

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.

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 5:00 – 6:30 pm

VIA MS TEAMS

Present:

Cllr James Hanson, Councillor, DNV
Cllr Peter Lambur, Councillor, DWV
Nick Bell, West Vancouver Police Department
Cyndi Gerlach, School Trustee, NV School District
Dave Stevenson, School Trustee, WV School District
Chris Van Veen, Vancouver Coastal Health – Interim Medical Health Officer

Regrets:

Cllr Maureen Nicholson, Bowen Island
Joanne Ronsley, Lions Bay
Deanna Lewis, Squamish First Nation
Ghalib Bhayani, North Vancouver RCMP

Guests:

Julie Zimmerman, Manager, Vancouver Coastal Health
Michelle Brousson, MD, Health Connection Clinic

Staff:

Eirikka Brandson, DNV Staff Liaison
Heather Evans, CNV Staff Liaison
Arleta Beckett, DWV Staff Liaison
Mary Jukich, Committee Clerk

1. Welcome & Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm.

Members were introduced and welcomed to the Committee.

2. Election of Chair/Vice-Chair

A call was made for nominations for the position of Chair. Cllr. Peter Lambur nominated Cllr. James Hanson and no further nominations were received.

MOTION without objection
TO elect Cllr. Hanson as Chair.

CARRIED BY ACLAMATION

No nominations were received for Vice-Chair.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Cllr Lambur moved and Trustee Stevenson seconded
To adopt the agenda.

CARRIED

4. Adoption of Minutes

Trustee Stevenson moved and Constable Bell seconded
To adopt the minutes.

CARRIED

5. Financial Report

Heather Evans provided the financial update of the North Shore Standing Committee on Substance Abuse. The City of North Vancouver is the holder of the funds that support the Committee which are contributions from various partners. There are two accounts pertaining to the Committee, an Implementation Account and a Project Account. There were contributions in various years from various partners, including Lions Bay, Bowen Island, the three North Shore municipalities, and the Committee works from the funds that were contributed. The balance of the Implementation Account at March 4 was \$9,739.64 and the balance of the Project Account was \$14,445.81.

Trustee Stevenson moved and Constable Bell seconded
Receipt of the financial report.

CARRIED

6. Update on North Shore Community Committee on Substance Use

Michelle Brousson, MD at Health Connection Clinic and Julie Zimmerman, Manager, Vancouver Coastal Health provided a presentation on the North Shore Committee on Substance Use. The presentation included information on the history of the Committee, stakeholders, terms of reference, current resources on the North Shore and initiatives on the North Shore.

7. Update from Vancouver Coastal Health

Chris Van Veen, Vancouver Coastal Health – Director, Strategic Initiatives (VCH liaison until North Shore Medical Health Officer is recruited) provided a presentation of the overdose surveillance both provincially and in the community.

8. Discussion Topics for Next Meeting

The following ideas were presented as possible discussion items for the next meeting:

- Given the number of deaths from fentanyl and the call for decriminalization, what decriminalization and legalization could look like.
- The possible connection between substance abuse issues and homelessness.
- In the bus stops in Squamish there are advertisements for the Lifeguard App and whether there are similar ideas that could be brought to the North Shore.

- A presentation by Chris Van Ween on various decriminalization approaches that are being proposed in BC.

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date will be on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 from 5:00 to 6:30 pm.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.