



Abbotsford Reaching Home Community Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 10:30am

Location: Virtual - Teams

32315 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford

MINUTES

Voting Members Present: C. Gauthier, D. Halber, M. Jassal, A. Kaptingei, L. Levy, M. Loewen, L. Jhaj, P. Sharpe, C. Silver, J. Wegenast

Regrets: E. Van Egmond, P. Wells, D. Murphy

Non-voting Members Present: A. Koslowsky, G. McMahon, K. Munne, M. Sikora, A. Woelbern

1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 10:31 am
- b. Introductions

2. Adoption of Minutes of the Abbotsford Community Advisory Board Committee May 14, 2024 meeting

MOTION: That the Community Advisory Board adopt the May 14, 2024, CAB meeting minutes as presented.

Moved by M. Jassal, seconded by C. Gauthier.

CARRIED

3. CE update

Mike S.

- a. 2023-24 Reaching Home Update report
- b. 2023-24 CHR
 - Posted on COA website
- c. Terms of Reference
 - Appendices A, B & C – require CAB membership signatures
 - Will be sent to CAB members for signing via COA DocuSign
 - CAB membership follow up and attendance reminder. If members cannot attend meetings to have an alternate attend in their place.
 - Alternates will also be required to sign TOR appendix documents.
- d. Community Plan
 - Deadline for submission to HICC is extended to December 13, 2024
 - CAB will be required to approve final version as part of the November CAB meeting.

4. 2024-26 Subprojects Update

Angie K.

- a. 10 projects contracted and funded: 4 Services projects; 4 Coordination projects; 2 Capital projects.
- b. Summary of funds for 2024-25 Fiscal Year
 - Contracted \$1,069,977 and 2022 project carry over \$4,978 = \$1,074,955

- Q1 Budgeted Amount = \$294,294
- Q1 Actual claimed = \$186,507
- Q1 unspent amount = \$107,787
- Sub-projects had a slow start but have plans to catch up on spending in Q2. CE will be doing financial and activity monitors in the fall where amendments will be completed if needed.

5. 2024-26 Unallocated funds

Mike S.

a. Summary of Subproject Funds for 2024-25 & 2025-26 Fiscal Years

- 2024-25 Allocated total = \$1,074,955
- **2024-25 Unallocated total = \$60,442**
- 2025-26 Allocated total = \$1,037,785
- **2025-26 Unallocated total = \$97,612**

6. CFP for Coordination Subprojects: 2024-26 Additions Subprojects for Approval

Mike S.

a. CFP Details and Summary:

- Total funding available (as per application guidelines): 2024-25 \$60,000 and 2025-26 \$60,000 = \$120,000
- Application deadline was August 23, 2024
- 3 applications submitted on time for a total of \$185,000 (\$92,500/yr.)
- 1 application received after deadline for \$70,000

b. 2024-26 Additional Subprojects for approval

- CEDAR Outreach Society of BC – Understanding the Experiences and Support Needs of Those Living in Rest Stops in Abbotsford. \$45,000
- Pacific Community Resources Society (PCRS) – Indigenous Outreach Access Point. \$90,000.
 - Key point: this project will provide an access point to onboard Indigenous individuals who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness into integrated HIFIS. The role of project staff would do this when system is up and running. Will also address how to work best with individuals to collect data in a culturally acceptable way.
- University of the Fraser Valley, Community Health and Social Innovation (UFV CHASI) – Qualitative Assessment of Housing First Initiatives in Abbotsford. \$20,010
- Sparrow Community Care Society (Sparrow) – Older Adult Resource Coordination. \$70,000
- Summary of Considerations for 2024-26 unallocated funds
 - Amount recommended for 3 applications – 2024-25 \$60,010 (\$432 unallocated remains); 2025-26 \$95,000 (\$2,612 unallocated remains)
 - 2024-26 total recommended - \$155,010
 - Application that was submitted after the deadline will be considered if additional funding for 2024-26 becomes available.



MOTION: That the Community Advisory Board approve the following proposed Coordination subprojects for a total of \$155,010 be presented to Abbotsford City Council for final approval for amounts recommended:

- CEDAR \$45,000
- PCRS - \$90,000
- UFV CHASI \$20,010

The motion was made by C. Silver, seconded by M. Loewen.

CARRIED

CAB member question: Jesse W. – If more funding becomes available, can Emergency Weather Coordination be considered a higher priority for receiving funding instead of the Sparrow project (Jesse’s application) being at the top of the list? Request was put forth to amend the following motion accordingly.

MOTION: That the Community Advisory Board approve the following proposed Coordination subproject or a total of \$70,000 should additional funds come from HICC and be presented to Abbotsford City Council for final approval:

- Sparrow – \$70,000

AMMENDED MOTION: That the above motion not be put forward and only move 3 projects forward.

The motion was made by C. Silver, seconded by D. Halber.

CARRIED

7. Coordinated Access Update

Graham M.

- a. Coordinated Access System (CAS) Data Coordinator, Alysia Woelbern, started at COA in July.
- b. Ongoing work and meetings to further the set-up of the HIFIS system in Abbotsford.
 - In the next months will be expanding meeting attendees to include front line users of HIFIS to learn how they currently use the system and how they would like to use it in the future. Then will move to users that would like to use HIFIS in the future.
- c. Provincial and Federal alignment around RH and Belonging in BC Programs.
 - Integrated support framework – Province’s version of a Coordinated Access System (CAS), which helps create alignment between the objectives of the HICC and the objectives of the Ministry of Housing. Both require the use of a shared HMIS, which helps us move forward on creating an Integrated HIFIS and ensures this work will be done together with BC Housing with the support of both the provincial and federal governments.
 - Alignment process is to ensure that we are not doing things separately, but together in collaboration.
 - CAEH announcement – relates to CAEH coming in to educate and helping all partners in developing the CAS and the Integrated HIFIS (CEs and BC Housing) and will help with working together to address the outstanding work in a coordinated way.
 - In the future – a local governance table is needed for the CAS. What will the role of the local CAB be and how will it relate to the local governance table? Could the CAB play this role or part of this role? More discussion will be had in the future.

8. Infrastructure Canada (INFC)

Kiran M.

- a. Infrastructure Canada changed their name to Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (HICC). Wanted to recognize the link between Housing and Infrastructure.
- b. 2024-28 Budget Announcements, Extension and Contract Amendment
 - The budget 2024 was announced in April to include additional funding of \$1 billion. At this point the allocations are not available to share as it is going through the Treasury Board. The plan is to make an announcement in Fall 2024.

CAB member question: Jesse W. - It would be nice to have the funding before the winter season to acquire emergency weather supplies. Is there anything that we could do to start spending the amount now if the amount is expected to be the same as last year?

Response: This year the top up funding will be geared towards encampments and unsheltered homelessness, not emergency winter funding as it was last year.

- c. Other updates - none

9. Member Round Table

Bringing different tables together: SUMMA and working group tables are discussing the development of a governance table and identifying key stakeholders.

Feedback: Could the CAB, which is already meeting, serve as the governance table? We could also include the APD and Fire Department (ad hoc) for relevant topics and include frontline/outreach workers. The group is considering whether to meet 4 or 6 times per year. More will be shared at the next CAB meeting, and the flexibility of CAB's expectations will be discussed with HICC to bring back for the November meeting.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn meeting.

The motion was made by J. Wegenast, seconded by C. Gauthier.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 am