

# Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee Minutes

**Present:**

Co-Chair - S. Jahan-Chaudhary,  
DIVERSEcity  
M. Cross, OPTIONS  
D. Darrell, Sources  
L. Lange, Fraser Health – Adult  
Abuse & Neglect  
S. Match, Community  
Engagement and BC Responsible  
Gambling  
S. McIntosh, Seniors Come Share  
Society  
K. Noonan, COSCO  
P. Petrala, Semiahmoo Planning  
J. Schmalz, BCCEAS  
K. Weber, Realty Watch Fraser  
Valley Real Estate Board  
R. Cross

**Absent:**

Chairperson – Councillor Steele  
Councillor B. Rasode  
Councillor M. Martin  
Dr. B. Lalli  
A. Sharma, DIVERSEcity  
A. Rutherglen, BC Securities  
Commission

**Staff Present:**

J. Tyler, Senior Services Rep, Community &  
Recreation Services Manager, Guildford  
S. Tosdevine-Tataryn, Seniors Coordinator,  
CSC2, Community & Recreation Services  
I. Mander, Manager, Library Read-Ability  
Services PRC  
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  
A. Gill, RCMP Dist.3, Community Safety  
Officer  
M. Starchuk, Surrey Fire Service  
H. Dmytriw, Legislative Services

**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

1. It was Moved by R. Cross  
Seconded by K. Weber  
That the minutes of the Seniors Advisory &  
Accessibility Committee meeting of May 2, 2013, be adopted.  
Carried

**B. DELEGATION****C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS**

1. **Bed Bugs** - Kay Noonan  
*(deferred from Feb 14, 2013)*  
Deferred until further information available.
2. **Calendar of Events** (*standing item*)  
Update will be provided at the next meeting.

**D. NEW BUSINESS****1. Next Focus on Seniors Forum –**

- September 21, 2013 - to be presented in English, at Guildford
- October 19, 2013 – to be presented in Punjabi, at Newton Recreation Centre
- November 16, 2013 – to be presented in English, at Bridgeview Community Centre
- December 2013 will be a Christmas Social for our seniors in Surrey.

**E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL****F. CORRESPONDENCE****G. INFORMATION ITEM****H. OTHER BUSINESS****1. Aging in Place Conference held May 31, 2013**  
Fleetwood Community Centre

The focus of the conference was on three key areas: Healthy Lifestyles, Education, and Advocacy and Safety. Staff advised that participation was up to 952 attendees compared to last year's number of 666 registrations.

Items of feedback on the conference, comments noted that it was well organized and was a great success; and there were requests that the conference run for two days next year.

In terms of promotion, the main form of advertising was done with newspapers ads. Staff noted that next year, the necessity to pre-register needs to be emphasized. In addition, consideration needs to be given to have shuttle buses to help alleviate the parking issue or hold the conference at a larger venue such as the Cloverdale Recreation Centre.

**2. BC Seniors' Week** is being celebrated across BC, June 2-8, 2013.

**Seniors' Week** will be celebrated in the City of Surrey **June 17-23, 2013.**

**3. Seniors City Strategic Plan**

The framework for the Seniors City Strategic Plan is now complete. The committee was advised that public consultations began with the Aging in Place Conference held May 31, 2013.

With regards to public input, a survey is available online and feedback is being solicited through recreation centres programs. Thus far 100 surveys have been

received back to date, with the deadline for online feedback being June 24, 2013.

Staff will begin consultations with designated representatives from all City departments commencing June 17, 2013, as the Draft Strategic Plan is anticipated to be ready in July 2013.

#### 4. **Mobile Outreach**

A number of mini working sessions have been held to solicit ideas for a structure for a mobile outreach program that will increase awareness of the services and resources available to help prevent the isolation and abuse of seniors.

Staff advised that outreach will be done by area representatives from the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee (SAAC) who will divide up the outreach and go to those venues and places where people are already congregating. The outreach sessions will be no more than 45 minutes to 2 hours in length and will consist of topics such as elder abuse, finances, and housing and transportation issues. Grant money is funding this.

The SAAC committee members were requested to provide the five key points of their organization to City staff (S. Tosdevine-Tataryn or K. Huffer) to be included in a one page information sheet for registrants to use as a quick summary of information regarding each of the partnered organizations/individuals, the services they provide, and how to contact them.

**Clayton Heights Lawn Bowling Club**, at 184 Street and 72 Avenue  
Tuesday, June 18, 2013, at 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

The Clayton Heights Lawn Bowling Club would like to host four different sessions and requested that the *Finding a Future for Ellen* video be shown, and that the RCMP and Seniors Come Share Society attend to provide their information. The Club would also like to host other sessions in the fall. The Club can accommodate their 60 members who can also promote the sessions amongst their families and friends.

**Imperial Place**, at 138 Street and 102 Avenue

On Wednesday, July 17, 2013, a mini session is to be coordinated with an already organized event, such as a family day, etc. The topics for discussion for both independent and supported living have yet to be determined for this session.

Karen Weber, Realty Watch, Fraser Valley Real Estate Board noted that the Real Estate Board could host a mobile outreach presentation for realtors. In addition it was noted that Susan Match, Community Engagement and BC Responsible Gambling has a mandate to teach about safety in gambling. Since both the realty and community engagement involve gambling and taking money from seniors the mini sessions could focus more on gambling, realty, mental health, and the resources available to go to for help. Furthermore, conducting mini sessions at high schools for the younger generation would also be beneficial and should be considered for the committee.

## 5. Co-Housing

Staff provided an overview of co-housing, stating it is a self-sustaining cooperative that one buys into and the people do service to build community, and is not for profit. The residents coordinate and run it themselves and share the home support, cleaning, and nurses.

The City of Surrey staff team are consistently approached to include private businesses and private housing at our Forums, Conferences and other City-wide seniors initiatives. Staff stated that hosting a 'trade show' type of event could be clearly separated in a way that does not endorse these businesses but does provide an appropriate way of ensuring our seniors in Surrey are aware of the services available to them.

With regards to the trade show concept, one of the SAAC committee members suggested this would be an appropriate initiative for the local BIA's /business developers, etc. to be involved in.

## 6. Joy TV

Joy TV is doing an information story regarding the Age Friendly Strategy during Seniors' Week. SAAC members Kay Noonan, Joyce Schmalz, Councillor Steele, and Sue McIntosh volunteered to participate.

## 7. Member Updates

- Staff noted that Service Canada will be providing an additional workshop session on Canada Pension Plan Program and Benefits, and Old Age Security Program and Benefits for those people who were wait-listed.  
(Post meeting note: workshop date: Tuesday, July 9, 2013, 10:45 – 12:15 pm. Pre-registration required.)
- The Manager for the Library Read-Ability Services noted that a Party at the Plaza, City Centre Grand Opening ceremony is to be held September 7, 2013. The official main doors for the Library onto the plaza will be opened, and the aim is for the grand foyer to be finished.
- Joyce Schmalz noted that an article, regarding BC Centre for Elder Advocacy and Support (BC CEAS), was published in the Vancouver Sun, June 6, 2013.
- Pat Leblanc, RCMP Dist.5, Crime Prevention Programs Coordinator noted that the RCMP *Horse and Rider* magazine featured 'elder abuse day' for June 15, 2013 and talks about the role of the Public Guardian and Trustee. It was further noted that arrests for elder abuse may be the solution to our problems.
- Sue Caley, RCMP Community Safety Officer, noted that the Seniors Guidebook outlines a number of items including an amendment regarding the "power of attorney". The CBC TV also did a story on the power of attorney whereby they visited different seniors' facilities, highlighting that disabled seniors are extremely vulnerable and need to "beware their new best friend". There is also

the need to do something for those seniors who are at home. The City of Surrey has the Community Response Network for Surrey/White Rock and Newton, with Louise Tremblay representing the coordinator.

- The Focus on Seniors Forum for Caregivers workshop that was planned for April 19, 2013 was cancelled due to low registration numbers and the conflicting Vaisakhi celebrations.

*Ron Cross departed the meeting at 10:00 am.*

- The Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee has done a lot to build awareness of elder abuse through information regarding options available, however it was stated that it is challenging to eliminate elder abuse, as it is in the dynamics of relationships and is very complicated. Those who are reported on regarding self-abuse (such as mental health, physical, nutritionally) are refusing help. It comes down to the right to live at risk and people cannot be forced. The City is doing what it can and the increase in attendance at the SAAC Focus on Seniors Forums is indicative of success.
- The Seniors Come Share Society has done much good work and shown the services that are available with adult day programs, respite care, etc. Hope Health is giving a lot more care now but there is the need to apply more pressure on the government care services to add more nurses, social workers, and home health subsidies for seniors who cannot pay for respite care, in addition, most seniors also lack a confidante.
- The Surrey Seniors Bazaar that was held once per month at Chuck Bailey Recreation Centre was a good venue for seniors to connect with others and to come share with a friend and have an ear and support. The Surrey Come Share Society does a lot of this type of outreach and has worked with a lot of mental health problems that they then referred. Through this group, Surrey is well positioned for advocacy and has done a lot of work to get to this stage.

*Leanne Lange departed the meeting 10:10 am.*

- Pat Petrala, Semiahmoo Planning Table attended the *Engaging Women, Transforming Cities: Designing an Ideal City for Women and Girls National Conference*, May 30, 2013 at Simon Fraser University's Segal Graduate School of Business in Vancouver. The conference was a one-day event that brought together municipal officials, urban designers and planners, and women and girls interested in transforming our cities into places where women are more involved in electoral processes, and municipal governments are responsive to the priorities of women and girls in Canada's urban centres. Councillor Rasode spoke about the programs and brought forward recommendations to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

**I. NEXT MEETING**

The next Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting is scheduled for July 4, 2013.

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by P. Petrala  
Seconded by S. McIntosh  
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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Co-Chair, S. Jahan-Chaudhary  
Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee