

**Comox Valley Coalition to End Homelessness**  
**General Coalition Meeting**  
**Meeting Agenda**  
**February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Attendees:** Angela Fletcher (concerned citizen), Doug Hillian (City of Courtenay), Joyce Wilson (St. George's United), John Newman (Habitat for Humanity), Jesse Ketler (Village of Cumberland), Kathy Duperron (Cumberland Affordable Housing Committee), Hugh Mackinnon (Town of Comox), Pat McKenna (Habitat for Humanity), Crystal Madill (CV Family Services)

**Regrets:** Sarah Sullivan (AIDS Vancouver Island), Brent Hobden (Salvation Army), Roger Kishi (Wachiay Friendship Centre), Richard Clarke (Dawn to Dawn), Betty Tate (ARNBC)

**Facilitators:** Lindsay McGinn (United Way), Heather Ney (CV Transition Society)

**Recorder:** Andrea Cupelli (Coalition coordinator)

**1. CVRD Year 3 Funding Update**

- a. Feedback on January's proposal from the CVRD is that they wouldn't be supportive of \$50k for Dawn to Dawn as their second condo hasn't been purchased yet
- b. Leadership Team's amended recommendation was to increase CVTS contribution to \$155,000.
  - i. Both CVTS and D2D agreed to this
  - ii. Final version was sent out to Coalition via email and no one opposed, so it went through via consensus and was submitted and presented to the CVRD
  - iii. **Final recommendation for Year 3 HSS Funding**
    1. **Comox Valley Transition Society: \$155,000** for the construction of 4 new units of transitional housing at Amethyst House
    2. **John Howard Society: \$150,000** for the renovation of 10 units of supported independent housing for youth
    3. **Wachiay Friendship Centre: \$50,000** for the continued support of the construction of 34 units at Braidwood in 2018
    4. **Habitat for Humanity Vancouver Island North: \$75,000** (*\$30,000 will be requested from the Town of Comox and \$45,000 from CVRD*) to support the construction of 2 new homes at the Lake Trail site
- c. CVRD presentation was well received and we received many positive words of thanks for the work the Coalition does, and the power of collaboration

## **2. Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities Resolution – Cumberland**

- a. Cumberland would like to put forward a resolution at AVICC re: temporary housing recovery centres
- b. If passed it moves forward to UBCM
- c. Heather from CV Transition to collect more info
  - i. When someone is on income assistance, and they go to a recovery centre they lose their share for housing, they only cover housing portion for 30 days, so longer-term treatment or recovery comes with the risk of losing home which prevents a lot of people from accessing longer term recovery
  - ii. This is a Ministry of Social Development Policy
- d. Maintaining housing is a key part in recovery – hard to focus on recovery when you are worried about becoming homeless

## **3. Supportive Modular Housing Update**

- a. Poverty Reduction Meeting – was told in casual conversation we were getting modular units; however Lindsay from UW had a conversation with Heidi from BC Housing and no decision has been made
  - i. Nanaimo may be getting units.
- b. Discussion of the need is happening, which is a good thing
- c. City of Courtenay – land discussions happen in-camera so we don't know what's happening with land
  - i. Significant amount of behind the scenes dialogue with BC Housing
  - ii. No commitments yet, so we need to keep the pressure on
- d. CBC is going to be doing a 5-part series on the lack of supportive housing in the Comox Valley
- e. Modular Housing, what does it look like?
  - i. 1-2 stories 35 units or so, can build up or out
  - ii. Support piece will be up to the operator in collaboration with BC Housing on what the intake would be
- f. EOI went out back in October for operators
  - 1. Wachiay, Transition Society and Salvation Army applied
  - 2. BC Housing says that Coalition can decide who will be the EOI – so we need to come up with some criteria
- g. Cumberland land owned by VIHA
  - i. Mayor is meeting with VIHA board next week to discuss getting land back to Village to use towards supportive housing
  - ii. If land wasn't used for health-related purpose then it has to go back to Village
  - iii. The more land we can have access to, the more opportunities we will have to build
  - iv. There will be more provincial and federal funding coming down the pipeline
  - v. We need to be shovel ready (land, construction and operator)

#### **4. BC Housing Funding Matching Update**

- a. BC Housing would match funds raised in the CVRD Homelessness Supports Service
- b. Coalition would decide collaboratively how to distribute funds
- c. Still unclear on the details
- d. Funding likely won't be tied in to the same level of detail as the CVRD Homelessness

#### **5. PiT Count Update – March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

- a. NIC Social Work students will be helping out
- b. Family Services to be donating hygiene packs
- c. PiT Committee meeting regularly, and things are coming together
- d. PiT Counts will be happening in neighboring communities such as Campbell River, Parksville, Nanaimo etc

#### **6. Tampon Tuesday – March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

- a. United Way and CVTS putting on a community drive for donations of feminine hygiene products
- b. Donations can be shared and distributed through agencies and made available at schools
- c. Hoping to be an annual event – this is a national campaign
- d. Will ask drug stores and other businesses for donations

#### **7. Vital Signs Meeting Update**

- a. Housing Section in Vital Signs Report
  - i. Please look at it and let Andrea know by end of month if any data should be included
- b. This is a tool that is used a lot by decision makers

#### **8. Poverty Reduction Meeting**

- a. Wasn't well attended
- b. Input is still needed (from those with lived experience in particular)
- c. Andrea to send out the link to submit feedback online

#### **9. Other updates**

- a. D2D 2<sup>nd</sup> condo has been acquired!
- b. Habitat for Humanity
  - i. Building permits physically applied for on Friday
  - ii. City of Courtenay staff have been awesome
  - iii. Structure for volunteers has been built
  - iv. April 2<sup>nd</sup> shovel in ground
  - v. Big demand of volunteers who want to help
  - vi. Is having a big fundraiser 100k in 100 days – individuals or teams of women.
  - vii. WBIN has signed on as major sponsor

- viii. 10 units, 4 families selected with 6 to go – family selection committee is in intake right now, so get in on the application quickly if you want to apply
- c. Campbell River is trying to build a Coalition to End Homelessness
  - i. Sarah Sullivan is going to present on what the Coalition does
  - ii. Meeting tomorrow happening through the Strathcona Community Health Network
- d. Coldest Night of the Year – Feb 24<sup>th</sup>
  - i. Andrea has started a Coalition team
  - ii. at 20% of fundraising goal right now
    - 1. lower on teams this year
  - iii. Just pay the registration fee \$25 for participating – fee goes up to \$40 on the 19<sup>th</sup> of Feb -share widely with friends
  - iv. Starting at St. George’s again this year
  - v. Lots of local sponsors for food and snacks, Royal LePage is lead sponsor
- e. Community Health Network Forum– March 14<sup>th</sup>
  - i. Registration is now open – filling up fast
  - ii. Looking for feedback on governance

**10. BC RENT Event – April 12<sup>th</sup>**

- a. Happening here in Courtenay at Crown Isle
- b. Put on by BCNPHA
- c. Coalition to present at lunchtime plenary

**Next Meeting: NO MARCH MEETING** due to Point in Time Count - **April 4<sup>th</sup>** is the next meeting