

Kelowna Community Advisory Board on Homelessness Minutes

DATE: August 23, 2021

Chair: Phil Bond

Minutes Recorder: Sonyia Taggart-Mint

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

P = Present, A = Absent, R = Regrets

	SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE:	NAME:	ORGANIZATION:
P	Chair	Phil Bond	UBC Okanagan
A	Vice Chair	Stephanie Ball	Central Okanagan Journey Home Society
P	Funder	Naomi Woodland	United Way-Southern Interior BC
A	Rehabilitation	Mia Burgess	Brain Trust Canada
P	Housing / Shelter	Liz Talbott	NOW Canada
-	Provincial Government/Youth	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>
A	Indigenous	Cheryl Woods	Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society
p	Indigenous Homelessness CAB-H representative	Kody Woodmass	Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society
P	Diversity/Community Information/Volunteerism	Ellen Boelcke	KCR – Community Resources
P	Provincial Government/Health	Sandra Robertson	Interior Health Authority
P	Mental Health	Mike Gawliuk	Canadian Mental Health Association
P	Faith	Don Richmond	Evangel Church
-	Corrections	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>
A	Provincial Government/Housing	Nanette Drobot	BC Housing
P	Lived Experience	Elaine McMurray	Lived Experience Circle on Homelessness (LECoH)
P	Front Line Youth	Sarah Mackinnon	Okanagan Boys & Girls Clubs
P	Municipal Government	Sue Wheeler	City of Kelowna
P	Provincial Government/Income Assist	<i>vacant</i>	Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
-	Provincial Government / Rehabilitation	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>
-	Seniors	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>
-	Metis Community	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>
-	BC Landlords Association	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>
-	Business Sector	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>
-	Indigenous Housing	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>
Non-Voting Members:			
P	Central Okanagan Foundation	Cheryl Miller	Community Entity/Foundation / Funder
P	Central Okanagan Foundation	Sonyia Taggart-Mint	Community Entity/Foundation / Funder
P	Service Canada	Wayne Ackerman	Service Canada/Federal Government
A	Service Canada	Lisa McHaffie	Service Canada/Federal Government
Alternates:			

MINUTES DISTRIBUTION

- CAB-H Members

Meeting called to order at 10.05am

AGENDA ITEM
1. Welcome, introductions - Phil
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phil welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance. • Kody Woodmass welcomed us to the unceded territory of the Syilx Nation. • Phil called the meeting to order at 10.05am August 23, 2021.
2. Approval of August 23, 2021, Agenda and May 13,2021 minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to approve August 23, 2021, agenda: Naomi, Seconded: Sarah • Motion to approve May 13, 2021, minutes: Don, Seconded: Mike.
3. Coordinated Access Update
<p>Phil invited Sue Wheeler to give an update on the Intermediary agreement between the City of Kelowna and the Central Okanagan Foundation.</p> <p>Sue confirmed that the City of Kelowna has agreed to act as Intermediary for the Central Okanagan Journey Home Society to take on the Reaching Home Coordinated Access sub-project role. On June 21, 2021, a report went to council for the city to act as the Intermediary to accept funds on behalf of the Journey Home Society, the application was approved by council.</p> <p>Sue confirmed the City of Kelowna is in process for finalising the agreement, this should come through shortly. The city clerk and the mayor have signed the documentation.</p> <p>The Community Entity will connect with Journey Home to work on the agreement between the Central Okanagan Foundation and The Central Journey Home Society.</p> <p>Sue invited any questions from the committee, no questions were raised.</p> <p>Phil thanked Sue for the update.</p>
4. Incremental funding overview – Sonyia T-M and Wayne A
<p>Phil invited Sonyia and Wayne to provide an overview of the new additional funds to the fiscal year allocation for 2021-2022.</p> <p>Sonya provided an overview of the Incremental funding amount awarded to the City of Kelowna;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Incremental funding amount awarded to the City of Kelowna is \$1,261,341.34 applicable up until March 31, 2022. • The Incremental funding was formerly referred to as COVID-19 round 3 but has been confirmed as an amount in addition to the 2021-2022 fiscal allocation for the 5-year Reaching-Home funding. • The Incremental funding applies to COVID response initiatives, and all other eligible activities directed at assisting Canadians experiencing homelessness and those at risk of becoming homeless. <p>Wayne provided additional information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first 2 rounds of COVID-19 funding were delivered through separate statutory agreements. • We heard of COVID round 3, and it was initially presented this way to the communities, but as outlined by Sonyia it is actually an additional allocation to the annual fiscal amounts and is not specifically for COVID-19 response.

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- Is this funding specific to the City of Kelowna or can it apply to the Central Okanagan, like the 2 COVID-19 rounds of funding?

Wayne confirmed that the Directives including COVID-19 response and all other eligible activities apply, and that it would be for the CAB-H to decide the geographical boundaries for this funding.

Phil invited any questions from the committee, no questions were raised.

UBCM – Strengthening Communities Services grant - funding update – Sue Wheeler

The UBCM Strengthening Communities Services funding grant was announced in April 2021.

The City of Kelowna was eligible for a certain amount of funding for this grant that is focused on supporting individuals required to shelter outdoors. The funding came as a result of COVID-19 and people are losing their housing at a rapid pace. This grant is not focused on housing people, it is focused on supporting people who have to shelter outside.

The UBCM Strengthening Communities Services application had several components

1. Submitted an outdoor sheltering strategy which is eligible to go back to September 2020 to support the costs incurred by the City of Kelowna supporting those sheltering outside.

The funding will help support / enhance the cities outdoor sheltering sight including, lighting, washroom availability, drinking water access and the City of Kelowna will be working with community partners to implement a belongings storage program.

Sue thanked LCoH and other partners for providing a large number of people with lived experience contributing their voices to the program.

2. Created a bridge for services formerly funded through Reaching Home COVID-19 programs including the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Kelowna extended Outreach program and Ki-Low-Na Friendship Services Society Outreach Program and continuing the operation of the Hygiene centre run through Metro Community.

3. Received funding for a significant end stigma campaign. Nick Bonnet from the City has been assigned the Outdoor Shelter Coordinator role.

Incremental funding - Discussion

Phil asked members of the group who are in a conflict of interest to exit the meeting Sarah Mackinnon, Liz Talbott and Mike Gawliuk left the meeting. Phil confirmed the Community Entity will circulate outcomes to the CAB-H committee.

The Community Entity gave an overview of the identified options put forward to CAB-H to support their discussion:

The Incremental funding amount for the City of Kelowna to be allocated is: **\$1,261,341.34**

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1. Open Call for Proposals:

- Using the same process as the initial Reaching Home 5-year base funding (2019-2024).
- Applications submitted must meet the eligible activities of either the Reaching Home 5-year Directives or the Reaching Home COVID-19 Directives.
- Establish a review committee to review applications.
- Review committee meeting to adjudicate the applications.
- The CE would connect with new sub-projects to begin the agreement process to receive funding.

Timeline of 6 weeks – 2 months. It is anticipated that through this process, money would be received by approved applications by November 2021.

2. Process used for COVID-19 round 1 and round 2

- Invite local stakeholders to apply for the funding.
- Applications come as a 1–2-page document
- Reviewed and approved by the Designated Communities CAB-H via email.
- The CE will connect with the new sub-project to begin the agreement process to receive funding.

Timeline – 2 to 3 weeks

3. Continue programs funded through COVID-19 round 2

- Confirm with round 2 funded projects their interest in funding to continue their projects.
- Request a new budget for proposed requested funding
- Reviewed and approved by the Designated Communities CAB-H via email.

Timeline – 2-3 weeks

Phil invited feedback from the group.

An option to combine options 2 and 3 was raised - extending COVID-19 projects and using any outstanding funds as a call for proposals. A majority of the committee expressed interest in this as a proposed option.

Cheryl M mentioned that if organizations who received round 2 funding were extended, it would be decided by the group if they would be eligible to apply for the outstanding funding that would be put out for proposals (using a streamlined process, same process used for COVID-19 round 1 and 2 funding).

- If we go with option 2, then the current COVID-19 round 2 funded projects would be eligible to resubmit, so then they could compete for the dollars. If we want to do a hybrid, there needs to be an option for organizations to apply for new projects as the landscape has changed since the round 2 funding and new needs are emerging, so we need the community to let us know how they think we should respond to those challenges.
- It is important to consider the organizations who have received UBCM strengthening communities funding to July 2022, and if these would be included in the extension of round 2 funded projects.
- Between the options, I prefer the quicker timeline options (2 and 3), and like the idea of an openness to new organizations that would be applying too, so maybe a hybrid is best. Quick turn around is important.
- I agree with Sue and Don, even if we go with process 2, we can make it clear that the round 2 projects are welcome to apply for their current project or a different project and that does provide competition

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and opportunity to other organizations, who may be doing some really good work out there.

- Because some basic needs have been covered through the UBCM funding, it can open the door for some more innovative approaches to helping people find housing right now.

It was confirmed that the geographical boundaries for this funding still have the flexibilities that were applied to the two COVID-19 rounds of funding as the COVID-19 directives are still in effect.

The Community Entity informed group know the round 2 COVID-19 funding included a project in West Kelowna and a rent subsidy program which was eligible for residents Peachland to Lake Country.

The decision on geographical boundaries is to be made by the CAB-H.

Phil mentioned that when looking at geographical area it is important that organizations sustainability plans are clear.

- If you go outside your geographical area, make it clear that those projects must address COVID-19 response only.
- Could we have it where the COVID-19 funding is for the Central Okanagan and where the rest of the funding applies to the City of Kelowna?

Wayne A confirmed that if the group decided to do this - this would be eligible.

- Would the current COVID-19 funding would be around \$550,000.

The Community Entity stated the exact distribution amounts would have to be reviewed and confirmed after the meeting.

A comment was raised that this amount would depend on which COVID-19 round 2 projects would want to continue / what they would apply for.

- If the current funded partners wanted to change their current projects to meet the current landscape, would they need to put a new application in?

CE: That would depend on the motion decided by the CAB-H, but if the group decided on the option discussed of having a hybrid between 2 and 3, they could make it eligible for Round 2 projects to amend their requests.

- So, we are thinking option 2 but projects related to the COVID can be applied to the Central Okanagan, and projects outside of COVID-19 activities would be only for the City of Kelowna?
- And also, whether it would be open to anyone, not just the current sub-projects.
- It is important we are cautious on the boundaries and could carry on. But we do not want to start a project that can not be funded in the long term. We do not want to set our community up with projects, where the directives might change.

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- Are we getting to a place where we are comfortable with option 2 where we split in 2, the COVID funding for the Central Okanagan, non-COVID response funds strictly for the City of Kelowna but open the applications to the city.
- Sounds good to me
- Would projects funded through the UBCM grant be eligible to apply for this Reaching Home funding?

The Community Entity confirmed this decision is for the group

- They should be eligible to apply, to enhance funding for their projects. But cannot apply for what they're already funded for.

There was no further feedback from the group expressing concerns.

Sue W confirmed that she would provide information to the Community Entity on the UBCM grant budgets to support reviewing Reaching Home Incremental funding applications.

Phil: I would like to move that we will move option number 2.

Phil requested the CE to recap the detail of the amendments to option 2 – discussed by the CAB-H:

- Applications come as a 1–2-page document
- Reviewed and approved by the Designated Communities CAB-H via email.
- The CE will connect with the new sub-project to begin the agreement process to receive funding.
- COVID-19 funding can be applied for throughout the Central Okanagan
- Non COVID-19 projects are eligible within the geographical boundaries of the City of Kelowna only
- Applications can be accepted by existing and newly funded projects
- UBCM funded projects are still eligible to apply for the Reaching Home funding
- All applications will go through the process used for COVID-19 round 1 and 2, submitting a 1-2 proposal document to be reviewed by the CAB-H to ensure a timely turnaround of allocating these funds
- The Community Entity will put together the existing COVID-19 round 2 projects total cost and follow up with the group.

Phil accepted the motion as presented by the Community Entity

Phil invited feedback from CAB-H on the summary of the discussion, no concerns were raised.

Sandra accepted; Seconded: Kody

Phil presented the vote to approve the motion:

All in favor: 8

All opposed: 0

Motion approved and passed.

Phil thanked everyone for their attendance, the meeting was adjourned at 10.57am.

Next meeting date and time – not scheduled.

AGENDA ITEM

After the August 23, 2021, meeting the Community Entity and the CAB-H Chair Phil Bond identified that for best practice, an additional step was required to formalize the division of the incremental funding.

The Community Entity produced an email presenting options for the division that the CABH chair circulate on September 9, 2021 to the CABH committee. The options are outlined below.

Option 1. Based on the motion passed, the amounts to be allocated and spent by March 31, 2022 would be: \$934,435 – for COVID response initiatives only (eligible to Central Okanagan)
\$326,906.34 remaining funds - all eligible activities currently listed in the 5 year Reaching Home Directives document (eligible to the City of Kelowna only)

Option 2. Divide equally (50 / 50): 50% for COVID-19 response activities (eligible to Central Okanagan) and 50% for all other eligible activities currently listed in the 5 year Reaching Home Directives document (eligible to the City of Kelowna only) – each stream would have \$630,670.67 available to apply for.

Option 3. Open application process:

Invite all stakeholders (including COVID-19 round 2 funded projects) to apply using the Rounds 1 and 2 process as agreed but extend the geographical location so the total \$1,261,341.34 can be applied for throughout the Central Okanagan using both the COVID-19 eligible activities and all other eligible activities currently listed in the 5 year Reaching Home Directives document.

8/15 votes were returned in favor of option 2. On September 14, 2021, the chair circulated an email confirming a majority had been received for option 2, and presented the motion to accept option 2, Ellen Boelcke seconded the motion on September 14, 2021, and the motion was passed.