

**Present:**

Councillor Steele, Chair  
Councillor Starchuk, Vice Chair  
S. Bell  
M. Cross  
R. Cross  
M. Drozda  
D. Evans  
C. Hong  
S. Jahan-Chaudhary  
L. Lange  
S. McIntosh  
V. Nielsen  
K. Noonan  
J. Schmalz  
K. Weber  
Cst. Hayes

**Absent:**

**Staff Present:**

S. Tosdevine-Tataryn, Age Friendly Strategy  
For Seniors Project Manager  
I. Stachura, Manager, Read Ability Services,  
Library  
S. Robinson, Asst. Chief, Surrey Fire Services  
Coordinator, North Surrey  
C. Bootsma, Community Services Assistant  
K. Fehr, Community Services Assistant  
L. Luaifoa, Legislative Services

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**A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

1. The minutes of the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting of May 10, 2016, to be adopted.

It was

Moved by S. Robinson

Seconded by S. Jahan-Chaudhary

That the minutes of the Seniors Advisory &  
Accessibility Committee meeting on May 10, 2016, be adopted.

Carried

**B. DELEGATION**

1. **Reminisce Kits at Surrey Museum**  
File: 5000-01

Kendra Fehr, Community Services Assistant, Parks, Recreation and Culture and  
Lynn Saffery, Manager, Surrey Museum, provided a presentation to the Committee  
about Reminisce Kits.

The following comments were made:

- The Surrey Museum would like to work towards being accessible to all people and for all people to feel welcome at the museum.
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- Research indicates that people visit museums for the social experience and for cognitive engagement. A museum is a place where seniors tend to feel engaged and involved when they see different things that are a part of their past.
- Reminisce Kits are part of an outreach program for a demographic that otherwise does not have access to the Surrey museum. A lot of seniors cannot drive any longer. The Surrey museum works with Elim Village and Morgan Place Care Facility. Both homes are for people that are seeing the effects of dementia and other degenerative effects of aging.
- The kits can consist of artifacts, props, sounds, songs, smells, photographs and documents and have various themes such as: Vintage Vacations, Home Life, School Days, Leisure and Celebrations. An example of contents for a Leisure Kit is a piece of charred wood which may invoke memories of camping.
- Reminiscence involves exchange of memories, passing on information, wisdom and skills. People use it in the times of stress and can create a feeling of intimacy when sharing with others. Seniors connect with the kits by laughing, telling stories, listening to each other's stories, making up stories and even to express a connection without the use of words. The Activity Directors of the homes are asked to be present in the event a senior may become upset or angry when remembering things.
- One of the in-house programs at the Surrey museum is Tea and Tours; a program that mixes socializing with a cognitive experience. The tours are popular for groups that wish to do fun things that have access to transportation and, for those homes that value getting residents out into the community.

In response to questions from the Committee, the delegation provided the following comments:

- The story telling is not documented. The point is for seniors to be heard and not for the stories to be captured.
- People are provided about an hour to go through a Reminisce Kits. The style is informal with people passing around the items and having discussions about the items.
- The Reminisce Kits usually can accommodate 15 people at a time. The Tea and Tours program can accommodate groups of 12 – 15 people.
- One of the goals is to look at families visiting homes and utilizing the kits.

**C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS****1. Aging in Place Conference**

- The conference was successful with 595 registrations. The workshops were successful with 10-50 participants in each workshop. The Border Security workshop was well received with great information shared about crossing the border.
- The Committee noted that the attendees were not seated at tables which may have made it difficult for some to write notes. The Committee recommended that various outreach contact numbers be advertised on notepads provided to participants.
- In response to an inquiry about Evaluations, staff noted that although feedback was received, it wasn't enough. People like the multiple workshop options rather than one speaker.
- It was noted that the presenter was impressed with Surrey taking on this initiative.

**2. Seminars (Bear Creek Pavilion)**

- The seminar was held in collaboration with PICS and was presented in Punjabi. Presenters included Cst. Mick Gill on Safety and Chris Chan from TransLink. Both presentations were well received. The seniors were able to tour a bus from Coast Mountain. 70 participants were expected to attend but there were 120 people in attendance.

**3. Seniors Week Review**

- Seniors Week was a success and the celebrations began with a conference on Saturday. Each town centre hosted barbecues or various teas etc. and all the events were well received.

**4. Concerts in Care**

- Two concerts were held in Fleetwood and at the South Surrey Recreation and the Arts Centre. The high quality performers received standing ovations at both performances.

**5. Presentations and Outreach Update**

- **Girl Guide Leaders** – Staff met with the Girl Guide Leaders to establish a connection to be able to work closer with the Girl Guides and build on an intergenerational opportunity with seniors.

- **May 18** – Staff did a presentation with the Surrey library staff to strengthen relationships with partners by ensuring there isn't duplication of programs and services for seniors.
- **May 27** – Staff met with some of the Parks division staff team to discuss how to support each other more in relation to senior services. The group explored various initiatives and one of the things that came up was Cemetery Services and the interest to provide presentations on preparation for death and other important relevant information. Staff will put together resource packages for Cemetery Services staff to have available to those who have lost a loved one.
- **Transportation Division** – Staff met with Meghan Fitzgerald to update the Transportation Mobility Brochure.

#### 6. **Canada Day – July 1**

- This is the first year age there will be an age friendly community tent located on site. The Strawberry Tea is scheduled and Tiller's Folley from Concerts in Care will be performing. The youth are planning various activities to take place in the tent, which will bring an intergenerational approach to 'age friendly community' awareness.

### D. **NEW BUSINESS**

#### 1. **KPU Dementia Friendship Communities – August 17**

- Staff is working with KPU to host Dr. Nick Jensen; University of Scotland, for an all-day forum at City hall. The SAAC will be invited to be part of the process which will consist of a presentation, lunch and breakout sessions. KPU has applied for funding. Further details are to be confirmed.

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

### F. **CORRESPONDENCE**

### G. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### 1. **Montreal Project**

- This project is an integrated model where police and other services are able to go to the doors of seniors if they suspect a senior is isolated. The outreach program is designed for seniors that are potentially at risk. Marie Beaulieu Ph.D. of the project is willing to come to Surrey to talk about the project in the future.

**2. Raising the Profile**

- The Raising the Profile Project is a new provincial network that supports the community-based senior's programs and services sector to address the needs of BC's aging population. The strength of this sector is its capacity to support seniors to build new social connections, remain physically and mentally active, and maintain their health and independence for as long as possible. There is also considerable research evidence backing up the claim that social support, good nutrition and physical activity are key social determinants of successful aging, delaying the onset of physical and cognitive decline, increasing resilience, and reducing the burden of care and costs for families and for the health system.

**3. Volunteer Elder Bank update:**

- The City is starting to receive applications for a 3-year project term working with the Manager at Healthy Communities and will be hiring a support person for the position. This is in progress.

**H. OTHER BUSINESS**

1. **Grandparents Day** – Susan McIntosh reported that the event was successful and attended by a blend of generations. The family-oriented event consisted of kid's painting, games and arts and crafts. The Brownies were in attendance and performed a few songs.
2. **Seniors Come Share** - Will be celebrating its 40 Anniversary and the Guildford site will open in August.
3. **YWCA Women of Distinction Award** - Surrey was well represented at the YWCA Women of Distinction Award ceremony.
4. **What is your Story?** Joyce Shmalz advised that she had provided stories for the federal project – What is your Story?
5. **Next Seniors Forum** –Scheduled for September 17 to be held at Fleetwood Community Centre.
6. **Committee Name** – the Committee ensued discussion and resolved that the Committee name be revisited and changed to a name that is more and reflective of the Committee.
7. **Canada Revenue Agency** - Staff met with Karen Martin, Regional Outreach Planning Officer, CRA and Karen expressed interest in being a part of future information sessions and will also be attending a future SAAC meeting as a delegation.
8. **Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation** - Staff will meet with Elizabeth Tang, CMHC, to discuss the Housing Options for people with Dementia.

9. **Resource Fair** – In response to the interest of local businesses and small trades and services who work in providing services to seniors eg. Mobility equipment we will be hosting a ‘Trade show’ format that will provide a venue for seniors to learn about local business who support ‘aging in place’. This event will be held in 2017. More details to follow.

**I. NEXT MEETING**

The next Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee meeting is scheduled for July 5, 2016 in 2E Community Room A at 9:00 a.m.

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by S. Robinson

Seconded by C. Hong

That the Seniors Advisory & Accessibility

Committee meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee adjourned at 10:40 am.

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Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

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Chairperson, Councillor Steele  
Seniors Advisory & Accessibility Committee