

## Campbell River Coalition to End Homelessness Steering Committee

### Minutes

July 19, 2018 Campbell River Library 12:00 – 1:00

Chair: Pat McKenna (Habitat for Humanity)

Recorder: Sue Moen

Attendees: Libby King, (Community Health Network) Samantha Christiansen (Ka:yu:4'h/Cheiktles7'et'h First Nations) Peta Poulson/Tracy Armstrong/Jeannine Bousquet (Ministry of Social Development/Poverty Reduction) Jordan Campbell (KDC Health) John Powell (KDC and Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness and Wei Wai Kum) Lynne Stone (Office of Claire Trevena MLA) Natalie Meredith (JHSNI) Ron Neufeld (City of Cr) Paul Mason (M'akola Housing) Susan Traylor (CRNI Transition Soc) Rachel Blaney ( Member of Parliament) Lucas Schuller (MP's Office), Glenn Cooper (Ken Ford House) Michele Vanderwoude (Independent Consultant) Donna Desmet (NIEFS) Merv Sloss (Greenways Land Trust) Lori Bull (Sasamans Society) Valery Puetz (CRNI Transition Soc) Keith Hopkins (Salvation Army) Greg Hill (CRDAFL), Ron Kerr (Councillor City of CR)

Regrets: Diana Dragon (Kyuquot-Checleset First Nation) Stephanie Slater (Wei Wai Kum Band Manager) Camille La Gueux (CR Family Services) Lindsay McGinn (United Way) Elaine Bakstad (JHSNI) Audrey Wilson (Laichwiltach Family Life)

Ron Neufeld from City of Campbell River presented the structure for Community Advisory Groups established to include community participation in vetting staff recommendations. Public Health & Safety Committee targeted specific agencies through the bylaw. Advisory Planning Committee examines zoning, Official Community Plan, community development. The Committees focus on issues and higher level policy discussions, and have no decision-making powers. The City is looking to make the appointments by autumn and have the Committees operational in late September. A discussion ensued about CRCEH and/or member agencies being represented. Ron suggested that applications be submitted by any individual or agency wishing to bring CRCEH voice to the committees. Description and applications are here:

<http://www.campbellriver.ca/your-city-hall/news/news-detail/2018/07/13/call-for-volunteers---join-an-advisory-committee-to-help-meet-community-needs>

Ron also announced that the Downtown Safety Office is operational. By law Enforcement, RCMP crime reduction unit, Citizens on Patrol, Robins Parking and Footprints Security have all had community orientation and will have a presence at this office. The City only has a budget and influence for enforcement, but the community/agencies must develop relationships with the office to address underlying causes and issues. The named agencies in the original plan will submit individual representatives to participate. DTSO intends to establish working groups that include ground level service agencies. CRCEH can send letter to City suggesting Committee structure to be amended to include other specific agencies (AVI in particular), highlight the lack of First Nations inclusion and participation.

Action Item: CRCEH (Libby King & John Powell) will send a letter to the City suggesting that the Planning Committee would benefit from more participation by affordable housing representation.

SRD Housing Services Update: CRCEH members to give input via Libby King for drafting a regional report identifying priorities. A 5 year plan must be part of the work of CRCEH to support moving forward with the RD to provide housing as a service which could lead to general funding. The funding could come through a referendum or an alternative approval process - depending on timing. A community plan would include all member agencies plans and CRCEH would then identify priorities and provide support for individual agencies for their asks. Our 5 year plan also needs to align with the OCP. It was highlighted that Urban Aboriginal populations need support to be engaged in the coalition and processes.

Council Presentation: Natalie and Pat gave City of Campbell River an introduction to CRCEH emphasizing that although this initiative had been tried previously, the community believes that there is now traction for the Coalition, we are working together to create an action plan and know that collaboration is the key to addressing concerns from community when supportive housing is going into a neighbourhood. BC Housing and Councils can utilize a collaborative for community engagement. We had missed the deadline for the Rapid Response land ask, but asked the City to identify city-owned land inventory suitable for development. CRCEH also asked for administrative support via funding. Ron Kerr stated the City appreciated that a community ask was welcome rather than individual agency asks.

The CRCEH Member and Advisory Letters are attached to these minutes. If your agency has not yet committed, please do so. You can email a scanned copy to [campbellriverhousing@gmail.com](mailto:campbellriverhousing@gmail.com) or bring to the next monthly meeting.

The Membership list is a valuable communication tool for both funders and for community.

Agency Updates:

Habitat for Humanity: building in Courtenay and Campbell River continues. 4 units are scheduled to be completed by fall and funding for completion is being actively pursued.

North Island Transition Society: currently working on proposals

The Salvation Army: developing renovation plan/schedule for 6 unit supportive housing unit; long term vision for the Lighthouse facility on Cedar Street. Purchased property in Port Hardy to house all programs and seeking funding for completion of project.

CRDACL: continues to operate subsidized housing; recently acquired Lion's Property across from Thrifty's and is looking for creative housing opportunities

City of Campbell River: there is a continuing commitment to increase market rental housing and development/permit applications continue to flow. the new housing coming on stream will hopefully take the pressure off of existing units. land inventory is in process.

John Howard Society: as there is a shortage of low-barrier housing, the community can expect camping. the Courtenay facility must be operational by Mar 31/19 re: BC Housing agreement

M'akola Housing: renovations at old Travelodge are ongoing but were slowed due to necessary mitigation work. They are half way and hope to open 40 affordable units by year end

Rachel Blaney, MP: continues to work to have some of the federal housing funds flow to smaller communities. Noted that majority of commitment will not flow until after 2019. She is pleased to provide letters of support for community initiatives and appreciates being kept informed of projects/applications.

Ken Forde House: operates 40 units plus 8 subsidies for low income seniors

Michele Vanderwoude: working with group researching root causes of poverty and will be contacting some of our membership

NIEFS: was involved in the Poverty Reduction community consultation and is following reporting and plans.

Greenways Land Trust: operate a community garden and is interested in partnering for a pilot project that would include tiny homes and a market garden

Sasamans Society: provides services for Indigenous populations involved with Ministries by providing systems navigation. made room in their existing budget to continue a Housing Navigator (noted racism impacting client searches) until Mar 31/19.

Agency updates:

Habitat for Humanity: four units on Hilchey; the last two foundations have been laid

Chamber of Commerce: hiring an administrator full time. See Indeed.ca

Willow Point Supportive Housing: Ken Ford House having 25 year anniversary. They are always full

Campbell River Head Injury: Linda's Place will be 27 units, development permits received, demolition to commence

M'akola: Travelodge conversion: the tender is out; demolition hopefully within the month so tentative opening for Christmas 2018

NITS: Rose Harbour is full (as always), the Thrift Store has grown significantly over the first year; Prevention of Violence Against Women Week opened at Spirit Square

Salvation Army: Extreme Weather Shelter beds were not always full. Program ended March 31<sup>st</sup>. The Evergreen Shelter has averaged over 90% full for last couple years. Stage 2 housing (6 units) has waiting list; building is due for renovations

