

Reaching Home – Community Advisory Board (CAB)

October 27, 2023 1:00pm-2:30pm

PRESENT: Sylvia Ceacero, Aly Essa, Calvin Leitner, Hans Rodinger (Jennifer Fox’s alternate), Ian Bermeo, Sharlene Law and guest Trevor Botkin, Donna Wingfield (ex-officio)

STAFF: Nadine Kawata, Jerry Michael, Christine O’Brien (recorder)

REGRETS: Don Elliott (ex-officio), Margaret Charlie, Magat Vohra, Jason Walsh, Lee King, Ron Rice, Jordan Koe, Clint Kuzio, Jared Melvin, Bojan Grbavac

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by Chair, Aly Essa

Quorum is not present.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement, Welcome & Roll Call

The chair provided a Territorial Acknowledgment and welcomed CAB members to the meeting. Participants introduced themselves. CRD staff recorded members in attendance.

2. Approval of Agenda

Handed out for information purposes only since there was no quorum.

MOVED by Sylvia Ceacero **SECONDED** by Sharlene Law

3. Approval of June 12, 2023, Meeting Minutes as Presented

MOVED by Calvin Leitner **SECONDED** by Sylvia Ceacero

Due to not having quorum, the members present were informed the minutes from today’s CAB meeting will be sent out electronically for approval.

4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

No business to review.

5. Call for Proposals Update

- Sub-committee reviewed and scored three applications, The Salvation Army Addiction and Rehabilitation Centre scored the highest and will receive the funding. The funding agreement is almost finalized.
- Project is called Finding Home Pilot Project. Funds are for a Housing Coordinator position that will work directly with clients who are at the end of their 1-year transitional housing program to secure permanent, affordable housing or supported housing.

6. Community Planning Update

Sylvia Ceacero gave an update to the CAB.

- Alliance to End Homelessness has begun engaging with the community to draft the 2025-2030 Community Plan to End Homelessness.
- Consultation so far has been with the Alliance's Board of Directors and with People with Lived Experience Council Systems Transformation Working Group.
- Preliminary consultation with Housing & Health Steering Committee, Downtown Service Providers
- Findings will be brought to the community to glean results and give an overview of where they would like the plan to go.
- Plan will then be brought to the Board for approval.
- We are starting consultations and are doing the work in anticipation of everything falling into place (Infrastructure Canada extending agreement) or will re-adjust as needed.

7. 2024 National Point-in-Time Count

CRD Staff updated the CAB of the 2024 PiT Count and possible implications.

- Infrastructure Canada announced there is to be a nationally coordinated Point-in-Time Count for 2024.
- Subjecting vulnerable people to enduring another survey within 17 months of the last could be re-traumatizing considering the personal nature of the survey questions.
- The strain on a taxed sector with performing another PiT count. Locally, in 2023, the PiT Count required commitment of approximately \$115,000 and 138 volunteers to complete. Canada has indicated that there will be no new funding available towards a 2024 and the community will need to pay for the project out of sub-project funds.
- Change in methodology, in particular moving to a fall 2024 count as Canada has proposed, will result in a loss of data alignment. This is in response to the fact that over 10 years of homelessness data has been collected in the spring.
- Report to CAB re: 2024 National Point-in-Time Count in CAB meeting package. Report contains alternatives the CAB is asked to review/consider.
- Draft letter in CAB meeting package advocating for Infrastructure Canada to accept the 2023 results as contribution to the 2024 Nationally Coordinated PiT Count.

Due to not having quorum, the following recommendation was unable to be pass.

The CAB recommend the CRD as CE, negotiate the next CE agreement to include an alternate approach towards participation in the 2024 Nationally Coordinated PiT Count, including;

1. The CAB Chairs co-sign a letter in support of the CRD providing the 2023 PiT Count findings to the INFC as the local contribution to the 2024 nationally coordinated efforts; and
2. The CE explore the benefits of a registry week, which includes PiT Count survey questions, when implementing a By-Name List with timing that is aligned with advancing Coordinated Access and HIFIS at a local level.

In order to allow for CAB members to vote online, the recommendation was moved and seconded.

MOVED by Sylvia Ceacero

SECONDED by Sharlene Law

8. Reaching Home and CA/HIFIS Planning

CRD Staff provided a presentation on Reaching Home and CA/HIFIS Planning. This presentation will be sent out after the CAB meeting.

- Review of Priorities for RH Community Plan.
- Investment Plan Update 2019/2020 to 2023/2024
- Current Investment and Projects
- Coordinated Access & HIFIS Updates
 - Gina Dolinsky is the Community Planner. She will provide more overview of CA at the next meeting. If you have any specific questions for Gina, let CRD staff know.
- HIFIS Deployment Update
- Updated Draft Project Charter.
- CE Agreement – we will update CAB when we receive information on the new agreement with Canada.
- Next Steps: Q3, Q4, Q1
- Alternative Approaches to Implementing Reaching Home
 - End Homelessness St. John's
 - Not looking for recommendations currently, this is more food for thought. As we plan for the next year, we have the opportunity to line ourselves up in a more coordinated way.

9. CE Administrative Updates

- Have met with Infrastructure Canada
- CA Planner has met with BC Housing re HIFIS
- Finalizing Funding Agreements
- Participating with Annual Financial Monitoring
- Preparing to review Q2 Sub-Project Claims

10. Infrastructure Canada Update

There is no update at this time on allocations and extensions. The briefing note has gone to the Minister. An invitation to attend a presentation of the Reaching Home Directives has been sent to the Chair and Co Chair for distribution.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:01pm.