
Present:

Chair, Councillor Villeneuve
Councillor LeFranc
W. Al-Jabiri
A. Begalka
S. MacKinnon
C. Mohr
L. Rhead
J. Liu (Youth Representative)
M. Tutt (Youth Representative)

Absent:

S. Dooley
K. Thiara
D. Toor

Staff Present:

A. Murphy, Senior Social Planner
K. Patten, Social Planning
L. Luaifoa, Legislative Services

A. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Social Policy Advisory Committee Minutes of September 7, 2016 to be adopted.

It was

Moved by A. Belgaka

Seconded by S. MacKinnon

That the Social Policy Advisory Committee Minutes

of September 7, 2016, be adopted.

Carried

The agenda was varied.

B. DELEGATIONS

2. **Fraser Health – Fentanyl Overdoses**

Dr. Shovita Padhi, Medical Health Officer and Meryl McDowell, Fraser Health, provided a presentation on the current fentanyl public health emergency.

The following comments were made:

- Data from the BC Coroner has shown a dramatic increase in overdose deaths since 2010, even though the number of overdoses recorded at Surrey Memorial Emergency has slightly decreased. Earlier in 2016, Provincial Health Officer, Perry Kendall declared the issue an “overdose epidemic”.
- From April to September, 2016, BC Ambulance Services administered Naloxone 213 times in the Whalley area of Surrey. This number does not include Naloxone doses administered by other organizations or service providers.
- Drugs do not discriminate; users vary and can be categorized as follows: Regular Use, Dependent Use, Experimental Use and Problem Harmful Use. The social determinants for substance use can be a result of a person’s life (income, early

childhood development, disability, education), health care, biology or environment.

- In response to the growing number of drug overdoses and deaths, Fraser Health developed the Enhanced Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) to target the issue of drug use from every angle possible. The ORS consists of four pillars: 1) Prevention, 2) Harm Reduction, 3) Treatment, and 4) Overdose Response.
- One component of the ORS includes Communications. The Communications team has been working throughout the school districts conveying to teachers and parents the importance of communicating and supporting youth. Another important component of the ORS is Opioid Substitution Therapy which involves Suboxone and Methadone access.

1. Fraser Regional Aboriginal Friendship Centre Association (FRAFCA)

Joanne Mills, Executive Director, FRAFCA, provided a presentation on the partnership with the City of Surrey and other FRAFCA initiatives.

The following comments were made:

- The Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee convenes Aboriginal agencies, key aboriginal service providers in Surrey and other Federal and Provincial Aboriginal funded programs and supporters from the Metro Vancouver region.
- The Leadership Committee has undertaken Phase 1 of the Surrey Urban Aboriginal Social Innovation Strategy (SUASIS). The first phase developed an understanding of the needs of Aboriginal people in Surrey.
- One of the findings of the SUAIS was that Surrey has a large Aboriginal population, comparable to the Aboriginal population in Vancouver which is approximately 13,000 individuals.
- The local Aboriginal community in Surrey is not represented the way the population is in Vancouver. Currently, the City of Vancouver has 22 Aboriginal organizations providing services to Aboriginals with \$100 million in funding. Where in Surrey, there is only \$3 million in funding allocated to address the same issues. The delegation noted that Surrey's Aboriginal population will surpass the Aboriginal population in Vancouver in the near future.
- Information from the 2011 Census revealed the following:
 - The Aboriginal population in Surrey is young. Of 12,900 Aboriginals, 50% are under 26 years old and under;
 - There are a high number of Aboriginal foster children residing in Surrey that face significant barriers primarily related to poverty. About 45% of the Aboriginal population in Surrey is homeowners. In Vancouver, people tend to come and go; however, in Surrey, people appear to be staying;

- In focus groups, the Aboriginal community expressed that they felt under-represented in Surrey under a number of different domains. Aboriginal people would like a place to connect and celebrate their indigenous ways.
- The FRAFCA is an agency that provides social services to Aboriginals from birth to death; sickness and health. The centre has service delivery contracts; however are also called to assist with things such as funerals or criminal proceedings. Through this work, the FRAFCA is able to accurately speak to what the City of Surrey Aboriginal population is experiencing.
- One of the projects FRAFCA is working with is the urban Aboriginal youth. On average, the organization sees 2 young people aging out of government care to the streets each month. These youth arrive without identification and a lot of the youth are undiagnosed with mental or health issues. The organization has 30 days to prepare the youth to return into society. They are largely unprepared as 30 days is not enough time.
- The Vancouver Foundation provided \$25,000 in funding to look at the issues with Aboriginal youth, the grant requirement was to produce something that had to benefit everybody and programming had to be directed by the youth.

The youth produced a video regarding urban Aboriginal youth transitioning out of foster care and it was played for the Committee.

The delegation was thanked for the presentation.

C. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

1. Orange Shirt Day – update

Kristen Patten showed a PowerPoint presentation of photos from Orange Shirt Day at City Hall.

2. Youth Transitioning from Care – 19th Birthday Party update

Kristen Patten noted the following:

- The 19th Birthday Party is a public awareness event around the issue of youth aging out of care.
- As part of the display setup at the City of Surrey lobby, a table with place settings shared individual stories of youth aging out of care. People in attendance were able to listen to the various stories.
- The event consisted of a series of speakers.
- There were approximately 75 attendees.

3. Urban Aboriginal Solutions Workshop – update

Kristen Patten noted the following:

- A large group from various organizations attended the workshop on Friday at the School District. The Solutions Workshop invited a broad range of stakeholders into creating strategies to achieve the vision for the Aboriginal community in Surrey, created by the Surrey Urban Indigenous Leadership Committee.
- Kristen shared photos with the Committee from the workshop.

4. CU2 Expo – update May 1, 2017

- CU2 Expo is a conference held every two years across Canada exploring the relationship between universities and colleges and communities for doing community research and community engagement at large. Some of the partners involved are as follows: Community Foundations of Canada, Vancouver Foundation, City of Surrey, VanCity and the McConnell Foundation.
- SFU is hosting the conference from May 1 to 5, 2017. The conference will be divided into pieces that are inter-related. The first two days will be in Surrey and the remaining days in Vancouver. The CU2 Expo Community Jam which will bring together 25 delegations from across Canada and 5 international delegations tackling social issues and working on community initiatives. Part of the mandate is that each delegation will have a strong Aboriginal component.
- “Community Jam” was selected as food metaphor i.e. “blending key ingredients”. The outcome of the event will be a mock “recipe book” with recommended programming/ideas in terms of university partnerships.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Homelessness in City Centre

Aileen Murphy provided the following update:

- Homelessness numbers are going up from Vancouver to Chilliwack. In Surrey, it is estimated that 100 to 110 people are living in tents in the area. Based on these numbers, Surrey Council approved the opening of a temporary shelter in Guildford to accommodate 40 people with spaces specifically for couples, women, men, and people with pets. The shelter is a pilot project modelled after the shelter by 106 Avenue and King George Boulevard. The shelter will be open 24/7 with no check-in and out. Staff will work to stabilize people and transition them to housing and health services.
- The building for the shelter is City-owned and will be retrofitted for use. The space is bright and has two levels which provide the opportunity for an amenity space for people to watch TV and use the computers provided.

- BC Housing has committed to funding the operations for the shelter until Spring, 2018. The City will be responsible for preparing the space.
- The Boulevard Shelter Community Advisory Committee noted that the success of the Boulevard shelter on King George Boulevard and 106 Avenue needs to be shared. As a result, the Homelessness and Housing Society funded the production of a short video about the shelter.
- One of the issues in the city is people wanting to help but not necessarily helping appropriately; handing out clothes, blankets and food to people on the streets. Information materials have been created to distribute awareness on the various ways to help that will have a positive impact.
- Every 3 years there is a homeless count in Metro Vancouver. The numbers recorded are used by the provincial and federal governments. The count is scheduled for March 7-8, 2017 and volunteers will be needed. More information will be provided.
- A committee member noted that a pilot project will take place in conjunction with the count targeting the Newton area in Surrey. This project is in response to the criticism that the homeless numbers in Surrey represent a significant undercount.

2. **Social Innovation Summit, November 23, 2016**

Councillor LeFranc provided the following comments:

- The preliminary theme for the event is “Transforming Our Times: Social Innovations that Change People, Places and Priorities”; and
- A plenary session is planned for at the beginning and the end of the agenda.

3. **True Colours of Surrey Forum, November 18, 2016**

Aileen Murphy provided the following comments:

- The forum is related to the Local Immigration Partnership. The Province had a call for funding for projects related to discrimination and the City submitted a proposal.
- The event is free of charge and open to everyone.

E. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

F. CORRESPONDENCE

G. INFORMATION ITEMS

H. OTHER BUSINESS**1. Committee Member Updates****Monie Tutt**

- A blanket drive was done last winter with 5000 blankets collected and donated to shelters.
- A collection is scheduled for Sunday, November 13, 2016 for food and clothing for the food bank. The goal is to collect two tonnes of food.

2. 2016 SPAC Fun Schedule

- The January 4 SPAC meeting will be used as a planning meeting to determine what should be on the Fun Schedule.
- Dr. John Miller was suggested as a future delegation to the SPAC.

3. 2017 Meeting Schedule

The Committee is requested to adopt the 2017 Meeting Schedule.

It was

Moved by S. Dooley

Seconded by A. Belgalka

That the Social Policy Advisory Committee adopts

the 2017 Meeting Schedule.

Carried

I. NEXT MEETING

The next Social Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, January 4, 2017** in room 1E Community Room B.

J. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by S. MacKinnon

Seconded by A. Belgalka

That the Social Policy Advisory Committee meeting

do now adjourn.

Carried

The Social Policy Advisory Committee adjourned at 7: 15 pm.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

Chairperson, Councillor J. Villeneuve
Social Policy Advisory Committee