

NORTH SHORE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE

MISSION STATEMENT

The North Shore Standing Committee on Substance Abuse will support community organizations to reduce the impact and incidence of substance abuse on the North Shore through advocacy, collaboration and leadership.

MEETING

Wednesday, June 21, 2017 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Committee Room, District Hall
355 W. Queens Rd, North Vancouver

MEETING

Members:

Cpl Richard De Jong, RCMP
Dr. Mark Lysyshyn, NS Medical Health Officer
Joanne Ronsley, Lions Bay Representative
Cllr Christine Cassidy, Councillor, DWV
Cllr Doug MacKay-Dunn, Councillor, DNV

Cllr Maureen Nicholson, Councillor, Bowen
Trustee Dave Stevenson, WV School District

Constable John McCormack

Staff:

Annie Mauboules, DNV Staff Liaison
Heather Evans, CNV Staff Liaison
Arleta Beckett, DWV Staff Liaison
Mary Jukich, Committee Clerk

Regrets

Cllr Linda Buchanan, Councillor, CNV
Tanis Evans, Vancouver Coastal Health
Trustee Jessica Stanley, NV School District
Chris Kennedy, RCMP Superintendent
Mardean Neuman, Tsleil Waututh First Nation
Charmaine Thomas, Squamish First Nation

1. Welcome & Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by the Chair, Cllr MacKay-Dunn.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Two information items were added:

- Carlile Youth Centre Update
- Federal Task Force recommendations on marijuana legalization.

MOVED BY Dr. Lysyshyn and seconded by Cpl De Jong
To adopt the amended agenda.

CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

MOVED BY Ms. Ronsley and seconded by Constable McCormack
To adopt the January 18, 2017 minutes.

CARRIED

4. Presentation: NS Support Recovery Houses

Brenda Plant provided a presentation on the North Shore Women's Support Recovery House, and some of the highlights included;

- The house has been open for three years with a successful record of women's recovery and no issues arising with the local neighbors.
- 127 people have been through the house with 53% completion. National Average is 35%-40% so this is considered a very good outcome. Of the clients that came through the house, 25% were put back into the workforce during their stay.
- Brenda noted that North Shore residents get priority placement at our North Shore Sites, however because many individuals in early stage recovery need to be moved out of their home community in order to separate themselves from the people or places that they associate with their substance use, we assess each referral individually to determine the best location to maximize likelihood of success. Because Turing Point has the benefit of sites in other parts of Metro Vancouver, we are able to start treatment in one location and then transition clients to their home community closer to program completion so that they can build a support network closer to home.

Brenda Plant also provided a presentation and background on the building and statistics of the North Shore Men's Support Recovery House, and some of the highlights included:

- Although there were many delays including site relocation, weather and building issues, it is expected that the occupancy permit will be received in the next few weeks, and occupants placed shortly.
- The Director of Licencing issued standard practice changes and those directives require to have staff awake 24/7. The recovery house will be moving to that model and is in the process of hiring staff to do the overnight shifts.
- It is anticipated that the men's recovery house will open in August or September.

5. Financial Update

The Committee final report was previously circulated, and included with the agenda, and on review, no issues or concerns raised.

6. Update on Fentanyl (VCH)

- Carfentanil is present in the region with a rate of 18% and this rate continues to increase;
- Approval was granted to open a second public injection site and an application is underway for another integrated supervised injection service in Vancouver;
- Five overdose prevention sites are running;
- Recently announced results of a pilot project of drug checking strips at Insite found that people who check drugs for contamination are more likely to reduce dose and avoid overdose. Insite is now considering trialing other drug checking technologies such as raman lasers.
- Family doctors no longer require a methadone licence to be able to prescribe Suboxone.
- Drug related deaths are occurring to people who do not see themselves with drug problems and these are the people that are hard to reach and educate.

Carlile Youth Concurrent Disorders Centre

This is a new 10 bed facility that provides specialized assessment and treatment for youth aged 10 to 19 with serious concurrent mental illness and addiction disorders. This facility is located at Lions Gate Hospital and is the first of its kind in Western Canada.

Federal task force recommendations on legalization of marijuana

The Federal task force appointed to study how marijuana could be legalized released its report, and some of the recommendations included:

- Setting the minimum age of purchase to 18 and allow provinces to set a higher age limit;
- Requiring plain and child proof packaging, and ensuring that the product does not look like candy;
- Edibles have warning labels;
- A strategy that encourages less potent products;
- A public education strategy;
- Establishing a safe and responsible supply chain;

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 25th, 2017 – 5:00 pm.

8. Any Other Business

No other business was presented.

9. Adjournment

On motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.