



Making a difference...together

Reaching Home – Community Advisory Board (CAB)

February 11, 2021, 9:30 am -12:00 pm, via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT: Angela Wignall, Kelly Roth, Evan James, Bo Grbavac, Sinan Demirel, Pat Griffin, Aly Essa, Allison Ashcroft, Cyril Morris, Craig Gebhardt, Don Elliott

STAFF: Gina Dolinsky, Jerry Michael (recorder)

REGRETS: John Reilly, Karen Tunkara, Heidi Hartman, Jaimee Eggar, Jason Chadwick

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

1. Territorial Acknowledgment

Don Elliott provided the Territorial acknowledgement.

2. Welcome and Introductions

Don Elliott welcomed CAB members and introductions were made.

Gina Dolinsky will forward the following additional materials to CAB members after the meeting:

- Reaching Home Directives
- Link to the Community Plan to End Homelessness in the Capital Region
- List of currently funded organizations
- Reaching Home COVID-19 funding policy
- Minutes from previous CAB meetings

3. Orientation to Reaching Home

Craig Gebhardt (Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)) and Gina Dolinsky provided the Reaching Home Program orientation and along with information on currently funded projects.

4. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Don Elliott announced that two CAB members had put their names forward for Chair and Vice Chair: Bojan Grbavac for Chair and Angela Wignall for Vice Chair. Both candidates provided a short overview of their professional careers.

Don Elliott called three times for additional nominees. Having heard none, Bojan Grbavac was acclaimed as Chair and Angela Wignall was acclaimed as Vice Chair of the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board. The Chair then led the meeting.

5. CAB Terms of Reference

CAB members reviewed and discussed the Terms of Reference.

Current vacancies on the CAB were discussed and the Chair urged CAB members to recruit into these positions, including a member each representing Agencies serving Indigenous People Experiencing Homelessness; and First Nations within the Boundaries of the Victoria CMA.

A question was raised regarding remuneration for meeting attendance of CAB members who represent volunteer organizations. Craig Gebhardt explained that, other than people with lived experience of homelessness, volunteer CAB members cannot be remunerated, as per the Reaching Home Directives, Section 2. He will bring this concern to ESDC headquarters.

Community boundaries for the Reaching Home program were discussed. The Main Reaching Home program boundary is the Victoria Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), which does not include Salt Spring Island or the Southern Gulf Islands. These locations are covered by the Reaching Home Rural and Remote funding stream. The COVID-19 funding stream allows for expanded boundaries beyond the Victoria CMA. If proposals are received from Salt Spring Island the CRD as CE communicates with the rural and remote CE to ensure funding coordination.

CAB members requested CRD staff, with the chairs, to update the draft Terms of Reference. Areas of discussion included quorum and process for emailing votes in situations requiring quick turnaround of decisions.

6. Designated Communities Funding Recommendations

Motion to accept the recommendation as outlined in the CAB Report as follows:

The Community Advisory Board recommends that:

1. Commencing April 1, 2021, the CRD, as Community Entity for the Reaching Home Program, extend its current sub-project agreement to allocate up to \$297,363 to the Victoria Cool Aid Society in the years 2021-2024 as outlined in the multi-year funding structure presented in Attachment 2, subject to the following terms:
 - a. The total amount of funding recommended be considered as approximate values to allow the CE to conduct the necessary due diligence and approve budget changes not to exceed plus or minus 10% of the recommended amount, and
 - b. The proponents demonstrate the ability to fulfill all Reaching Home Program administrative requirements identified through due diligence to be completed by CE staff.

AND

2. That the CE engage and allocate any remaining Designated Communities funds at the discretion of the CE. This could include, but is not limited to, a direct award of Reaching Home Program funds subject to Reaching Home Program terms and conditions compliance, to be determined by the CE.

MOVED by Pat Griffin **SECONDED** by Evan James

CARRIED

7. Indigenous Homelessness

ESDC staff informed the CAB on the extension of the CRD as the Indigenous CE for another fiscal year. Government of Canada will continue their consultation and engagement with the local Indigenous community for an Indigenous led CAB and CE for the region.

Motion to extend the existing project agreements funded through the Indigenous Reaching Home stream for one year, 2021-2022.

MOVED by Don Elliott **SECONDED** by Pat Griffin

CARRIED

8. Agenda building and meeting schedule

Board members were supportive of rotating meeting times between business hours and evening time.

Agreement on the next meeting being 5-7pm and the following meeting occurring at 9-11am. Chair to coordinate meeting dates with CRD staff. CRD staff will bring key decision dates to Chair/Vice chair and set meeting schedule.

9. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn

MOVED by Don Elliott **SECONDED** by Angela Wignall

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.