

Kelowna Community Advisory Board on Homelessness Minutes

DATE: September 29th, 2022

Chair: Sandra Robertson

Minutes Recorder: Anna-Lyn Albers

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

P = Present, A = Absent, R = Regrets

	SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE:	NAME:	ORGANIZATION:
P	Chair	Sandra Robertson	Interior Health Authority
P	Vice Chair	Naomi Woodland	United Way British Columbia Southern Interior
-	<i>Education</i>	<i>vacant</i>	-
-	<i>Rehabilitation</i>	<i>vacant</i>	-
P	Housing / Shelter	Liz Talbott	NOW Canada
-	<i>Provincial Government/Youth</i>	<i>vacant</i>	-
-	<i>Indigenous</i>	<i>vacant</i>	-
P	Indigenous Homelessness CAB-H representative	Kody Woodmass	Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society
P	Diversity/Community Information/Volunteerism	Ellen Boelcke	KCR – Community Resources
P	Mental Health	Mike Gawliuk	Canadian Mental Health Association
P	Faith	Don Richmond	Evangel Church
R	Coordinated Access	Stephanie Gauthier	Central Okanagan Journey Home Society
-	<i>Corrections</i>	<i>vacant</i>	-
P	Provincial Government/Housing	Janet Bertrand	BC Housing
P	Lived Experience	Elaine McMurray	Lived Experience Circle on Homelessness (LECoH)
P	Front Line Youth	Jared Hidber	Okanagan Boys & Girls Clubs
P	Municipal Government	Sue Wheeler	City of Kelowna
-	<i>Provincial Government/Income Assist</i>	<i>vacant</i>	Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
-	<i>Provincial Government / Rehabilitation</i>	<i>vacant</i>	-
-	<i>Seniors</i>	<i>vacant</i>	-
-	<i>Metis Community</i>	<i>vacant</i>	-
-	<i>BC Landlords Association</i>	<i>vacant</i>	-
-	<i>Business Sector</i>	<i>vacant</i>	-
-	<i>Indigenous Housing</i>	<i>vacant</i>	-
-	<i>LGBTQIA2S+</i>	<i>vacant</i>	-
Non-Voting Members:			
P	Central Okanagan Foundation	Cheryl Miller	Community Entity/Foundation / Funder
P	Central Okanagan Foundation	Anna-Lyn Albers	Community Entity/Foundation / Funder
P	Service Canada	Karen D'Souza	Service Canada/Federal Government
Alternates:			
A	Provincial Government/Housing	Matthew Camirand	BC Housing
A	Provincial Government/Health	Andrea Antonishen	Interior Health Authority

AGENDA ITEM
1. Welcome, introductions – Sandra Robertson
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance • Sandra invited Anna-Lyn to introduce themselves as the new Community Entity Coordinator • Anna-Lyn invited Karen D’Souza, Service Canada to introduce herself as the new liaison for Reaching Home Program • Sandra invited the CABH members to introduce themselves • Anna-Lyn gave a land acknowledgment that we are on the unceded territory of the Syilx Nation • Sandra called the meeting to order
2. Approval of September 29th, 2022, Agenda and July 28th, 2022 minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra presented September 29th, 2022, agenda, no new items were raised. • Motion to approve July 28th, 2022, minutes: Elaine, Seconded: Naomi • Motion to approve, September 29th, 2022, agenda: Liz Seconded: Jared
3. CAB-H Chair update
<p>Sandra addressed the membership vacancies and inquired with Cheryl what the ongoing recruitment strategy will be, while emphasizing the need for the Co-Chair and Chair positions to be priority due to them being occupied by interim members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheryl explained the process of recruitment will involve an application that will be submitted through the Central Okanagan Foundation website and that it would be appreciated if the CAB-H put some thought into individuals who are of viable interest. The application will be going onto the website near the end of November • Naomi expressed that someone has approached them regarding the Seniors seat <p>Sandra also addressed that Anna-Lyn proposed an LGBTQIA2S+ seat be added to the CAB-H positions. Sandra addressed that a Diversity and Inclusion position already exists and asked for discussion. Elaine expressed that she believes the LGBTQIA2S+ seat would be distinct and would represent an ever-growing/ever-existing community in the sector.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to add an LGBTQIA2S+ position to the CAB-H membership: Elaine, Seconded: Kody
4. Community Entity Update
<p>Anna-Lyn expressed that the CE received an extension for their submission of the Community Homelessness Report (CHR), making the new submission date November 7th. Anna-Lyn explained that it requires CAB-H approval three weeks prior to its submission. As such, they will be sending out the document on October 12th to receive CABH approval via email by October 17th.</p>
5. Approval of Additional Funding - Project Review Committee Recommendations 2022-2024
<p>Members excused due to conflict: Liz, Jared, Mike, Elaine Liz, Jared, and Mike are employed by organizations that applied for funding. Elaine was a member of the Project Review Committee (PRC).</p> <p>Decision made to go through each proposal alphabetically as in the format of the Grant Summary document which was distributed in the CAB-H package. Sandra will distinguish each proposal from each organization, what fiscal year/s they applied for, how much was requested and how much was recommended by the PRC. Discussion will be open for each proposal.</p>

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- Janet inquired about what sort of value system was used to identify which organizations received funding, and what process ensued. Sandra referred Janet to the Project Review Committee Minutes (distributed 5 days prior in the CAB-H package) for more detail and then asked for more information from Cheryl. Cheryl explained that the PRC used an assessment tool for each project, and each organization was given the assessment tool to see how they would be scored in advance.
- Janet asked how the financial amounts were adjusted and Cheryl explained that the meeting was 5 hours due to this part of the process. She explained that the breakdown of the budget was investigated, and discussion ensued about appropriate reductions that could be done while still maintaining the viability of the projects. Cheryl also explained that when the agreements occur, the budget can/will be renegotiated, and that it is a working budget.

Process ensued as below:

BGC Okanagan; Upstream

2023/2024 Ask: \$197,897
Recommended: \$100,000

No amendments suggested

BGC Okanagan; Kitchen and Food Education Improvements

2022/2023 Ask: \$103,387
Recommended: \$71,800

No amendments suggested

CMHA; Bright Mindz

2022/2023 Ask: \$81,254
Recommended: \$81,254

2023/2024 Ask: \$176,842
Recommended: \$96,842

Comments:

- Cheryl explained that you will notice larger reductions in second fiscal year due to the larger difference in ask, and the PRC's decision to support more organizations while considering the impact on individuals/community
- Don likes this one and understands why there was larger reductions in the second fiscal year, Kody shares sentiment

No amendments suggested

CMHA; Rent Bank

2022/2023 Ask: \$80,230
Recommended: \$74,730

2023/2024 Ask: \$139,935
Recommended: \$125,942

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Comments:

- Kody expressed the more rent bank funding the better as the community is currently strained and problem is worsening

No amendments suggested

Food Bank; Community Full Spectrum Food Program

2022/2023 Ask: 184,190
Recommended: \$162,664

2023/2024 Ask: \$345,966
Recommended: \$0

Comments:

- Naomi raises a question about the Project Review Committee notes for this application. Found the comment vague in second fiscal year
- Anna-Lyn explains that the Food Bank was lower-scored in the first fiscal year and only two individuals were able to participate in deliberation, the rest were in conflict. The two individuals who could vote had opposite recommendations; one was to fund the other to not. They did not want to go back on their “no’s”, as this was the last remaining decision for the first fiscal year, and the individual who was not initially for funding, was compelled to fund this round with the remaining amounts due to better understanding the need and amount of people benefiting from the program; as well as to not revert on already made decisions (ex. Changing a previous no to a yes, changing an amount already allocated to a recommended proposal).
- Naomi expresses that it may be problematic if its because there was no money left, Cheryl expressed it’s not because there wasn’t enough money, its that both decided not to fund the second year and it was one of the lowest scored; both individuals were compelled to not fund for the second fiscal year.

No amendments suggested

Freedom’s Door; Operational

2022/2023 Ask: \$220,152
Recommended: \$200,000

2023/2024 Ask: \$338,112
Recommended: \$160,000

Comments:

- Question about the capital investment, was it a vehicle?
- Cheryl confirms it is for the purchase of a readily available used van

No amendments suggested

John Howard Society; STEP House

2022/2023 Ask: \$84,225
Recommended: \$84,225

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2023/2024 Ask: \$168,450
Recommended: \$81,726

Comments:

- Janet inquires if there is not support from CLBC, Sandra explains that it looks like its for people involved in the justice system, those exiting institutions. Cheryl confirms.
- Anna-Lyn explains that it's a second floor they are applying for in an already existing building, not a new housing development.

No amendments suggested

Karis; Residential Recovery Program for Women

2022/2023 Ask: \$35,000
Recommended \$35,000

2023/2024 Ask: \$45,000
Recommended: \$45,000

No amendments suggested

Kelowna Gospel Mission; Momentum Ministries

2023/2024 Ask: \$89,159
Recommended: \$0

Comments:

- Janet asks why they were not awarded funds. Naomi reads out PRC's comments from the adjudication. Anna-Lyn explains the assessment tool is used to score in various categories, so at times there were applications that had already received a recommendation of no funding by the majority. Cheryl adds that Kelowna's Gospel Mission's Outreach seemed like more of a greater need in the community based on reading the applications and was considered the strongest out of their two applications by the PRC.

No amendments suggested

Kelowna Gospel Mission; Outreach

2023/2024 Ask: \$162,125
Recommended: \$90,000

Comments:

- Cheryl explains that they did request a van in this overall budget as well, which they may or may not choose to purchase based on their allocation. The vehicle is a 2022 Chrysler Grand Caravan and they have access to it in a timely manner.

No amendments suggested

METRO; Hygiene Program Development - Case Work

2022/2023 Ask: \$161,363
Recommended: \$0

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2023/2024 Ask: \$297,932
Recommended: \$0

Comments:

- Sandra identifies the comments from the PRC minutes to refresh the reasoning for the allocation
- Naomi expressed that they aren't aware of other hygiene programs that the community can access, and is worried about a large gap in the community for accessing this kind of support
- Cheryl explains that it isn't for the hygiene program, as its title is misleading, its for casework and *expanding* their hygiene program. Cheryl identifies that the proposal included a community meal program, social and practical supports to those who are already accessing the program, the successful transition of clients into employees, and the proposal for developing a caseworker role
- Anna-Lyn explains the grant summary document contains their exact words for objective and activities if there is any confusion
- Sandra summarizes that its expanding services for people already accessing the hygiene program
- Don reiterates that it seems about hiring a new position than hygiene per se
- Cheryl confirmed; that is correct

No amendments suggested

NOW Canada; Operational

2022/2023 Ask: \$33,598
Recommended: \$33,598

2023/2024 Ask: \$107,437
Recommended: \$70,000

No amendments suggested

PEOPLE Lived Experience Society; Lived Experience Inclusion

2022/2023 Ask: \$83,087
Recommended: \$50,000

2023/2024 Ask: \$98,861
Recommended: \$50,000

Comments:

- Janet asks if this proposal is about people with lived experience doing work within the community, and is curious about the Data Collection, Analysis, and Use being done by this organization
- Anna-Lyn explains that, the Data Collection, Analysis, and Use is a broad Reaching Home Directive that proposals can indicate as part of their proposed funding. PEOPLE specified that they would fulfill that activity through utilizing the funds to support their Weekly Rental Vacancy listing which the PRC understood as a very helpful tool in the community as far as helping people find housing (particularly those who may not have a caseworker, be on a waitlist, or who do not have access to the internet regularly). Anna-Lyn explains that it is, in fact, funding people with lived experience having employment in the community as the application outlines the delivery of a 2-peer cohort training for up to 30 People with Lived Experience to help them improve baseline communication and 'job readiness'. As well, the proposal

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involves, “In Work Peer Support” which includes a social work mentor who provides a 1 hour bi-weekly of continual training and mentoring support for up to 30 employees for a period of 6 months per employee

No amendments suggested

Seniors Outreach; SHINE

2022/2023 Ask: \$35,710
Recommended: \$35,710

2023/2024 Ask: \$64,170
Recommended: \$64,170

No amendments suggested

Society of Hope; Short Term Housing Supports

2022/2023 Ask: \$45,969
Recommended: \$41,960

2023/2024 Ask: \$77,360
Recommended: \$31,360

No amendments suggested

Bridge Family & Youth Services; Overdose Outreach Prevention Service

2022/2023 Ask: \$92,735
Recommended: \$0

2023/2024 Ask: \$196,256
Recommended: \$0

Comments:

- Kody inquires about the rationale; Sandra recites overview of PRC feedback from the distributed minutes
- In summary, lack of clarity and low score overall

No amendments suggested

Westside Salvation Army

Seniors Meal Program

2022/2023 Ask: \$58,950
Recommended: \$58,950

No amendments suggested

Outreach Hub

2022/2023 Ask: \$99,190
Recommended: \$0

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Comments:

- Naomi offers clarification on the project, they expressed that it, in part, evolved from the closure of the Westside Shelter Society; it functions as a storage location for other organizations to pick up outreach materials. She is not sure it would be a duplication of services, as the PRC was concerned, but understands that the application was unclear

No amendments suggested

Vehicle Purchase

2022/2023 Ask: \$88,320

Recommended: \$0

Comments:

- Anna-Lyn explains that there were many open questions about the van's use and applicability from the PRC
- Cheryl explains the committee thought there may be alternative solutions to the van

No amendments suggested

Additional Commentary:

- Naomi expressed that she noticed a trend in the PRC minutes where when the organization's found it difficult to put their point across in writing, it was difficult for the PRC to score them and decide on funding, she expressed curiosity in potential shifts in the application process for those who struggle with writing applications or do not have adequate resources
- Sandra agrees that to penalize organizations who don't have grant writers in their membership, and therefore may struggle to get their points across in writing
- Cheryl responded with an example of the Bridge, who has a qualified grant writer and yet both their applications were denied and reiterates that all applicants were given the assessment tool to guide their writing/formatting.
- Janet asks if feedback is given to the proposals that are denied. Cheryl explains that they do.

Motion to award the 2022-2023 fiscal year funds per the recommended amounts from the Project Review Committee's adjudication as indicated in the Grant Summary document: Sandra, Seconded: Don.

Motion to award the 2023-2024 fiscal year funds per the recommendations from the Project Review Committee's adjudication as indicated in the Grant Summary document: Sandra, Seconded: Kody.

Vote: Carried.

5. Closing remarks

Sandra thanked everyone for their attendance, the meeting was adjourned at 12:22

Next meeting date and time TBD.