

Abbotsford Reaching Home Community Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 1:30 pm

Virtual Meeting - Teams

MINUTES

Voting Members Present: C. Gauthier, D. Halber, L. Jhaj, L. Levy, M. Loewen, C. Silver, J. Wegenast

Regrets: E. Van Egmond, M. Brown, M. Rodrigo, E. Skates, P. Wells

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

1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 1:33 pm
- b. Land acknowledgement
- c. Introductions

2. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: That the Community Advisory Board adopt the September 25, 2025 meeting agenda as presented in meeting presentation.

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

CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes of the Abbotsford Community Advisory Board Committee February 25, 2025, meeting

4. Corrections were made

MOTION: That the Community Advisory Board adopt the July 10, 2025 CAB meeting minutes as presented.

Moved by C. Gauthier, seconded by L. Levy

CARRIED

5. CE update

M. Sikora

- a. 2025 Homeless Point in Time Count (PiTC)
 - Dates: October 1 – 2; MCC to coordinate.
 - This year includes enumeration (as per 3-year cycle) and a brief survey.
 - 15-20 local organizations to contribute staff/resources – appreciation noted.
 - Count will be conducted over a 24-hour period, will start in the evening.
- b. The Alignment Project
 - Joint initiative to align BC and Federal Coordinated Access Systems and HIFIS expansion.
 - Aims to streamline local homelessness response through clearer leadership, roles, and resource use.
- c. HRLT (Homelessness Response Leadership Table)
 - Co-chaired by BC Housing and City of Abbotsford
 - Advisory body for planning, coordination, implementation, reporting, and investment alignment.
 - Membership will include reps from Ministry of Housing and Ministry of Transportation.

- Abbotsford is one of the first communities in BC to launch the HRLT.
- d. CAB Changes
- CAB becomes the Reaching Home Funding Table under HRLT working groups.
 - Strategic directions from HRLT will inform local governance and planning.
 - Community Plan and CHR to be approved by HRLT and City Council
6. 2025-26 Subprojects Q1 update
- A. Koslowsky
- a. 11 projects contracted: 5 Services; 6 Coordination of Resources and Data Quality Improvement (CRDQI).
 - b. Funding: Overallocated by \$168, expected to be covered by year-end slippage.
 - c. Q1 Financials (Apr–Jun 2025):
 - Budgeted: \$338,159
 - Claimed: \$367,679
 - Over budget by \$29,520
 - Subprojects committed to staying within total agreement amounts.
7. 2026-28 Funds
- M. Sikora
- a. 2026-27
 - Total: \$1,876,291
 - Forecast allocated: \$1,868,443
 - Remaining: \$7,848
 - Admin budget: \$281,443
 - Admin allocated: \$168,000 → \$121,291 potentially remaining
 - b. 2027-28
 - Total: \$1,876,291
 - Forecast allocated: \$1,895,443
 - Overallocated: \$19,152
 - Admin budget: \$281,443
 - Admin allocated: \$175,000 → \$87,291 potentially remaining
 - c. Key consideration:
 - Only flexibility is within admin budget.
 - No CFP at this time; revisit in Q2 of 2026-27
 - Remaining funds may support HIFIS rollout, training (including Indigenous engagement), and unforeseen costs.
8. Coordinated Access Update
- G. McMahon
- a. Ongoing collaboration with BC Housing, Ministry of Housing, HICC, and others on CAS and HIFIS integration.
 - b. Active in provincial working groups (e.g., Governance, Systems Mapping, Access & Assessment).
 - c. CAS rollout includes:
 - Integrating Encampment Response into IOM (Integrated Outreach Meeting)
 - Launching local Backbone Team and HRLT
 - d. CHIA: Outreach Dashboard launched; supports real-time tracking and PiTC.
 - e. SUMMA Table: Continuing engagement; emphasizes Indigenous consultation and participation.

9. Housing Infrastructure and Communities Canada (HICC)

K. Munne – the focus for this fiscal year is the BC alignment project.

- a. Focus: BC Alignment Project
- b. Goal: Meet Coordinated Access local requirements by March 31, 2026.
- c. Partners: Reaching Home at HICC, BC Housing, BC Ministry of Housing, CAEH (Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness), and community stakeholders
- d. Project is in final (Implementation) phase after completing Phases 1-4.

10. Member Round Table

- a. Winter Funding allocation review
 - Members were generally satisfied with the past allocation process.
 - Appreciated the quick turnaround in sharing information with CAB and the community and using a simplified application.
 - Email-based decision-making and collaboration worked well.
 - However, the short timeline and onboarding of many new organizations (went from 10 to 25 projects) significantly increased administrative workload, especially for training and reporting.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn meeting.

Moved by L. Levy, seconded C. Silver

The meeting was adjourned at 2:22 pm