

Cowichan Housing and Homelessness Coalition
Meeting Notes
July 30, 2019; 11.00 am – 1.00 pm
Island Savings Centre Koksilah Room

Present:

1. Cindy Lise	Our Cowichan
2. John Horn	Cowichan Housing Association
3. Chris Hall	Cowichan Housing Association
4. Morgan Saddington	Cowichan Housing Association
5. Gillian Thibedeau	MCFD / CYMH
6. Ian Morrison	Cowichan Valley Regional District
7. Grace Kerr	Service Canada
8. Christy Wood	LRCA
9. Dana Thorne	Cowichan Tribes
10. Chris Hutton	North Cowichan
11. Barry O’Riordan	Economic Development Cowichan, CVRD
12. Robert Martin	MP Alistair MacGregor’s office
13. Debbie Berg	CWAV
14. Arlene Robinson	Cowichan Neighbourhood House
15. Duane Guthrie	Salvation Army
16. Dave Maandag	Salvation Army
17. Lisa Kellar	Cowichan Valley Open Learning, SD79
18. Abby Carfantan	Cowichan Valley Open Learning, SD79
19. Lois Gabitous	BC Housing
20. Sheila D’Albertanson	BC Housing
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	ITEM
Welcome and Introductions	Chair: John Horn, Cowichan Housing Association
Agenda and May 2019 Meeting Notes	Accepted with amendment to move presentation by BC Housing, Coordinated Access to follow Roundtable Reports.
Roundtable Reports / Updates:	<p>Homelessness Prevention and Response</p> <p><u>CVOLC:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has pool of 6 graduates meeting monthly to work on housing projects, will apply for Home Depot Orange Door Funding this Fall. <p><u>North Cowichan:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued work with Community Land Trust to develop 92 unit project. • Call out for volunteers to sit on OCP Advisory Group or Community Ambassador Team. <p><u>LRCA:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of 20 programs and services. • 36 Unit Project in development, community excited to see the beginnings of the land development. <p><u>CVRD:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New General Manager of Land Use Services in place. • CVRD has not declared a Climate Emergency, challenge is dealing with rural sprawl. <p><u>Salvation Army:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food hampers distributed 4 x per year, now developing survival packages for homeless/addicted. • Working with Clearview Detox on pilot project to transition individuals. • Possible partnership with Our Cowichan Health Network to join CAT team. <p><u>CWAV:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Services, revamped Horizons Pre-Employment program with WorkBC. • New Poverty Law Advocate available. <p><u>Cowichan Neighbourhood House:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeless numbers up in Chemainus, 10 units closed to become bed and breakfast. • Provide survival kits to both men and women. • Distributed 3,500 lbs of food, not including community lunches. • Long term plans unsure. <p><u>Our Cowichan Health Network:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAT, substance use and mental health team finishing first year as priority community. Received less funding for 2nd year, as other communities demonstrated need. • Action Coordinator and Peer Coordinator to continue in 2nd year. • “Street School” has over 100 members. <p><u>Cowichan Tribes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In process of developing land use plan, tenant management plan and method to assess needs of community. <p><u>Cowichan Housing Association:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two committees to be formed to assist with the Housing Trust Fund. A Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and the Allocations Committee will advise and provide strategic advice. This will require both geographical representation and technical expertise. • Terms of Reference have been developed for each committee. • Goal is to have the Housing Trust Fund application process established by the fall.

	<p>Coordinated Access – Presentation by BC Housing, with Lois Gabitous and Sheila D’Albertanson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion with BC Housing representatives on the function of their coordinated access system. • BC Housing has 22 supported housing sites for individuals who are addicted, homeless, or have mental health concerns, on the island. • Staff is on-site. • 12 sites in Victoria. • A simplified application form is used, BC Supported Housing Application, as well as the VAT tool to assess individual vulnerability. • Applicant only applies once. • Most vulnerable are placed first. Service providers have ability to assess the housing match. • Transfers available, no evictions. • Individuals can move from supportive to affordable housing. • Structure varies by community. Partners must work together to develop a method suitable to their community. • VAT two day training available, when housing is set to open. • Coordinated Access is part of the Reaching Home 10 year program.
	<p>Funding <u>Reaching Home application for designated community update:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cowichan and Comox have been shortlisted. • United Way to complete the application by September. • Should Cowichan be selected as Designated Community, we would be required to implement a Coordinated Access System within 3 years.
	<p>Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision to leave the coalition’s name as is; Cowichan Housing and Homelessness Coalition. • Website is on hold at this moment due to funding. • A Facebook Business Manager Page will be considered. • No discussion regarding a logo for the Coalition. <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cowichan Housing Association will host a repository on their website that will include the latest agendas / minutes and news from the Coalition. • An info-graphic will be created after each meeting to summarize and distributed to the group for sharing. • CHA will be the first point of contact for information regarding the Coalition.
	<p>Youth Housing First:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HF4Y table met with Sonia Fursteneau and Alistair MacGregor to create a business case / proposal to submit to the government by mid September. • Two locations are being considered. • Will consult with CV Open Learning as they move forwards. • Possible name “YES@home” (Youth Emergency Shelter at Home). • Will clearly communicate with MCFD to identify youth who are actually homeless. • Goal is to have a location in place before cold weather hits. • Next HF4Y meeting is September 10th, 2nd Tuesday of the month.
<p>Next Meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 24 , November 26, January 28 • 11.00 am to 1.00 pm • Locations to be announced, a meeting schedule will be created by Leadership Team.