A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of October 26, 2017

   It was Moved by Councillor Gill
   Seconded by Councillor Starchuk
   That the minutes of the Mayor's Task Force
   on Gang Violence Prevention meeting held October 26, 2017, be adopted as
   presented.

   Carried

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. Addressing Gang Violence: A Provincial Overview

Jamie Lipp, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, provided a PowerPoint
presentation regarding a Provincial overview with respect to addressing gang
violence. Information was provided regarding the following topics:
• BC’s Guns and Gangs Strategy, under which more than $23 million was provided to new or expanded measures to support communities experiencing violent gang-related activity under three pillars: supporting the investigation, apprehension and prosecution of gangsters and organized criminals; furthering community safety and public engagement; and, reviewing laws targeting illegal guns and gang violence, profit and property;
• The Illegal Firearms Task Force, which provided the Province with 37 recommendations to address issues related to policing, legislative and policy changes, education and prevention;
• The Office of Crime Reduction and Gang Outreach, with a mandate to reduce crime and promote public safety through the operation of a crime reduction framework for BC;
• Gang Violence Prevention Programming, which leverages partnerships between police, local governments and the community. Programs include Surrey Wrap, Cariboo-Chilcotin Wrap, ERASE (Expect Respect and A Safe Education) Bullying Strategy, Respectful Futures, and Lion’s Pride;
• Funding for Community Initiatives, such as the Civil Forfeiture Crime Prevention and Remediation Grant Funding Program;
• Direct Interventions, which includes programming such as End Gang Life Exiting and Outreach Pilot;
• Ministry of Child and Family Development Youth Justice, which includes Youth Probation Officers, the Intensive Support and Supervision Program, Curfew Monitoring Program, and Honour School; and
• Ministry of Child and Family Development Child Welfare Programs, which include Youth Outreach and Empowerment Team, Inter-Regional At-Risk Youth Link, Reconnect, All Nations Youth Safe House, as well other services, such as parent and teen support, counselling, transitioning to adulthood and housing support.

2. **The City Picture (City of Surrey, SD36 and RCMP Ops Support)**

Laurie Cavan, General Manager of Parks, Recreation and Culture, Dwayne McDonald, Assistant Commissioner, Officer In Charge Surrey RCMP, and Rob Rai, School District #36, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Surrey’s focus on public safety and spoke relative to the following topics:

• Surrey recreation facility improvement over the past five years to provide safe and healthy areas for children, youth and families;
• The three levels of prevention programming, including tertiary (individual), secondary (focused), and primary (universal);
• The Healthy Development Framework for ages 0-18 years, with four broad goals to achieve: supported, healthy, engaged and connected;
• Partnerships in Surrey, including Children’s Partnership, the Mental Health Collaborative, the Child Care Task Force and the implementation of two new Early Years Centres;
• Data informed decision making examples, including Early Learning, Avenues of Change, MYzone, LIVE 5-2-1-0 Play Boxes, and Park Play;
• Universal, focused and individual early year programs:
- **Universal**: Parent and Tot recreation opportunities, licenced preschools, licenced childcare, Surrey Museum & Art Gallery’s Children and Family programs, early years programming at 63 facilities, StrongStart offered at 24 school locations, literacy programs, and Read to Baby Early Literacy Strategy;

- **Focused**: the Avenues of Change Indigenous Early Years Strategy, Licenced Preschool Subsidy Program, First Steps Refugee Program, the South Asian Early Childhood Development Task Group and Immigrant Parents as Literacy Supports (IPALS);

- **Individual**: One to one support is provided to children with disabilities or behavioural challenges for individual support.

**Universal, focused and individual middle year programs:**

- **Universal**: Surrey Children’s Partnership, Recreation and Cultural Opportunities, Afterschool for all Strategic Framework, MY FUN Pass/Summer Fun Pass, MYzone drop-in program, licensed before and after school care, Live 5-2-1-0, Active PLAYces, Kid Conference, Peer Mentorship Program, and Parent Education Series.

- **Focused**: Girls Got Game, Jumpstart, Next 100 Years, Attendance Matters, and the Mini-Blue Program.

- **Individual**: One to one support with recreation programs, Mini-WRAP and STEP.

**Universal, focused and individual youth programs:**

- **Universal**: Safe, welcoming and free accessible space, Youth Engagement Approach, youth events, Surrey Civic Theatres Youth Engagement Program, Community Art Youth-Led Projects, mentoring teens and youth volunteers, and library outreach.

- **Focused**: Youth space at Bakerview Park, Clayton Heights ActivityTeam, leisure access program, youth mentorship and employment preparation, Surrey Leadership Youth Council, Surrey Youth Street Squad, VIBE Youth Group, Refugee Youth Leadership Committee, Surrey International Children’s Festival Youth Volunteers Mentorship Program, Community Art Youth Group Partnerships, Surrey International Children’s Festival Cirque Surrey Program, Surrey Civic Theatres Band-Aid Youth Music Intensive, Surrey Art Gallery’s Youth Engagement Strategy (YES) Program, Big Brothers’ In School Mentoring program, Youth Mentorship Program and Code Blue Program.

- **Individual**: Yo-Bro and Yo-Girl, Surrey Gang Enforcement Team, Resources Officers, leisure access to kids in care, and the WRAP program.

**Family and community engagement programs for all ages**, such as Bridging the Gap, Parent Help Line, Youth Intervention and Restoration, Citizen and Youth Police Academy, recreation activities for all ages offered at 90 sites, Surrey District Parents Advisory Council, and Parent Education.

In response to questions from the Task Force, the following information was provided:

- The City is flexible in where programming can be offered, and programming will be provided in locations as required.
School programs have been adjusted to meet specific community needs. For example, history curriculum has been specialized to speak to students’ individual history.

The School District has been reaching out to at-risk students to ensure they have reasons to attend school. For example, a breakfast program has been implemented, and before school programming is provided.

Calls to the Parent Helpline are directed to the RCMP, and will be assigned through dispatch to an officer for response. The Helpline is offered in various languages.

The Yo-Bro/Yo-Girl program has been designed as an upstream, preventative program. If support is provided through programs such as Yo-Bro/Yo-Girl at younger ages, participants may not require additional support during their older years through programs such as the WRAP program. In addition, participants in the Yo-Bro/Yo-Girl program can become positive role models for other students in high school.

3. Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit (CFSEU) Program Specific

Kevin Hackett, Assistant Commissioner, Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit, Lindsey Houghton, Staff Sergeant, and Jag Khosa, Sergeant, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit (CFSEU) Program Specific with respect to gang violence. The following topics were discussed:

- The End Gang Life Initiative, including the End Gang Life booklet and outreach programs;
- Gang violence in the Lower Mainland;
- Responses to the "Code of Silence", including increasing community engagement, and working with the media;
- CFSEU-BC’s Response to Gang Violence, including collaboration with other policing partners, increased community engagement, and, utilizing media platforms;
- Prevention through education initiatives, such as delivering End Gang Life presentations and training;
- The CFSEU-BC Gang Intervention and Exiting Team, which includes education, community engagement, the media and intervention; and
- The Gang Exiting and Outreach Pilot Program, which includes counselling, skills training, and employment support for adult gang members living in the Lower Mainland who are willing to redirect their life in a positive direction.

In response to questions from the Task Force, the following information was provided:

- Many parents are unaware that their child is involved in gang life. When parents are aware, many do not know where to reach for help. CFSEU officers will often meet with parents outside of the home, not in uniform, for the parent’s comfort.
The underlying root causes of gang life must be addressed in order to fully assist in exiting from the gang lifestyle. Community organizations can assist in addressing these root causes.

Procedural note: Mayor Hepner called a recess and adjourned the meeting. The meeting reconvened with the same staff and Task Force members present.

B. PRESENTATIONS (continued)

4. Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS)

Satbir Cheema, Jagtar Dhaliwal and Sonia Chaudhry, Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS), provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding PICS work with respect to gang violence. Information regarding the following topics was provided:

- An overview of PICS and its services;
- The specific need for a South Asian oriented youth program and issues related to denial of gang activity in the South Asian community;
- The relationship between PICS and the City of Surrey, including consultation regarding the PICS community consultation process;
- PICS’ goal to provide information, programs and services to provide youth with opportunities to make safe, intelligent and positive choices and to maximize their potential as individuals; and
- PICS’ future, including determining the South Asian community needs through consultation. Information from the consultation will be forwarded to a consultant to provide a report that will assist in developing a program specifically tailored to the needs of the South Asian community.

In response to questions from the Task Force, the presenters advised that consultation has been conducted with representatives from the 8-12 year old and 13-18 year old age groups. PICS staff believe that these are important demographics to reach early.

5. Options

Christine Mohr and Heather Lynch, Options Community Services, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding gang violence, and spoke relative to the following items:

- An overview of Options Services, including services for employment, families and children, youth, counselling, mental health, homelessness and housing, immigrants, and stopping violence;
- A review of youth and gangs in BC;
- Options programming philosophy, including best practices, theory, model, and approach. The best practices including ensuring that youth are connected to the community, have positive mentors, are active and have a sense of belonging;
• Prevention programs, such as Life Skills, STARR, Immigrant Services and the REC Squad;
• Prevention activities that focus on leadership, education, engagement and adult mentorship;
• An overview of the Junior Civic Ambassador Program, an after school program that helps youth understand responsibility, being safe, acts of kindness, goal setting, and the benefits of long-term engagement in the community;
• Intervention programs, such as life skills workshops, mental health/clinical counselling, scholarship programs, youth subsidized housing for individuals up to 25 years old, REC Squad, youth justice programs, Growing Together Young Parent Program, one on one youth transition support, and BC Youth in Care Surrey Local;
• Youth Justice Programs, a one-to-one intensive program that works with medium to high risk youth, with the goal to teach them social engagement and identify the root cause of criminal activity;
• Embedded programs and activities for post-gang life, such as the Youth Employment Program, BC Youth in Care Surrey Local, subsidized housing and the Indigenous Cultural Program; and
• Gaps and recommendations, including a lack of information sharing, kids not being connected to school, and the need to coordinate Risk Management.

6. **Pacific Community Resources Society (PCRS)**

Michelle Shaw and Erin Harvey, Pacific Community Resources Society (PCRS), provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding violence and youth involvement in gangs in Surrey. The following topics were discussed:

• Surrey Youth Resource Centres, multi-partner, multi-service youth hubs with a "no wrong door" approach to youth. Any youth can utilize the resource centre and receive services;
• The PCRS approach, which is based on strengths, relationships and youth empowerment;
• Outreach programming, including Inter-Regional At-Risk Youth Link, the Reconnect Program, the Stop Exploiting Youth Program, and Youth Outreach and Empowerment Support Services;
• The Learning to Lead Program;
• A housing programming that offers 11 beds throughout Surrey, as well as a housing search program;
• Alcohol and Drug Programming, including the Prevention and Health Promotion Program, the First Response Youth Addiction Outreach Program, the Astra Program and the Day, Evening, Weekend for Youth (DEWY) Program;
• Education programming, including Honour Secondary School, Teen Recreation and Enhancement Services (TREES) Alternate School in partnership with the Surrey School District, and Pathways to Education;
• Family support and counselling programming, including the Immediate Response Program (IRP), the Caregivers Support Program (CSP), the Family and Youth Information Program (FYI), and the Community
Counselling Clinic (CCC), employment programming, including a Baristas Training program in partnership with Starbucks and ACCESS, Surrey Job Readiness Program in partnership with AWARE Society, Surrey Community Outreach Program for Employment (SCOPE), This Way Ahead in partnership with the GAP, WorkBC ESCs, and Youth Employment Hub;

- Youth Justice Programming on Gang Life Violence; and,
- Newcomer Programming that supports newcomer youth who are experiencing settlement and integration issues, such as the REACH Program for Youth.

In response to questions from the Task Force, the presenters provided the following information:

- Youth can be referred to the Surrey Youth Resource Centres by various individuals or organizations, including the School District, the Ministry of Child and Family Development, and parents. Over 10,000 kids utilized the Centre in 2016.
- Youth who are utilizing PCRS services that have additional issues, such as substance abuse and addiction, are referred to other service providers.

C. DISCUSSION

Discussion is noted under each item above.

D. INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items were distributed for information:

1. Revised Terms of Reference
2. Updated Membership List
3. 2018 Meeting Schedule

E. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting date of the Mayor’s Task Force on Gang Violence Prevention will be January 29th, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in City Hall 1 East Committee Rooms A & B.
F. ADJOURNMENT

It was Moved by Councillor Gill
Seconded by Councillor Starchuk
That the Mayor's Task Force on Gang Violence Prevention meeting do now adjourn.
Carried

The Mayor's Task Force on Gang Violence Prevention at 4:28 p.m.

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Jane Sullivan, City Clerk                  Chair - Mayor Hepner