



Making a difference...together

Reaching Home – Community Advisory Board (CAB)

May 14, 2025, 2:00pm – 3:30pm

PRESENT: Lauren Vaillancourt, Sharlene Law, Janine Theobald, Angela McNulty-Buell, Don Elliott (ex-officio), Stephen D'Souza, Deanna Underwood, Jared Melvin, Filip Ani, Ian Bermeo, Sylvia Ceacero, Ron Rice, Katherin Cooper, Jessica McDonald, Tina Stenson (ex-officio), Jerry Michael, Mary Chudley, and Lee King.

STAFF: Jamie Proctor, Lauren Vaillancourt, Gina Dolinsky, Sherry Lester (recorder)

REGRETS: Calvin Leitner, and Kelly Reid.

The meeting was called to order at 2:11pm

1. Territorial Acknowledgment, Introductions

CRD staff provided a Territorial Acknowledgment, and the CAB members went around the table introducing themselves.

CRD staff recorded members in attendance.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

MOVED by Sylvia Ceacero

SECONDED by Lee King

CARRIED

3. Approval of February 25, 2025, meeting minutes

Motion to approve the February 25, 2025, meeting minutes as presented.

MOVED by Janine Theobald

SECONDED by Deanna Underwood

CARRIED

4. Business Arising from the minutes

None

5. Community Homelessness Report

Staff presented an overview of the 2024-2025 Community Homelessness Report (CHR).

- The CHR is an annual requirement under the Reaching Home program.
- This year's CHR reflects input and addresses considerations raised in previous years.
- Staff engaged with HICC in January 2025 to clarify the CHR requirements for the current reporting cycle, particularly given that the full report cannot be completed at this time due

to the ongoing Federal-Provincial Alignment Project and the anticipated expansion of the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS).

- HICC revised the requirements for this year's CHR, outlining that all CEs in British Columbia are only required to complete Section 1 of the report.
- A key part of this year's report is the collaboration between the CRD and the Victoria Native Friendship Centre (VNFC), which serves as the Indigenous Homelessness Community Entity (ICE). VNFC has actively participated in the development of the report and has shared it with the Indigenous Community Advisory Board (ICAB) for review. The ICAB has expressed its support and will formally sign off on the report once it is approved by this board.
- CHR Findings - The Victoria region continues to benefit from the \$120 million Regional Housing First Program, a partnership between the CRD, BC Housing, and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The CRD is finalizing the Alignment Project and VNFC identified critical service gaps.

MOTION:

That the CAB endorse the Community Homelessness Report 2024-2025 as presented.

MOVED by Mary Chudley **SECONDED** by Jerry Michael **CARRIED**

6. Appreciation Event

Staff presented an overview of the Partner Appreciation Luncheon being held on June 19, 2025, at the Esquimalt Pavilion, co-hosted by the VNFC.

- It is a joint ICAB/CAB event to bring together both advisory bodies and the CE/ICE sub-project organizations to foster connection, collaboration, and shared vision.
- Draft Agenda overview.

Staff requested input and feedback regarding the Partner Appreciation Luncheon from the CAB.

7. CE Administrative updates:

Staff provided an administrative update to the CAB for information:

- The Point in Time (PiT) Count was conducted March 26, 2025. There were 192 Volunteers, and the Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria (CSPC) & HSABC are currently compiling data; CSPC will then develop a final report.
- The PiT Count is a Reaching Home requirement. The next PiT Count is scheduled the fall of 2026.

Alignment Project:

- The purpose of the Alignment Project is to bring together the Federal Reaching Home Program and BC's Homelessness Strategy (Belonging in BC), resulting in better services for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness in BC.
- Currently in Phase 5 of a five-phase project – Implementation at Provincial and Community Levels.
- CEs are currently reviewing 4 documents for sign-off:
 - Project Charter

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- Roles & Responsibilities
- Governance Models
- Implementation Plan

8. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: **2:47pm**

MOVED by Angela McNulty-Buell **SECONDED** by Sylvia Ceacero

CARRIED