

**CV Coalition to End Homelessness
Meeting Minutes
October 5th, 2016
Courtenay Public Library
12-1pm**

Facilitator: Bunny Shannon (CVSPS & LUSH Valley)

Recorder: Andrea Cupelli (Coalition Coordinator)

Attendees: Joyce Wilson (St. George's United), Hugh MacKinnon (Town of Comox), R.E. Scales (BC Lions Club), Roger Kishi (Wachiay), Jesse Atton (Wachiay), Sabina Acheson (CV Care-A-Van/Comox Bay Care Society), Tim Walton (RCMP), Roger Albert (CVSPS, Housing & Affordable Housing Committee, Cumberland), Daniel Wilms (NIC Nursing Student), Julia Jones (NIC Nursing Student), Sarah Sullivan (AIDS Vancouver Island)

Regrets: Jonathan Kerr (Division of Family Practice)

Recorder: Andrea Cupelli (Coalition Coordinator)

1. Five Year Plan Discussion

- a. BC Housing EOIs Update
 - i. The PIAH funding original pot was 55million – application deadline was in June and 5 Coalition agencies applied (Transition Society, Dawn to Dawn, Comox Valley Recovery Centre, BC Lions and Wachiay)
 - ii. Decisions are delayed because the province recently announced another 5 million dollars in funding
 - iii. The funding is in high demand
 - iv. Money has to be committed by March (before official provincial election begins)
- b. **Braidwood Project Update**
 - i. Feedback from BC Housing and City of Courtenay has been positive
- c. **Calendar Year vs. Strategy Year**
 - i. Coalition in favour of presenting the 5 year plan in the Calendar Year format
- d. **Appendix to the 5 Year Plan**
 - i. Suggested that we add the 2016 Vital Signs data on housing as an appendix to the 5 Year Plan
 - ii. Steer CVRD staff to the full report for background on the housing situation in the Comox Valley
- e. **Progress Column**
 - i. Suggested we add a “Progress” column in the 5 Year Plan to check off what we have completed, what’s in progress and what is upcoming to make it easier for people to see at a glance what we’ve done.
- f. **Consensus Decision for CVRD**
 - i. After revisions have been made, all members agree on sending plan to CVRD to meet the Oct 20th due date.

2. Review of Process for Decision-making between Teams and Coalition

- a. If teams come up with ideas and strategies, letters or proposals affecting the Coalition they are to be brought back to the Coalition at large, and are to be moved forward as a consensus by the Coalition as a whole
 - i. Team members may not necessarily be members of the Coalition
 - ii. Teams generally take decisions that the Coalition have come up with as a group and carries out the work
- b. A lunch meeting has been proposed for all Coalition Team members
 - i. Wachiay has offered to host the lunch
 - ii. Roger will let Andrea know a range of suitable dates and Andrea will poll team members to find a date which works best for the majority
- c. Discussion suggestions for lunch meeting
 - i. Suggested that the Coalition interviews teams on their needs and skill sets
 - ii. Suggested that there is an official process/communication protocol for teams to bring concerns forward to the Coalition
 - iii. Review process for decision making
 - iv. Review Terms of Reference for Coalition as a whole and for teams to see what is missing and what can be clarified
 1. It is helpful for teams to break down the terms and find action steps within them
 2. TORs are a living document (constantly changing)
 - v. Frontline workers currently have no inter-agency support group.
 1. There used to be one through HOP – can it be started up again?
 2. Would be useful for frontline staff and also an opportunity to coordinate frontline work to create/collaborate positive outcomes for clients
 3. Would also like to be more involved in Coalition decision making
 4. Look at Amanda Ridgeway's previous work

3. PiT Count Report, Press Release and Infographic

- a. Full PiT Report is now up on our website:
<http://www.cvhousing.ca/2016pitreport/>
- b. Waiting on final approval from United Way on Press Release and Infographic and then will be released

4. BC Rural & Remote Funding RFP

- a. Coalition submitted an RFP for the Library Drop-In program as well as continued Coordination of the Coalition
- b. Haven't heard back yet, but should by mid-October

5. New BC Housing Tenancy Support person

- a. James is coming here from Vancouver every few weeks for 3-5 days at a time and is well received by clients and support workers.
 - i. Is accessible by phone when not in the Comox Valley
- b. Mark is the new onsite manager at the Washington Inn

- i. BC Housing may be changing their policy on having onsite (live-in) managers
- 6. **BC Housing Washington Inn Update**
 - a. People who are housed or to be housed at Washington Inn have to go through the central housing registry
 - b. W.I. is officially being called 'subsidized housing' by BC Housing which means that people may be able to transfer to other subsidized housing once they are registered in the system.
 - i. Currently no other subsidized housing to be transferred to (can only be another BC Housing property)
 - c. There's been lots of articles and subsequent feedback in the local newspapers regarding W.I. some positive, some negative
 - i. <http://www.comoxvalleyrecord.com/news/392616441.html>
 - ii. <http://www.comoxvalleyrecord.com/news/393431221.html>
 - d. Intercom system working now
 - e. There has been discussion regarding encouraging the government to not renew the attached liquor store's liquor license.
- 7. **Comox Valley Community Foundation Grants**
 - a. Online application available and open until Oct 26th
www.cvcfoundation.org
 - b. Coalition to put in an application for funding top-up at the Library Drop-In Centre program
 - c. Please let Andrea know if your organization plans on submitting an application regarding homelessness/housing
- 8. **Circle of Care Concern**
 - a. Frontline workers need a Common Intake Form for clients.
 - i. Issues with sharing, permission, confidentiality, finding a home for all of the data.
 - ii. Barriers with VIHA (have to be on a VIHA server)
 - iii. Hold regular case conferences, get away from email – face to face meetings and telephone
 - iv. Look at the Surrey Smart model. Info is shared with NGOs and agencies, no names are used, but details are shared.
<http://surrey.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=1485&languageId=1&contentId=44261>
- 9. **Team Updates**
 - a. **Housing Development Team:**
 - i. Small homes built in town by Orié Bloomfield. Bunny and Betty went to view and we can arrange another viewing. Photos can be shared with Coalition.
 - b. **Public Awareness Team:**
 - i. Currently looking for local stories on homelessness and the housing crisis. Particularly stories, interviews and profiles from residents of the Comox valley. Will be publishing them in a social media campaign to correspond with the Resource Fair.

c. Homelessness Prevention Team:

- i. Currently working on creating a GAP analysis by conducting a survey for Coalition members on homelessness prevention needs. Working in conjunction with the PAT to find stories for their social media campaign.

d. Union of BC Municipalities Convention:

- i. Hugh MacKinnon attended the UBCM and attended two major workshops on homelessness and the loss of affordable rental units.
- ii. Many lessons learned from tent cities, Unlikely partners came together to address the crisis and come up with solutions
- iii. 2 resolutions came forward for the Provincial and Federal Government regarding a Poverty Reduction Plan and a National Housing Strategy
- iv. If the Coalition is interested, Hugh can invite Ron Kerr (Councillor in Campbell River) to speak to the Coalition about best practices and what has been working for them

10. Resource Fair:

- a. Scheduled for November 17th, 2016.

Next Meeting: Wednesday November 2nd, 12-1pm at the Courtenay Public Library