

**Comox Valley Coalition to End Homelessness
General Coalition Meeting
December 9th, 2020**

Attendees: Betty Tate (CV Early Years Collaborative), Bunny Shannong (CV Social Planning Society), Sarah Howe, Joyce Wilson (St. George's United Church), Sandie Jordan, Roger Kishi (Wachiay Friendship Centre), Doug Hillian (City of Courtenay), Jodi (Vink Consulting), Pat McKenna (Habitat for Humanity), Alaina, Francois Duvel (St. Vincent De Paul Society), Sue Finneron (Dawn to Dawn), Patti Alvarado (Indigenous Women's Sharing Society), Rachel Ducommon (John Howard Society), Ally Reader (Indigenous Women's Sharing Society), Leah Read (Mental Health & Substance Use), Lindsay Monk (M'akola), Wendy Dyck (L'arche), Paul Sture, Shari Dunnet (Community Action Team), James Taylor (Glacierview Lodge Society), Katie Barker (Division of Family Practice), Destanee (CV Transition Society), Grace, Brent Hobden (Salvation Army), Vickey Brown (Village of Cumberland), Krista Smith (CV Family Services), Carrera Teal

Facilitators: Richard Clarke and Betty Tate (Leadership Team members)

Recorder: Andrea Cupelli (Coordinator)

1. Year 6 HSS/Town of Comox Funding Recommendations Decision

a. 2 funding scenarios this year

- i. CVRD staff asked us to make funding recommendations for 2 Year 6 funding scenarios, 150k and 200k, so we will be ready with recommendations if board approves the maximum requisition amount.

b. Year 6 EOI Recommendation Team

- i. This year we recruited alumni members of the Leadership Team to help make recommendations as Richard, Heather and Roger recused themselves
 1. Big thanks to Vicki, Lindsay, Brent, and Betty!

c. Year 6 EOIS totaled \$375,000

- i. **CVTS: \$150,000 for Tall Tree Place in Cumberland.** Partnership with D2D. 22 units of housing for families – some 3-4-bedroom suites. Applied to BC Housing CHF
- ii. **D2D: \$100,000 towards the purchase of a home in Comox.** Currently occupied by a family of 5 who will be evicted if the house is sold. Property is large and potential to build a coach house in the upcoming years. Specifically asking that 30k come from the Comox fund and remaining funds through HSS.
- iii. **Wachiay: \$75,000 towards 24-32 units of housing for Indigenous elders** (1 bedroom and bachelor suites). Also applied to BC Housing CHF. Asked for \$75,000 for following year as well.
- iv. **Habitat: \$50,000 towards 4 units of affordable home ownership** at 1375 Piercy

d. Considerations from the recommendations team

- i. How many # of units being built/added to nonmarket housing stock?
 - 1. If none, is it preventing individual(s) from key demographics from homelessness?
- ii. Is the financial ask proportional/does it make sense to how many people can be housed?
 - 1. Looking at overall project costs comparatively between projects as well as timeline.
- iii. Has the specific project already received HSS funding in recent years? Is it in need of additional funding for Year 7 and/or beyond?
- iv. Are demographics identified in recent housing needs assessment being addressed? Is: Indigenous people, seniors/elders, single people, families?
- v. Is there regional representation?
- vi. Recognition that Tall Tree Place is a partnership between CVTS and D2D so also benefitting from the funding

e. RECOMMENDATION: HSS Funding Scenario 1: \$150,000

- 1. CVTS - \$75,000
- 2. Wachiay - \$52,500
- 3. Habitat - \$22,500

f. RECOMMENDATION: HSS Funding Scenario 2: \$200,000

- 1. CVTS - \$100,000
- 2. Wachiay - \$70,000
- 3. Habitat - \$30,000

g. RECOMMENDATION: Town of Comox: \$30,000

- i. D2D - \$30,000

h. ALL APPROVED BY CONSENSUS VIA ONLINE ZOOM POLL VOTE

- i. Wachiay, CVTS, D2D and Habitat recused themselves from this vote
- ii. 9 members (Early Years Collaborative, CV Social Planning Society, St. George's United Church, Indigenous Women's Sharing Society, John Howard Society, L'arche, Glacierview Lodge, Salvation Army and CV Family Services) voted

2. 5 Year Plan Update

- a. Will be submitted to CVRD by Dec 23rd, if you have updates there is still time to send them to Andrea
- b. Including a new 'Annual Report' section and will be dedicating space to our pandemic response

3. Connect Funding Update

- a. Connect needs operational funding to keep doors open during Winter
 - i. SPARCBC, BC Gaming, United Way, CV Community Foundation – looking for other longer-term funds
- b. LT has been exploring other funding opportunities, but there was an opportunity with the HSS fund as 50k was earmarked already for Connect but for capital improvements to a permanent space.

- i. Asked if we could re-allocate those funds to staffing

4. CVRD HSS Bylaw Review Update

- a. Service review every five years must be complete by the end of year.
- b. The scope of the review will include:
 - i. consideration of increasing requisition and other revenue sources
 - ii. consideration of long-term sustainability of the service relative to its delivery
 - iii. technical review of best practices in this type of service model
 - iv. engagement with Leadership Team, recipient service providers of service funding and service participants
 - v. presentation of recommendations to the CVRD Board and Coalition's Leadership Team
- c. CVRD has hired consultants (who are on the call today with us! Hello Cassandra and Jodi from Vink Consultants)

5. Coalition COVID-19 Response Update

- a. Housing Proposal Letter
 - i. Thanks to Doug for getting this out to municipal leaders
 - ii. So far, CVRD and City of Courtenay have signed on
 - iii. Andrea to re-send letter to Cumberland and Comox
- b. EWR Overflow Shelter
 - i. LT looking at possibility of adding a temporary overflow EWR shelter. Space requirement mean less mats at Pidcock and there's still many people sleeping rough and lots sleeping at the hospital ER waiting room
 - ii. BC Housing may be able to fund this
 - iii. Exploring building sites
 - iv. Staffing will be an issue
- c. Motels Update
 - i. Full and waitlisted
 - ii. 4 additional Island Health rooms added for those who have COVID (if needed)
- d. COVID-19 Testing for Vulnerable Populations
 - i. Protocol has changed. If you serve vulnerable populations and haven't received updated information and would like it, please contact Andrea

6. Federal Rapid Rehousing Initiative Update

- a. Several folks met with Heather and Wisser Projects
- b. Decided to look for buildings that could be renovated for 4-6 people
- c. Timeline was too tight (Dec 18th) and we were unable to make it happen
- d. Should be another opportunity in 2021

7. ESCF Grants Update

- a. CV Community Foundation
 - i. awarded 11k for Hot Meal program for dinners to be served at Connect Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 4-5:15pm
- b. United Way

- i. awarded 40k for Connect; outreach supplies, medical supplies, shower program staff, coordination of HRT and Indigenous Peer Advisor/Outreach

8. Land Opportunities Update

- a. Reached out to local churches to let them know we would be putting together a virtual meeting in the new year to talk about land/affordable housing opportunities
- b. SD71 – we will be booking a delegation with SD71 to discuss the same

9. CVRD Poverty Reduction Strategy Update

- a. Continuing to work with CVRD, and Health Network
- b. Looking at inclusive engagement and ways to incorporate a lived experience advisory circle

10. HRT Update

- a. 2020 Point in Time Count full report has been released and is on our website
 - i. Homelessness increased 13% from 2018 – 132 people
- b. CAT Update
 - i. Shari shared an updated in the chat function of the call

11. Other Updates

- a. Courtenay Public Hearings Dec 16th – CVTS and Habitat
- b. Congrats and welcome to new Coalition member: Comox Valley Early Years Collaborative

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 13th, 2021 12pm via Zoom

YEAR 6 HSS Applications



- **Comox Valley Transition Society - \$150,000**

Gwax'dzi'dsas: Tall Tree Place 22 modular units for families in Cumberland (2,3,4 bedroom) in partnership with Dawn to Dawn - BC Housing CHF applicant

- **Dawn to Dawn - \$100,000**

To purchase a home in Comox currently housing a family of 5 who would otherwise be evicted if home not purchased by D2D. Asking for 30k directly from Town of Comox fund and 70k from CVRD

- **Wachiay Friendship Centre - \$75,000**

24-32 studio and 1 bedroom units for Indigenous Elders with some supports, on the Wachiay site in Courtenay. - BC Housing CHF applicant

- **Habitat for Humanity - \$50,000**

12 units/3 townhomes being built at 1375 Piercy. This is for the first townhome. Affordable home ownership model.

CONSENSUS DECISION MAKING

Consensus decision making is defined as, when the member “can live with” the decision of the group. A clear and common understanding of the issues is achieved by each member having the opportunity to express their opinion and for hearing the rationale and concerns of all the other members.

1. Whole-hearted agreement!
2. Agree with minor concern
3. Don't like, but will support
4. More discussion needed
5. Serious Disagreement!



If everyone is a 3-6, the decision is made by full consensus and the group moves on.

If any participant expresses a 1 or a 2 on the scale, they are given the opportunity to explain their concerns and suggest alternatives. Once those have been heard, the facilitator works with group to re-phrase a revised proposal for decision that attempts to address concerns. Making the revised proposal, the facilitator calls for a decision.

YEAR 6 HSS Recommendations

	Scenario 1 \$150,000	Scenario 2 \$200,000	Town of Comox \$30,000
CVTS	\$75,000	\$100,000	
Wachiay	\$52,500	\$70,000	
Dawn to Dawn			\$30,000
Habitat for Humanity	\$22,500	\$30,000	