Council at their next Regular Council meeting on November 21, 2016.

Homeless Count 2017 – K. Hargreaves advised that the homeless count is performed every three years. The Fraser Valley Regional District Homelessness Survey count includes: Abbotsford, Mission, Chilliwack, Agassiz-Harrison Hot Springs, Hope, and Boston Bar. These communities coordinate the date and time of their count to ensure accuracy. The count will be held on March 8, 2017. The volunteers have all been trained and have had Police Information Checks completed. During the last count, Mission had the help of 55 volunteers. It was noted that the outreach group will identify the location of the homeless communities.

Stone Soup – K. Hargreaves and P. Horn noted that:

- the latest round of 'Ready to Rent' participants have now completed the program;
- MCWC has been approved, in principle, for the \$50,000 federal grant which the committee had previously applied for. The District of Mission has agreed to match this amount;
- the next Stone Soup Community Dinner will be held on November 22<sup>nd</sup> at Rivendell Second Stage Housing;
- an education workshop between MCWC and Council will be scheduled;
- several pieces of artwork have been donated for a fundraising draw. The goal is to raise \$6,000 to facilitate 'community navigators' to help people find relevant services. This would be in cooperation with the Downtown

Business Association and Hope Central. MCWC members are asked to help distribute tickets and possibly display some of the artwork;

- organizations are being sought to each help sponsor a monthly dinner into 2017;
- the dinner at the Friendship Centre was very well attended. It was learned that they have a facility that helps people wash clothes, shower, etc. The Friendship Centre received a much-needed larger hot water tank and cash donations to improve their facilities;
- the homeless count would be the theme for the January, February, and March dinners' to encourage people to get involved;
- a link on the Mission Community Services website will provide information and details for the Stone Soup Dinners; and
- as the social value of the dinners is just as important as providing food, committee members are encouraged to use the pre-dinner times to walk around the room to give and receive information and facilitate contacts.

#### **d) Planning Process Completion – Data Collection – Paul Horn**

P. Horn noted that the September and May planning meetings were considered to be ineffective as two completely different groups of participants had attended each meeting. It is recognized that the organizations represented by the MCWC members are doing a lot of work which can be shared at this table. It was decided that better data collection was required to help obtain grants and to establish a baseline and a functional assessment which would include consolidating data. The committee came to a consensus that a working group will be formed to implement a data collection plan as a strategic initiative for better community wellness data. The data would be used to prioritize goals and help determine best practices. Shona Brown, Judith Ray, and Anne Todd's successor will work with Paul Horn on the data collection process, which will be brought back to the committee, in its completed form, at the next MCWC meeting.

The committee discussed the draft flowchart, and several suggestions were made including adding an additional category under the Community Wellness Committee section titled 'Data Collection'. The committee agreed that the flowchart is a good starting place and the potential is there to improve it with the use of the planned data collection. It was stated that the data informs and guides policy.

#### **e) MCWC Moving Forward – Kirsten Hargreaves**

K. Hargreaves distributed a draft 'Community Wellness Committee Flowchart' which lists the core groups around the committee table and the projects and initiatives taken on by each group. She noted that the networks are not as formalized as they could be and suggested a coordinated, formalized approach to assist the committee in providing leadership, expertise and funding to these groups. Discussion ensued and the committee noted:

- a coordinated effort would work best to combine resources;
- the importance of staying connected to people, staying face-to-face and the continued need to keep meeting;

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- the necessity to make government aware of the lack of treatment and housing for people in need;
- the requirement of a coordinated response as they are seeing second and third generations ending up in the same vulnerable situations;
- the problem with staff turnover and burnout;
- the hope for Mission to move forward and the MCWC providing a place for the different organizations to be heard;
- the goal of sharing information to parents in regards to child and youth services. It was noted that support organizations are seeing much more complex family needs such as poverty issues, time for their children, social and emotional needs, specifically anxiety issues for Mission's vulnerable youth; and
- appreciation was expressed for the committee's quarterly meeting schedule.

The Committee expressed appreciation to Anne Todd for her involvement with this committee and the community of Mission and wished her well with her continued work in Hope, BC.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Paul Horn, and

RECOMMENDED: That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

**Next Meeting: January 10, 2017**