

Present:

Chair, Councillor Villeneuve
J. Calbick
D. Chattha
L. Coyle
S. Dooley
E. Milavic
L. Rhead
M. Shaw
J. Sturge
K. Thiara
D. Toor

Absent:

D. Purvey

Guest:

David Dalley Progressive Intercultural
Community Services (PICS)
Sherry Mumford, Director, Clinical
Programs, Fraser Health
Rachel Goodino, ACORN Canada
Canada Drouin, ACORN Canada

Staff Present:

A. Murphy, Senior Social Planner
K. Baglo, Planning Technician
J. Rehal, Manager, Bylaws and Licensing
J. Gallinger, Legislative Services

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Before the minutes were adopted a change was requested on Page 9 bullet 3 to reflect L. Coyle reporting that she made a connection at the Library to discuss interfaith change in January 2014.

It was

Moved by K. Thiara

Seconded by E. Milavic

It was moved and seconded that the Social
Policy Advisory Committee minutes of February 5, 2014 be adopted.

Carried

B. DELEGATION

- Standards of Maintenance Bylaw Update** – Jaspreet Rehal, Manager, Bylaws and Licensing, provided the Committee with an update on the Standards of Maintenance Bylaw.

The following comments were made:

- In April 2012, the SPAC recommended that Council: adopt a standards of maintenance bylaw; and forward a resolution to the UBCM calling on the Provincial Government to amend the Residential Tenancy Act such that the decisions of the Residential Tenancy Branch are enforced.
- In June 2012, Council adopted the Surrey Rental Premises Standards of Maintenance Bylaw.
- The Standards of Maintenance Bylaw assists the City with ensuring that basic levels of maintenance for rental accommodation are met.

- The Manager, Bylaws and Licensing commented that this is an important Bylaw and reported that the Bylaws and Licensing Department is currently considering introducing fines/ticketing and increasing inspection fees as a means of enhancing enforcement of the bylaw, and as motivation for owners to maintain their property.
- The Bylaws Department has to carefully consider the fines and inspection fees related to the Standards of Maintenance Bylaw.
- Thirteen acts of enforcement have occurred since the Bylaw was adopted, with heat as the main issue in most of the complaints.
- Two representatives of ACORN Canada were in attendance during the meeting. The Chair noted that ACORN played a key role in bringing the need for a Standards of Maintenance Bylaw to the City's attention. The ACORN members provided the following comments :

ACORN suggests that the City license landlords. This would assist with enforcement.

The ACORN members wondered about how Bylaws follows-up on complaints.
- The Manager, Bylaws and Licensing responded to ACORN's comments stating that Bylaws would look into the possibility of licensing landlords. The Manager, Bylaws and Licensing also stated that officers follow up with the landlord and complainants on any violations until the issue is addressed. For issues that do not fall within their jurisdiction, Bylaws partners with other departments or agencies such as the Building Department or Fraser Health Authority.
- It was suggested that information regarding how to contact Bylaws needs to be readily available to tenants.
- The Bylaws Department is looking into training for landlords around rights and responsibilities, to take place in spring 2014.
- In cases where issues regarding compliance with the Standards of Maintenance Bylaw are not resolved and the health and safety of residents is compromised, the properties are boarded up. Social services are called in cases where residents need to be evacuated.
- It was reported that according to local MLA's, the *Residential Tenancy Act*.is currently under review by the provincial government.
- The Social Policy Advisory Committee agreed that they would be interested in learning more about any proposed amendments to the *Residential Tenancy Act*.

It was Moved by E. Milavic
Seconded by K. Thiara
That Council request that the Deputy Premier and Minister of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing provide the City of Surrey's Social Policy Advisory Committee with an update on any proposed amendments to the *Residential Tenancy Act*, and specifically plans to amend the Act such that decisions or orders made by the Residential Tenancy Branch through the dispute resolution process are enforced.
Carried

2. **Surrey Interfaith Community Inquiry Project** – David Dalley before the Committee to provide a presentation on the Surrey Interfaith Community Inquiry Project on behalf of PICS and made the following comments:

- The Surrey Interfaith Council meets monthly. The project is made possible through funding from the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.
- It is apparent that many of the tensions around cultural diversity derive from unease about religious diversity. To address this issue, the interfaith process engages people from diverse religious, spiritual and philosophical traditions to raise awareness and build trust.
- Dr. David Seljak, Spiritual Studies, University of Waterloo, stated that, "those interested in promoting multiculturalism – that is, in making Canada a more diverse, participatory, and just society – should take religion seriously, because Canadians take it seriously. One cannot claim to have recognized and honoured the particular identity of an ethnic community when one has refused to acknowledge those religious elements that members of that community see as central to their identity." And, "Canada lags far behind Britain and Australia, where governments sponsor councils to promote interfaith co-operation and education, as well as to advise governments, along with their agencies and institutions, on religious questions."
- The Interfaith bridging project seeks to build relationships between diverse, established faith communities and to enhance understanding of intersecting identifies, such as a person's faith, culture and ethnicity.
- The Province of British Columbia is the first jurisdiction in Canada to offer funding that focuses specifically on faith and spiritual diversity. In November 2013, Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS) received funding for a Surrey-based project; the project finishes at the end of March 2014.
- Through Interfaith engagement members of diverse religious, spiritual and philosophical communities develop mutual understanding and respect while also deepening their own identify and commitments. Its philosophy lies beyond tolerance of diversity and requires building positive relationships and working with one another.
- Interfaith engagement cultivates in people a deeper sense of their own religious identity while also building relationships with people who are different; equips people with skills to navigate in a religiously and culturally diverse world; helps people become more articulate about their own worldviews, beliefs and values; and develops a sense of mutual trust,

respect, and understanding across religious traditions. Interfaith engagement reduces religiously motivated violence, stereotyping, bigotry, or hatred; and unites people across faith and ideological lines.

- The Surrey Spiritual Summit was held on March 1, 2014.

The Committee made the following comments:

- The Chair thanked the delegation and noted that as Surrey is a very diverse and multicultural city and that understanding of the various faiths and cultures is important. The Chair also stated that it is a good idea to have programs like these available to residents and that PICS does a good job of involving all groups within Surrey.
- The Delegate stated that the program has evolved into an adult-based program; however, there is opportunity to expand the program to include children and youth.
- "Religions in My Neighbourhood" helps children understand the importance of social and cultural differences among members of their communities. It allows them to see differences as a normal, understandable, and interesting part of their world.
- Interfaith education in the school systems would be beneficial.

The Chair thanked the delegation and stated that SPAC would be willing to support Surrey Interfaith in a grant application.

3. **Fraser Health Mental Health and Substance Use Services** – Sherry Mumford, before the Committee to provide information on Fraser Health Authority’s Mental Health and Substance Use Services. The Delegate made the following comments:

- Fraser Health’s portfolio is mental health and substance use services.
- 85% of Fraser health’s substance use services are contracted to non-profit organizations. BC Housing provides the housing component.
- Fraser Health Authority only provides licensed beds. Licenses beds require regular accountability and reporting.
- Licensed differ from registered beds. Licensed beds are licensed by Fraser Health Authority. Registered beds are registered by the Ministry of Health Assisted Living Registry.
- Fraser Health has no involvement with the Assisted Living Registry.
- The Ministry of Health is responsible for the Assisted Living Registry and requires a Certificate of Registration be renewed annually. Regular reports are not required. The Ministry of Health responds to complaints.

Substance Use Services

Component	Coverage	2012-2013 Numbers
Prevention/Health Promotion	Community Specific – focus on children/youth	Determined by requests outside of the mainstream school for FH funded positions

Component	Coverage	2012-2013 Numbers
Outpatient/Outreach 19 services – 3 child/youth/ young adult specific	Surrey – FH contracts with DiverseCity, Pacific Community Resources Society and owns/ operates Surrey SAS	4,995 adults 2,544 children/youth Surrey – 1,054 adults 412 children/youth
Intensive Day Treatment	Contracted mobile service – services specific communities DEWY for youth services specific communities including Surrey	240 adults 120 youth
Support Recovery (Stabilization & Transitional Living Residences (STLRs))	Regional Adult men and women	1,067
Intensive Residential Treatment (IRT)	Regional - Adult men and women - Youth	1,124 adults 35 youth
Withdrawal management services & daytox programs	Regional – all ages 1 community based inpatient – Creekside 1 home/mobile located in Fraser east	1,559 500
Others Quibble Creek Sobering & Assessment Centre Heartwood for Women Burnaby Center for Mental Health & Addictions	Surrey specific Provincial Provincial	3,730 visit Apr-Dec/2013 30 bed unit 98 bed unit

- Individuals requiring treatment must be sober when entering Fraser Health licensed recovery facilities.
- On average, adults relapse and go through treatment 5 times before remaining clean. Relapse is part of addiction. Follow ups, through outpatient clinics, are conducted until the client states that they no longer require assistance.
- The most commonly abused substances for adolescents are alcohol (90%), marijuana (85%) and hallucinogens / club drugs (30%). For adults, the most used substances include alcohol, marijuana and cocaine.
- The geographic clustering of services, the “campus of care”, is a feature unique to Surrey. The close proximity of the Hospital and substance use facilities is beneficial as it allows them to work closely with one another.
- The Delegate informed the Committee that Fraser Health Authority has a wait list of a couple weeks to a couple months for its residential facilities.
- All Fraser Health facilities are abstinence based. Prescribed medicines are permitted. All prescriptions are administered by staff.
- The SPAC members stated that it was beneficial learning about the different types of recovery facilities and the regulatory framework in which they reside.

- More information about substance use services can be found at http://www.fraserhealth.ca/your_care/mental-health-and-substance-use/substance-use-services

The Chair thanked the Delegate for the presentation and information provided to the Committee.

4. **Delegation Request** – Dave Lyon and Nathalie Gagnon of the Department of Criminology and Kwantlen Polytechnic University and Stephen Dooley of Simon Fraser University have requested to appear before the Committee to make a presentation on "The Homeless and Vulnerably Housed in Surrey" research project.

It was

Moved by D. Chatta

Seconded by E. Milavic

That the delegation request is approved and that an invitation is extended to the Delegation to make a presentation to the Social Policy Advisory Committee at the April 2, 2014 meeting.

Carried

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

1. **Committee members' passions and interests** – the review of the notes from the January 8, 2014 committee member survey was deferred to the next meeting.
2. **Alliance of Service Clubs Project** – SPAC discussed the Alliance of Service Club Project and made the following comments:
 - The Senior Social Planner provided an overview of the questions in the draft feedback form that was circulated to SPAC members. The feedback form will assist in identifying areas of interest and in developing next steps with regard to the alliance of service clubs project.
 - The feedback form will be e-mailed to service club representatives that attended one or both meetings. The feedback form can be returned to the SPAC in written or electronic form.
 - L Coyle stated that she has been distributing the information packages from the second meeting with the service clubs when requested for information on the project.
 - The Chair suggested that the feedback form be sent out with a covering letter.
 - It is important to keep the momentum of the project going. The feedback form will assist with moving the project forward.
 - It was suggested that a third, "maybe / not sure" category be added to the feedback form, increasing the range of responses available.
 - Committee Members are to review the feedback form and to send any suggestions to the Planning Technician by Wednesday, March 12, 2014.

It was
review and amendment, that the feedback form be distributed to the service club representatives.

Moved by E. Milavic
Seconded by K. Thiara

The Committee request that following

Carried

3. **Update on the implementation of the Surrey Poverty Reduction Plan** was deferred to next meeting.

E. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

F. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

There were no items referred by Council.

G. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to receive.

H. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **Surrey Rental Premises Standards of Maintenance By-Law** – Corporate Report #R115, May 28, 2012.
2. **Resolution submitted to the Union of BC Municipalities** – RES. R12-1058 – Amendments to the Residential Tenancy Act Dispute Resolution Process – deferred from February 5, 2014
3. **Surrey Spiritual Summit Registration Package**
4. **Surrey Mental Health and Substance Use Services Fact Sheet** – December 2013
5. **SPAC Summary of the Passions and Interests of Committee Members** – January 8, 2014
6. **Corporate Report, February 3, 2014** – Partnership with the Province of BC on the Development of a New Purpose-Built Shelter and Transitional Housing Facility

It was
received by the Committee.

Moved by E. Milavic
Seconded by D. Chatta
That the noted Information Items be

Carried

I. OTHER BUSINESS**1. 2014 SPAC Fun Schedule**

The item was deferred to the next meeting.

2. Committee Member Updates

- E. Milavic reported on his attendance at the Step-Up program at Surrey Art Centre. The program is designed to increase community engagement and to enhance livability and community safety in Surrey. The Mayor and Chief Fordy spoke at the event.

An art presentation by Surrey Youth will be held in April 2014. More information on the presentation will be provided at the next meeting. A short video will also be presented.

- L. Coyle questioned the status of the Heart of the City Awards planning
 - The Heart in the City Award subcommittee will meet during the week of March 10, 2014 in order to review the Terms of Reference.
 - The Senior Social Planner stated that the descriptions of the two award categories Reducing Poverty and Strengthening Community need to be reconsidered as there was confusion during the last awards due to lack of differentiation between the categories

J. Calbick, J. Sturge, L.Coyle and E. Milavic volunteered to sit on the Heart in the City Awards subcommittee.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by D. Chatta
Seconded by E. Milavic
That the Social Policy Advisory Committee

meeting do now adjourn.

Carried

The Social Policy Advisory Committee adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Chairperson, Councillor J. Villeneuve
Social Policy Advisory Committee