

**Present:**

Chair – Councillor Steele  
Councillor Rasode  
K. Bakshi  
M. Cross  
D. Darrell  
S. Jahan-Chaudhary  
Dr. B. Lalli  
L. Lange  
S. Match  
S. McIntosh  
K. Noonan  
P. Petrala  
J. Schmalz  
A. Rutherglen  
K. Weber

**Absent:**

Councillor Martin  
J. Li  
A. Sharma  
L. Smart

**Staff Present:**

J. Tyler, Seniors Services Rep, Community & Recreation Services Manager, Guildford  
S. Tosdevine-Tataryn, Community Services Coordinator, Fleetwood Community & Recreation Services  
M. Drozda, RCMP Dist. 2, Crime Prevention Programs Coordinator  
P. Leblanc, RCMP Dist. 5, Crime Prevention Programs Coordinator  
S. Caley, RCMP Dist. 5, Community Safety Officer  
Sean Kai Stevens, summer student, Dist. 5  
A. Gill, RCMP Dist. 5, Community Safety Officer  
R. Cross, Surrey Fire Services  
C. Kerr, Crime Reduction Strategy  
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Services

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**NOTE:**

Anne Rutherglen, BC Securities Commission (BCSC) provided a letter from Patricia Bowles, Director, Communications & Education announcing that, on behalf of the BC Securities Commission and their investor education program, *Invest Right*, a cheque in the amount of \$8,000 is given to assist the City with the costs of the Focus on Seniors Forums to March 31, 2013.

On behalf of the Seniors Advisory and Accessibility Committee, Councillor Steele thanked Anne and the BCSC for their ongoing financial support of the Forums and noted that the BCSC has also been a great partner in contributing to the content of each forum as seniors can be very vulnerable to fraud and scams.

**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

It was

Moved by S. Jahan-Chaudhary

Seconded by K. Noonan

That the minutes of the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting of May 10, 2012, be adopted.

Carried

**B. DELEGATION**

**1. Mature Drivers Program**

Susan Caley, RCMP Community Safety Officer provided a presentation regarding the Mature Drivers Program and the idea of doing this presentation at one of our forums. The Mature Drivers Program is for the benefit of seniors in order to help reduce

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crashes and injuries involving all mature drivers. The Mature Drivers program wants to help seniors retain their independence and mobility by ensuring that seniors remain proficient on the road for as long as possible. It also assists in helping seniors when the time comes to give up driving.

Harvey Kooner, VP Media Relations, ICBC and the ICBC Driver Examiner will provide a presentation at the July meeting regarding safety and the test that seniors coming into their 80<sup>th</sup> year must take.

Workshops have been created using volunteers from RCMP District 5 office. Some of the topics covered include:

- Know the facts
- Driving knowledge
- Keeping vehicles safe
- Review your driving and making a plan of action
- Giving up the key

A mature drivers video, titled *Living Well / Driving Well* by Dr. Art Hister, was shown to participants.

The workshop is two hours long but Harvey Kooner and the drivers' examiner can provide a 20-25 minute abbreviated version. Books and sample exams can also be provided to help with the visual, hearing and cognitive thinking portions of the exam and to assist seniors prepare for when they may no longer be able to drive. Age 80 seems to be the age that most seniors are having to take the driver's test. Doctors can also make recommendations that a senior not drive. Seniors have been trained to do this presentation and have done workshops in Cloverdale. Other RCMP districts are working together to get this program up and running.

Susan Caley would like to put this forward as a presentation at the Focus on Seniors Forums. Sahra-Lea Tosdevine-Tataryn will connect with Susan Caley as training can be done through the recreation centres.

Committee comments:

- Veterans Affairs will not pay for a scooter for a senior without a test first.
- Transportation is difficult for people in Surrey and isolation happens when you can no longer drive. It is important to stay connected with family.
- Surrey has been a strong advocate to get its fair share of transit south of the Fraser; however, thus far it has been a challenge to obtain assistance from TransLink in the planning for the changing demographics of the future.

Councillor Steele advised that the Transportation Committee will be requested to write a letter to TransLink, the Minister of Transportation and copy the opposition critic advocating for age friendly transit considerations. It was emphasized that if the government's policy platform does not include 'transit for seniors', then it does not meet the needs of the community.

It was Moved by P. Petrala  
 Seconded by M. Cross  
 That the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility  
 Committee request staff to communicate with the Transportation Committee to write  
 a letter to TransLink, the Minister of Transportation and copy the Opposition Critic  
 Harry Bains (Surrey-Newton)-Transportation and Infrastructure, advocating for age  
 friendly transit considerations and requesting consideration be given to new funding  
 in the planning for the changing demographics south of the Fraser over the next 30  
 years to come.

Carried

## C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

### 1. Future Focus on Seniors Forums

#### Proposed Schedule 2012 -

- Saturday, September 15, 2012 – Newton Recreation Centre large gym (*confirmed*) – presented in Punjabi. Councillor Rasode to serve as the Master of Ceremonies.
- Saturday, October 13, 2012 – Chuck Bailey north gym (*confirmed*) – presented in Urdu.
- Saturday, October 27, 2012 – Newton gym – presented in English.
- End of November, 2012 (*date to be confirmed*) – Korean church (*to be confirmed*) – presented in Korean. Marlene Drozda to request the same two RCMP officers to present as at the last forum.
- Saturday, November 17, 2012 – Guildford/Fraser Heights Recreation Centre (*confirmed*) – presented in Mandarin (*confirmed*).  
Topics to include: Gambling - Phyllis Chen; Abuse; the impact of someone else's gambling.
- Saturday, December 1, 2012 – South Surrey Recreation Centre (*confirmed*) – presented in English.

#### Proposed schedule 2013 –

- Saturday, February 23, 2013 – Cloverdale Recreation Centre (*confirmed*) – presented in English
- Saturday, March 16, 2013 – Fleetwood Community Centre (*confirmed*) – presented in Mandarin or Cantonese (*to be confirmed*)
- Aboriginal Forum - April, 2013 – *date TBD*
  - Susan Caley to connect with Councillor Steele to form a subcommittee to plan a forum for Kaitzi and Kla-how-eya communities
- Muslim Forum – *date TBD*
- Spanish Forum – *date TBD*
- Caregivers, Family & Younger Generation Forum – *date TBD*
  - Staff working on New Horizons grant application
- CNIB & Institute for the Deaf – *date TBD*
  - Need further information. Councillor Steele requested this item be added to the July agenda.

2. **Conference - Aging In Place** – June 8, 2012

The Forum was a great success, with 667 people being registered. All volunteers and participants were thanked. Evaluation feedback forms have been received and comments are being compiled.

Recommendations and suggestions for next year were discussed. It was noted that a procedure needs to be implemented for dealing with hecklers. The organizational piece, and the resources and educational aspects were complimented by attendees.

3. ***A Roof Over My Head*** – Part 3  
Friday, June 22, 2012, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Cloverdale Recreation Centre

*A Roof Over My Head* was funded in part from the first UBCM grant.

In terms of attendance, 92 people registered with 55 being on a wait list. Many people from S. Asian communities are also attending the English Forums. A potential expansion of housing sessions is being proposed due to the waitlist and expressed interest. It is important to look at doing similar seminars to educate the seniors about housing issues.

Joyce Schmalz can talk to the new grant, HAFAR, to get equipment into the homes of seniors. Landlords can also apply for it. We want to encourage people to stay in their homes as "home is best" is considered the best practice to help seniors live healthy and active lives.

This reinforces the need for expanding the *A Roof over My Head* workshop series, similar to the Forums.

4. **Committee Member Updates**

The need for a Leisure Calendar and all the events that are registered through Parks and Recreation was discussed. Logistically, a calendar would be a challenge relative to Marketing's print dates and how some things change.

The Community Recreation Services department has requested more space in future Leisure Guides in order to include information about the Seniors Connector, Forums and other initiatives relevant for seniors.

Focus on Seniors Forum presenters cannot have a fee or solicitation attached to them. BC Securities is involved and are solely focused on educating seniors about fraud and scams.

Councillor Steele will meet next week with Cathleen Friesen, Fraser Health to discuss about all things 'senior'.

**Kay Noonan** – Marilyn Mahon from BEST (an organization that is looking at alternative forms of transportation), and Star (a bus network/topology network

architecture) are working with Seniors Planning Table and looking at implementing a program in the fall to include all of South Surrey as part of the pilot. They have never done this in a place as big as Surrey. BEST approached the Seniors Planning Table a year ago. They submitted a request for a bus shelter outside of Fleetwood.

**Pat McIntosh** - Surrey's Seniors Come Share Society put on a great event: the Seniors Free Intercultural Showcase - June 9, 2012 at the Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre. Sixty-five volunteers were there. The performances were fantastic.

Councillor Steele will be meeting with the new Officer in Charge of the Surrey RCMP, Bill Fordy, and invite him to come to our meeting to be introduced.

**Joyce Schmalz** - Christie Clark, Premier of BC has announced that there is to be a Seniors Advocate position in BC. The important piece to this is to not build the resource in Victoria but to bring staff and people into the communities at the local level.

Kim Carter, Ombudsperson for the Province of BC, said the Seniors Advocate will not deal with the Federal Government but wants to keep it at the local level. We have done very well with this committee and are well on the way to helping put Surrey on the map. Councillor Steele has spoken with the UBCM as this issue is still high profile and ongoing.

#### **D. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **1. BC Identification**

It was noted that many seniors, especially immigrant seniors, do not have photo identification or any identification. Sahra-Lea Tosdevine-Tataryn has begun the research to make the BC Identification process easier for seniors.

#### **E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**

#### **F. CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **G. INFORMATION ITEM**

- 1. Longevity and Aging Conference** – October 1-2, 2012 – 7:30 AM-8:30 PM  
*"The Joys & Tears of Living Longer"*  
Hosted by Council of Senior Citizens Organizations of British Columbia (COSCO BC)  
<http://coscobc.ca/events/>

2. **Senior Strawberry Tea** - July 1, 2012 at 12:30 PM  
The Tea will be inside the building at the Cloverdale stage. There will be entertainment and Surrey City Councillors will serve the guests.

3. **June is Seniors Fraud Awareness Month**

BC Responsible & Problem Gambling has been funding the 2-1-1 help line for years and provides help in 140 different languages.

Susan Match, BC Responsible & Problem Gambling Program has been invited to give an education talk to support services staff on frauds and scams. A lot of health care support workers do not recognize when elders are victims.

**CARP Seminar: *You Bet Your Life!***

Thursday, June 28, 2012 - 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Crescent Gardens, 1222 King George Blvd, South Surrey

Registration: 604-538-5778

A CARP seminar regarding frauds, scams, and gambling addictions.

Guest speakers:

- **Brenda Lea Brown**, Senior Communications Advisor of the BC Securities Commission; and
- **Susan Match**, BC Responsible and Problem Gambling program.

**H. OTHER BUSINESS**

**I. NEXT MEETING**

The next Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting has been scheduled for July 24, 2012 at Pondside meeting room.

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by P. Petrala

Seconded by S. Match

That the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee adjourned at 11:03 AM.

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Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

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Chairperson, Councillor Steele  
Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee