

NORTH SHORE SUBSTANCE ABUSE WORKING GROUP

MISSION STATEMENT

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

MEETING

Wednesday, October 5, 2016 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Committee Room, District Hall

355 W. Queens Rd, North Vancouver

MINUTES

In Attendance:

Cpl Richard DeJong, RCMP
Tanis Evans, Vancouver Coastal Health
Dr. Mark Lysyshyn, NS Medical Health Officer
Joanne Ronsley, Lions Bay Representative
Cllr Linda Buchanan, Councillor, CNV
Cllr Doug MacKay-Dunn, Councillor, DNV

Staff:

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

Guests:

Shelagh Smith and Clare Conkin, Stepping Stones
Sandra Vasquez, Health Connections Clinic, VCH
Chris Head, Hollyburn Services Society

Regrets:

Mardeam Neuman, Tsleil Waututh First Nation
Cllr Christine Cassidy, Councillor, DWV
Trustee Jessica Stanely, NV School District
Cllr Maureen Nicholson, Councillor, Bowen
Charmaine Thomas, Squamish First Nation
Chris Kennedy, RCMP Superintendent
Sgt. Mark Braithwaite/Cst. Jeff Wood
Trustee Dave Stevenson, WV School District

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- 1. Welcome & Introductions**
 - 2. Adoption of agenda**
MOVED, seconded and carried
TO adopt the agenda.
 - 3. Adoption of minutes from May 11, 2016**
MOVED, seconded and carried
TO adopt the minutes.
 - 4. Presentation: Services for At Risk Seniors**
Stepping Stones (Shelagh Smith/Clare Conkin)
Health Connections Clinic, VCH (Sandra Vasquez)
Hollyburn Services Society (Chris Head)

Shelagh Smith and Clare Conkin (Stepping Stones), Sandra Vasquez (Health Connections Clinic, VCH), and Chris Head, (Hollyburn Services Society) provided an overview of issues and available services for at risk seniors, including the following highlights:

- Stepping Stones supports seniors with mental illness and dementia, and substance use issues. Services are available Monday to Friday, 8:30 – 4:30, and include referrals, drop-in group, outreach management in the home, providing inter-disciplinary team of occupational workers, rehab, men's group, a socializing group and a small addiction group (STRIVE) for elders who have problems with substance use, over the counter drugs/prescription, gambling, alcohol and isolation.
- Team members are divided and support various residential care facilities with an aging frame and showing dementia and cognizant impairment. Social alcohol is significant and work includes addressing this issue, as well as impact of substance use on dementing brain and secondary risks.
- Stepping Stones provides support and education to families of seniors with addictions, as well as referring families to various programs, and consultation with families.
- Online support at vch.ca is available for substance abuse, counselling and self-help support.
- The Health Connections Clinic provides services for people with complex care issues, who do not have a regular family doctor, and face medical, mental health, addictions and social issues such as housing, income and access to food. The Clinic has three GP's, two nurses and one chronic disease nurse. The clinic serves seniors 60+ as well as patients 50+ years of age. The clinic provides support to individuals with prescription and alcohol abuse. A nurse is available to do home visits to those individuals who are house bound.
- Hollyburn Family Services provides assistance to seniors (over 55) that are homeless or at risk of losing their housing, including seniors with health and mental health issues, and addictions.

During the presentation, a discussion arose with regard to individuals who are displaced from their home as a result of eviction. Concern was expressed that this issue may not be widely known and in this regard, it was suggested by Cllr MacKay-Dunn that the presenters attend a DNV Council meeting to present this information.

Action: Annie will look into having the presenters attend the DNV Council as a delegation to provide Council with information on this issue.

5. Update on Fentanyl (VCH)

Dr. Mark Lysyshyn, NS Medical Health Officer provided an update on fentanyl, including the following highlights:

- Public health emergency related to opioid overdoses continues.
- Deaths in VCH region continue to be concentrated in Vancouver with very few deaths on the North Shore.
- VCH is expanding supervised injection services with 4-5 new sites, all in Vancouver. All BC health authorities in process of developing supervised injection services.
- Take Home Naloxone training program continues at Central Community Health Centre, Health Connections Clinic and at Lions Gate Hospital.

- Lookout shelter on North Shore participating in Delegated Naloxone program.
- North Shore Fire and Police to start carrying naloxone.
- Naloxone now available without a prescription.

6. Turning Point Recovery Society Update (DNV)

Annie reported that the Neighborhood Advisory Group continues to be engaged in the men's support recovery house. Construction of the recovery house is on schedule and on budget, with completion anticipated for January. Residents will begin occupancy early in the new year, with priority given to North Shore men who are currently in other sites in Vancouver and Richmond. Nearby agencies, including the Kiwanis Centre, Ron Andrews and Parkgate and the Blueridge Community Association are all participating on the committee and offering to provide support to the future residents of the program.

Action: Inform committee of details for the grand opening ceremony.

The committee was informed of a possible opportunity to engage SFU students to do a post-occupancy survey once the recovery house is occupied.

Action: Annie will look into having the survey initiated should the project with SFU move forward.

7. Municipal Alcohol Policy (DWV and VCH)

The West Vancouver Municipal Alcohol Policy was approved in May; no further report was provided.

Action: Annie will schedule a meeting with Arleta and Mark to discuss a possible process for developing a similar policy for the DNV.

8. Terms of Reference Update

At the previous committee meeting, the terms of reference were brought for review and a request for follow up of some key points:

- Frequency of meetings – in 2016, the committee met three times (January, May and October) and there was agreement that this format should continue for 2017. The terms of reference allow an opportunity to call additional meetings, if required.
- Inclusion of mental health issues – Some items related to addictions are often discussed at the committee are inter-related with mental issues and this could be considered within the scope of committee work.
- Name of the committee – concern was previously noted whether the current committee name was appropriate, and accurately reflected committee work. Research by Annie indicated that it may be beneficial to remove reference to “working group” and substitute “committee” from the current name. This would better reflect an ongoing committee, with continuous responsibility. A recommendation was presented to change the name to “North Shore Standing Committee on Substance Abuse”.

Action: Forward the proposed name to the membership for their approval.

- Future agenda items – a list of possible agenda items was reviewed, including the following:
 - Presentation on North Shore Collaborative on Mental Health / New Youth Hub
 - Presentation on Parent Ed Series: Youth Mental Health and Wellness
 - Substance Use / Provision of Alcohol to Minors: Information for DPAC's
 - Support Recovery Beds for Youth – Need?
 - Misuse of 911 for Non-Emergency Issues
 - RCMP Survey Results

Suggested that Terry Bulych attend our next meeting to present on the new Youth Hub

9. Date of next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, 2017.

Action: The Committee Clerk will send out a calendar invite.

10. Any other business

No other business was presented.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.