



Abbotsford Reaching Home Community Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, May 14, 2024 at 10:30am

In person: City Hall, Room 226

32315 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford

MINUTES

Voting Members Present: C. Gauthier, D. Halber, L. Levy, M. Loewen, J. Wegenast, P. Wells, J. Pandher

Regrets: C. Silver, F. Tick, M. Puffer, M. Brown, E. Van Egmond

Non-voting Members Present: K. Munne (INFC), M. Sikora, G. McMahon, A. Koslowsky, D. Murphy

1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 10:34 am
- b. Introductions

2. Adoption of Minutes of the Abbotsford Community Advisory Board Committee February 22, 2024 meeting

MOTION: That the Community Advisory Board adopt the February 22, 2024, CAB meeting minutes as presented.

Moved by J. Wegenast, seconded by Chris Gauthier.

CARRIED

3. CE update (Mike)

a. Terms of Reference

- Gaps in CAB attendance have been identified
- CE plans to reach out to those that have not been able to attend regularly and ask if anyone else from their organizations can replace them on the CAB.
- Discussion:
 - Since Máthekwi First Nation is not represented on the CAB, it was requested to reach out to reach out to them in-person to invite them to have a representative on the CAB.

MOTION: That the Community Advisory Board to invite Máthekwi First Nation to be part of the CAB.

Moved by L. Levy, seconded by P. Wells.

CARRIED

4. 2023-24 Community Homelessness Report (Mike)

a. Report submission deadline is June 30, 2024

- CAB approval is required for the report
- An email will be sent to CAB in June to request approval in time for the submission deadline.

5. 2022-24 Subprojects Update

Angie

- a. 13 projects
 - 8 Services, 4 Coordination of Resources and Data Collection (CRDC), and 1 Capital (new capital project as of March 2024 for Raven's Moon truck purchase with 2023-24 unallocated funds)
 - b. Final financial numbers
 - under \$20 remained unallocated of the \$1,230,507 of total funding available for subprojects
 - less than \$1 remained unspent of the \$1,230,489 contracted amount (Post meeting note: all projects confirmed final spending on May 14 via email during the CAB meeting)
6. 2023-24 Winter Top-up funding
- a. 15 projects
 - 7 Services (5 new + 2 base funded projects were upward amended), 1 Coordination of Resources and Data Collection (base funded project was upward amended), and 7 Capital (1 base funded project was upward amended)
 - b. 90% of Claim and activity reports have been submitted
 - After preliminary review of reporting received, there is approximately \$30,000 of unspent funds

MOTION: That the Community Advisory Board approve that unspent winter funds be moved to MCC EWC Coordination project to use towards Summer Emergency weather supplies and other coordinated efforts in the community.

Moved by M. Loewen, seconded by D. Halber.

CARRIED

7. 2024-26 Subprojects update and additional subprojects for consideration/appr
Mike S.
- a. There are unallocated funds at CE was confirming the needs for the funding (as follows).
Unallocated totals: 2024-25 \$222,020 + 2025-26 \$254,812 = \$476,832
 - b. 2024-26 Additional Subprojects for approval:
 - 2024 Point in Time (PiT) Homeless Count coordination and facilitation (fall 2024)– up to \$35,000
 - Direct award to MCC – have multiple years of experience doing PiT counts in the community and have the capacity to do it.
 - 40% of the funding is for thank you gifts and events for participants
 - Discussion – this count will be different, 2 parts: there will be a 24-hour enumeration and then there will be surveys conducted over the span of up to 2 months. Has been done in a 24hr period in the past by FVRD. This time, the count is being run by the federal government.
 - 2024 PiT Homeless Count report writing – up to \$15,000
 - Process will be to take collated data from HSABC and produce a final report and infographic
 - CE is in communication with HSABC to ask if they are also able to make the report as they will be compiling the data.
 - We will own the raw data (unlike the past counts) and have a report. The allows for opportunity to do other research as we will have the data.



- MCC Rent Bank – up to \$180,000 (\$90,000 each year)
 - To support clients with grants to prevent housing loss.
 - MCC has been sending many clients to CEDAR to provide prevention services to Rent Bank clients so this would allow CEDAR to focus more on other prevention needs in the community.
- MCC Extreme Weather Coordination – up to \$47,600
 - Funding would be for the remaining 3 quarters of 2024-25 and for the 2025-24 fiscal year.
 - Funding would be to continue the coordination work they have been funded for over the last years.

Note: Graham gave Coordinated Access update (see 8. below) to lead to the following subproject for approval.

- HIFIS staff - \$40,000 (for 2025-26)
 - 2024-25 adequate resources to cover this year
 - 2025-26 asking for \$40,000 of sub-project funding. Will be a very hands on/face to face position in the community.
 - Data analytics is not included in this. Hoping to have BC Housing fund the data analytics side and to be done regionally not by municipality.

(J. Wegenast recused self as per direct conflict of interest)

MOTION: That the Community Advisory Board approve the following proposed subprojects for a total of \$317,600 be presented to Abbotsford City Council for final approval for amounts requested:

- MCC PiT Count coordination \$35,000
- PiT Count report writing \$15,000
- MCC Rent Bank \$180,000
- MCC Emergency Weather Coordination \$47,600
- Coordinated Access/HIFIS Lead Staff \$40,000

The motion was made by P. Wells, seconded by L. Levy.

8. Coordinated Access Update
Graham

- a. Continuing to work on getting all the tables up and running
- b. Prevention and Diversion Table not running yet
- c. CAS governance table – hoping it is up and running by fall
- d. CAS HIFIS Working Group – have access to “Sandbox” to practice and test HIFIS. We are the first community to have access.
- e. We will need to have a community administrator – a HIFIS lead (see funding needs above).
- f. Integrated HIFIS system - the HIFIS lead will be the community administrator to oversee how it is rolled out, will give access to the site and do training, and will be responsible for data quality.

9. 2024-26 Unallocated funds remaining - \$159,232

- a. Additional subprojects for approval:
 - General CFP for services or capital

- Abbreviated CFP for Coordination of Resources and Data Collection
 - Upward amend current projects
- b. Discussion regarding an abbreviated CFP
- Discharges of individuals from the hospital and corrections into possible homelessness – community is not coordinated. Can we solicit more targeted projects? Coordination in the community can yield better results. This may be something Graham could be doing once HIFIS is up and running.
 - Could do an abbreviated CFP for CRDC with specific criteria, e.g., for institutional discharge support to prevent homelessness.
 - An abbreviated CFP gives opportunity for those that applied to the last CFP that did not get funded.
 - Funding could go to recognized gaps if CFP includes direction.
 - Possible project with focus of engagement with local nations – this would be a coordination focus in the community.
 - Proposed process: update the RH CFP application form (Coordination of Resources specifically), post on the website and share it with community. To be open for 45 days and have directed criteria.
 - CE staff to update the application and send to CAB for review and approval.

MOTION: That the Community Advisory Board proposes putting out an abbreviated CFP for Coordination of Resources for the remaining unallocated funds and be presented to Abbotsford City Council for final approval.

The motion was made by L. Levy, seconded by C. Gauthier.

CARRIED

10. Infrastructure Canada (INFC)

Kiran M.

- a. The CHIA app has received very positive feedback from other communities.
- b. 2024-25 PiT Count Harmonization meetings (hosted by the Ministry of Housing and BC Housing) may occur more often as it was a very productive meeting.
- c. Budget 2024 announcement was made in April 2024 - \$1B over 4 years for Reaching Home program. Program might get a top-up at the end of this year. Keep this in mind and be sure that it is fully expended.
- d. Looking to invest \$250M in encampments. Hoping that Province will match to bring the total to \$500M. As know more information is available, it will be shared.
- e. Have not heard confirmation regarding years 3 and 4 (2026-27 & 2027-28), but it is still on the table and is looking positive. Base funding + top up is the goal (part of the \$1B over the next 4 years).

11. Member Round Table

none

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:33 pm