



Making a difference...together

Reaching Home – Community Advisory Board (CAB)

October 1, 2021, 9:00 am – 11:30 am, via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT: Bojan Grbavac, Sinan Demirel, Donna Wingfield, Suzanne Bradbury, Kelly Roth, Heidi Hartman, Pat Griffin, Allison Ashcroft

STAFF: Melanie Hope, Jerry Michael, Jelena Putnik, Gina Dolinsky, Erin Welch (recorder)

REGRETS: Don Elliott, Angela Wignall, Aly Essa, Jaimee Eggar, Jason Chadwick, Cyril Morris, Evan James

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am

1. Territorial Acknowledgment

The chair provided a Territorial Acknowledgment and welcomed CAB members to the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented

MOVED by Sinan Demirel

SECONDED by Kelly Roth

CARRIED

3. Approval of May 27, 2021, meeting minutes

Motion to approve May 27, 2021, meeting minutes as presented

MOVED by Kelly Roth

SECONDED by Sinan Demirel

CARRIED

4. Business Arising from the minutes

No CAB members were against the approval of the previous Agenda and Minutes

5. Call for Proposals Evaluation

Recused: Sinan Demirel at 9:21 am

a) Consolidated scoring

CRD staff provided a background summary regarding:

- CFP issued in August (approved by the CAB in May 2021), \$1,776,522 in DC funding to allocate in 2021-22, CFP areas of focus: 1.) Renter Assistance Program and 2.) Transitional Supports to people leaving Supportive Housing and entering tenant based independent housing/transitioning into RHFP units;
- \$704,611 in funds requested through the four eligible proposals; and

- Approximately \$1,071,911 in funding remaining in the Designated Communities funding stream to be dispersed, which the CAB will be provided an additional staff report.

The CFP received five proposals and an administrative review determined that one proposal did not meet the terms of this specific CFP.

b) Recommendations

Community Social Planning Council (CSPC) proposal requested \$536,467 for their Victoria Metropolitan Housing Security Program, which involves two key pieces of work 1) Rent Bank Financial Assistance program and 2) ID Bank Pilot program.

Motion to adopt Alternative 1 of staff report with the following provision:

1. Commencing November 1, 2021, the CRD, as Community Entity for the Reaching Home Program, negotiate and enter into a sub-project agreement with CSPC for approximately \$536,467 with the following conditions:
 - a. The total amount of funding recommended be considered as approximate values to allow the CE to conduct the necessary due diligence and approve budget changes not to exceed plus or minus 10% of the recommended amount, and
 - b. The proponents demonstrate the ability to fulfill all Reaching Home Program administrative requirements identified through due diligence to be completed by CE staff.

MOVED by Kelly Roth

SECONDED by Heidi Hartman

CARRIED

Pacifica Housing Advisory Association proposal requested \$41,643 for their Community Connections Program, which would increase capacity and data collection opportunities, to continue the program past March 31, 2022.

Motion to adopt Alternative 1 of staff report with the following provision:

1. Commencing November 1, 2021, the CRD, as Community Entity for the Reaching Home Program, negotiate and enter into a sub-project agreement with Pacifica Housing Advisory Association for approximately \$41,643 with the following conditions:
 - a. The total amount of funding recommended be considered as approximate values to allow the CE to conduct the necessary due diligence and approve budget changes not to exceed plus or minus 10% of the recommended amount, and
 - b. The proponents demonstrate the ability to fulfill all Reaching Home Program administrative requirements identified through due diligence to be completed by CE staff.

MOVED by Suzanne Bradbury **SECONDED** by Kelly Roth

CARRIED

Peers Victoria Resource Society proposal requested \$43,974 for their Housing Transitions Support Worker program, which would provide a 0.75 FTE housing transition worker to work alongside two current staff supporting Reaching Home clients and provide supports to individuals transitioning from supportive housing to supported, social and market housing.

Motion to adopt Alternative 1 of staff report with the following provision:

1. Commencing November 1, 2021, the CRD, as Community Entity for the Reaching Home Program, negotiate and enter into a sub-project agreement with Peers Victoria Resource Society for approximately \$43,974 with the following conditions:
 - a. The total amount of funding recommended be considered as approximate values to allow the CE to conduct the necessary due diligence and approve budget changes not to exceed plus or minus 10% of the recommended amount, and
 - b. The proponents demonstrate the ability to fulfill all Reaching Home Program administrative requirements identified through due diligence to be completed by CE staff.

MOVED by Pat Griffin **SECONDED** by Allison Ashcroft

CARRIED

Threshold Housing Society proposal requested \$82,527 for their Youth Homelessness Prevention & Housing Stabilization Enhancement program, which would provide a FT Cultural Wellness Worker, a PT In House Counsellor and a PT Youth Engagement Support Worker.

Rejoined: Sinan Demirel at 10:01 am

Motion to adopt Alternative 1 of staff report with the following provision:

1. Commencing November 1, 2021, the CRD, as Community Entity for the Reaching Home Program, negotiate and enter into a sub-project agreement with Threshold Housing Society for approximately \$82,527 with the following conditions:
 - a. The total amount of funding recommended be considered as approximate values to allow the CE to conduct the necessary due diligence and approve budget changes not to exceed plus or minus 10% of the recommended amount, and
 - b. The proponents demonstrate the ability to fulfill all Reaching Home Program administrative requirements identified through due diligence to be completed by CE staff.

MOVED by Suzanne Bradbury **SECONDED** by Kelly Roth

CARRIED

6. Disbursement of remaining funding for 2021-22 RH Designated Communities

A Staff Report was provided to CAB members regarding the allocating of \$1,071,911 in funding available to support existing and new projects, including funding to address immediate needs related to COVID-19 pandemic response.

Motion to approve that the CAB recommend the CRD allocate approximately \$1,071,911 in funding available in the Designated Communities funding stream in 2021-22 to support existing and new projects by:

- a) Initiating an open Request for Funding process to allocate \$250,000 of the funding available through the Designated Communities stream, at the discretion of the CE; and
- b) Bringing alternatives to the CAB in December 2021 to seek recommendation regarding a new CFP for allocating a total of approximately \$821,911 of remaining funds.

With an amendment to item a). CRD staff to come back to the CAB with a follow up meeting to review two to five priorities for allocating the \$250,000.

MOVED by Kelly Roth **SECONDED** by Sinan Demirel **CARRIED**

7. CAA Planner Position

CRD staff informed the CAB on funding source for the position and start date for increased hours. The Investment Plan includes funding for coordination of resources and data collection. The CE's ability to fund Sub Projects will not be impacted. The timeframe is from October 2021 to March 2024.

Motion to approve that the CAB recommend the CRD provide a funding increase of \$80,318 to adjust the CAA position to 1.0 FTE.

MOVED by Pat Griffin **SECONDED** by Kelly Roth **CARRIED**

8. Program Updates

a) CAA/HIFIS

Community Planner provided CAB members with an update on work plan including chairing monthly CAA Working Group meetings, which reports to the CAA Advisory Committee; and chairing bi-monthly meetings for the BC CE Planners. Community Planner is receiving technical training and guidance on CAA and HIFIS implementation through Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness. HIFIS working group to meet next week.

b) COVID-19

Reaching Home COVID-19 Administrative Coordinator provided CAB members a summary of ESDC funds of \$3,200,000 administered to support 25 contracts, which included three First Nations contracts that supported capital projects. A large portion of the funding supported basic needs as well as prevention and shelter diversion. CAB members will receive a COVID-19 report once completed.

c) Administrative Update

Reaching Home Program Coordinator updated CAB members on staffing changes within the department. A summary regarding the CFP was provided. Currently the CE is managing 10 sub projects, 7 under the Designated Communities and 3 under Indigenous Homelessness. The CFP will result in additional contracts under Designated Communities stream. CAB members were updated on RHP annual audit for 2020-21 fiscal year that occurred in August.

9. Coordination of Shelter, Housing and Services (GVCEH)

Kelly Roth provided updates on three key initiatives underway to support the sector.

- 1) Ensure that CAA work with key government stakeholders (Island Health, BC Housing and CRD) is coordinated, aligned and work together. Important aspects of work to support the sector are the by name list, data and HIFIS to ensure additional engagement happens.
- 2) Functional Zero working group will perform a review of the existing tables, which Kelly will provide at the December 2021 CAB Meeting, as well as a report.
- 3) Functional Zero working group will perform a documents review (plans and recommendations that include the Community Plan, GVCEH Business Plan, the Think Tank Health and Housing Summary, the Housing Stability Policy, The Beginning of the End of Homelessness and the Downtown Service Provider Strategic Plan) and Kelly will discuss results at the December 2021 CAB Meeting.

Kelly will contact CSPC to discuss the document review synthesizing and also the monitoring and evaluation work.

Emerging crisis related to increased numbers of COVID positive people experiencing homelessness, are a priority and finding quarantine locations remain challenging.

9.(a) NPNA Update

CAB member provided an update on challenges in the 900 block of Pandora and the impacts on North Park residents.

10. ESDC – Update on Indigenous Homelessness CAB

ESDC updated the CAB regarding the ICAB having met over the summer and making a recommendation on the future of the Indigenous CE.

11. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn

MOVED by Suzanne Bradbury **SECONDED** by Allison Ashcroft

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 am