



“To deliver effective and efficient, local government services that benefit our citizens, our businesses, our environment and our future”

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

A G E N D A

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2020

AT 8:40 AM

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. THAT the Agenda for the November 9, 2020, Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted as presented.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- A. THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting of Council held October 26, 2020, be adopted. (P. 3)

MINUTES

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4. GENERAL MATTERS

SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL – QUARTERLY REPORT (0360-20-35) (P. 5)

- A. Annette Sharkey, Executive Director, Social Planning Council re: Social Planning Council / Partners in Action Quarterly Report dated July 1 to September 30, 2020.

THAT Council receive the Social Planning Council / Partners in Action Quarterly report dated July 1 to September 30, 2020, for information.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

FCM SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AWARD PRESENTATION – DRAINAGE INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIZATION PLAN (5700-04-01) (P. 14)

- A. THAT Council receive the memorandum dated October 27, 2020 titled “FCM Sustainable Communities Award Presentation – Drainage Infrastructure Prioritization Plan” by the Infrastructure Management Technician.

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

- 8. COUNCIL INFORMATION UPDATES**
- 9. G.V.A.C. / R.D.N.O REGULAR MEETINGS**
- 10. INFORMATION ITEMS**
- 11. CLOSE OF MEETING**

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

**MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
HELD OCTOBER 26, 2020**

PRESENT: Mayor V. Cumming

Councillors: S. Anderson, K. Fehr, K. Gares
A. Mund, B. Quiring (8:43 am), D. Nahal (8:47 am)

Staff: W. Pearce, Chief Administrative Officer
P. Bridal, DCAO, Director, Corporate Services
K. Austin, Manager, Legislative Services
J. Nicol, Deputy Corporate Officer
R. Manjak, Director Human Resources
A. Stuart, Manager, Financial Reporting
K. Flick, Director, Community Infrastructure and Development
S. Melenko, Information Technician I*
D. Gellein, Manager, Building & Licensing*
D. Lind, Fire Chief, Vernon Fire Rescue Services*

**Attended as required*

Others: Media and members of the public

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Victor Cumming called the meeting to order at 8:43 am.

AGENDA ADOPTION Moved by Councillor Gares, seconded by Councillor Mund:

THAT the Agenda for the October 26, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES Moved by Councillor Fehr, seconded by Councillor Mund:

THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting of Council held October 13, 2020, be adopted.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

GENERAL MATTERS

RADON TEST KIT CHALLENGE (6410-24) Moved by Councillor Anderson, seconded by Councillor Gares:

THAT Council receive the memo titled *Radon Test Kit Challenge* dated October 16, 2020 and respectfully submitted by the Director, Community Infrastructure and Development, for information.

CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

COUNCIL INFORMATION UPDATES

G.V.A.C./R.D.N.O. REGULAR MEETINGS

INFORMATION ITEMS

CLOSE OF MEETING

CLOSE

Mayor Victor Cumming closed the meeting at 8:57 am.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Mayor

Corporate Officer

SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL/PARTNERS IN ACTION

Quarterly Report: July 1 to September 30, 2020

VISION STATEMENT: A safe, healthy and inclusive community in which to live, work and grow

MISSION STATEMENT: To identify and implement manageable solutions to social issues by mobilizing community-based action teams

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR: Social Planning Council for the North Okanagan

COMMITTEE FUNDING SOURCE: City of Vernon

ACTION TEAM FUNDING SOURCES: Provincial and Federal Government, Local Funders and Various Foundations

COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Community Safety Office, Community Futures North Okanagan, Interior Health, Kindale Developmental Association, City of Vernon, Archway Society, NexusBC, Independent Living Vernon, Downtown Vernon Association, Restorative Justice Society, North Okanagan Youth and Family Services, Turning Points Collaborative, Upper Room Mission, United Way North Okanagan Columbia Shuswap, Vernon and District Immigrant Services Society, Canadian Mental Health Association, Family Resource Centre, Vernon Native Housing Society, Chamber of Commerce, Community Living BC

STRATEGIC GOALS:

- Build awareness and understanding of social issues
- Work collaboratively to problem-solve areas of concern
- Develop resources/policies to address gaps
- Monitor and evaluate the Partners in Action model and outcomes
- Provide sustainability for the Partners in Action Committee

Action Team <small>Open/ Closed</small>	Background/Activities	Outputs	Direct Outcomes	Updates/Follow Up
COVID19 Response				
COVID Homelessness Planning Team	Ongoing This team consists of BC Housing, Interior Health, City of Vernon, Social Planning Council and Turning Points Collaborative. The purpose of the team is to develop and implement a plan to ensure that people who are homeless have access to food, farm reduction supplies and a safe space to self distance and self isolate, if needed.	A Risk Management Plan for the Homeless Population has been developed and implemented. The Risk Management Plan is reviewed, monitored and updated regularly.	Two tightly spaced shelter facilities have been merged into one larger facility to accommodate approximately 86 people per night.	BC Housing continues to provide more supports during the second wave of COVID19. A warehouse owned by BC Housing was retrofitted over the summer and people staying at the Curling Rink have now moved into the new shelter location. Plans are being developed for Turning Points Collaborative to provide additional temporary winter shelter beds. Logistics and details will be announced shortly.

Action Team	Open/ Closed	Background/Activities	Outputs	Direct Outcomes	Updates/Follow Up
				BC Housing secured units in two local motels to house people who have underlying health issues and have a greater need to self isolate.	BC Housing has successfully partnered with Turning Points Collaborative to support people who are at higher risk of death from COVID to self isolate in two local motels. The facilities are not able to be staffed 24/7 so the rooms are geared towards people who are at a lower risk of overdose and who can live more independently. The motels will be utilized during the winter months as well.
Emergency Food Access Team	Ongoing	<p>In mic March, the Upper Room Mission announced that it would drastically reduce its meal services (from ten meals per week to two per week) due to the financial constraints of COVID19.</p> <p>The following faith groups maintained and/or added programs to help fill the gaps: the Salvation Army Bagged Lunch Program, the Easthill Community Church Feed the Streets Program, the Saturday Street Lunch at the Anglican Church, the Tailgate Sunday Lunch by the North Okanagan Community Chaplaincy, and the Alliance Church Common Threads Program.</p> <p>The Community Foundation North Okanagan provided funding when needed to support the temporary pop up food programs.</p>	An Emergency Food Plan has been developed, adapted and updated as needed.	People sleeping outside have had access to at least two meals per day (sometimes three) every day of the week throughout the pandemic.	<p>The Social Planning Council continues to assist with coordination of emergency food programs and provides communication regarding changes to the Bylaw Department and local outreach workers.</p> <p>As of June 1, 2020, the Upper Room Mission successfully relaunched the majority of its food services and began serving two meals per day, Monday to Thursday. As of June 5, 2020, the Salvation Army stopped providing the bagged lunches in their parking lot although they continue to support the Street Clinic with food for outreach on Fridays. The East Hill Community Church/Feed the Streets Program continues to provide dinners on Friday, Saturday and Sundays.</p>

Action Team	Open/ Closed	Background/Activities	Outputs	Direct Outcomes	Updates/Follow Up
Supporting Vulnerable /Isolated Seniors	Ongoing	NexusBC has taken the lead to coordinate volunteers, non-profits and businesses to ensure that seniors stay safe and are receiving the help they need during the pandemic. The Better at Home service includes grocery or pharmacy pick-up and delivery, prepared meal delivery, phone or virtual visiting, support using local libraries (picking up and delivering books), transportation to medical appointments and housekeeping. The Community Foundation of the North Okanagan and the United Way of the Lower Mainland are funding the program.	Although the Better at Home Program already existed before the pandemic, the additional funding allowed the program to expand and fill the gaps created by COVID19.	Vulnerable seniors are provided the support that they need to stay safe and to self isolate as required. The program has added 194 new clients to the program since March 2020 and currently services well over 400 clients. Approximately 1,000 virtual visits and health check-ins have been conducted.	NexusBC and the funders plan to continue indefinitely with the expansion of the Better at Home Program. The service is essential during all phases of the pandemic. It is important for the community to have programs that can protect residents who are at highest risk from COVID19.
Local Funder Coordination	Ongoing	The Social Planning Council has been working closely with local funders to ensure a coordinated response to supporting local charities during the COVID19 crisis. Feedback from the non-profit sector indicated that non-profits who relied on social enterprises and/or fundraising to supplement administration and/or programs were most impacted. In addition, the technology costs to pivot to online programs and services (where possible) were a challenge as not all funders were willing to absorb these costs.	Communication with the non-profit sector regarding the gaps/needs created by COVID19. Meetings with local funders including the Community Foundation North Okanagan, United Way, the Food Foundation and Kalamalka Rotary.	Many local non-profits have successfully accessed grants to develop/expand programs in response to COVID19.	Local non-profits identified a concern regarding food insecurity for individuals and families accessing their programs. Agencies are anticipating that the need for additional food supports will increase during the second wave and/or when government subsidy programs end. Social Planning Council and the Community Foundation North Okanagan have launched a food fund that non-profits can access, as needed, in order to connect individuals and families with grocery cards and/or local food programs. The program will run from November 2020 to April 2021.

Action Team	Open/ Closed	Background/Activities	Outputs	Direct Outcomes	Updates/Follow Up
Homelessness/Housing					
COOL Team Update	Ongoing	The COOL team is a partnership between bylaw officers and outreach workers for a collaborative approach to addressing homeless camps. The COOL team follows a protocol where bylaw officers and outreach workers connect campers to services provided by Turning Points Collaborative, the Upper Room Mission and Interior Health.	Annual census/survey of homeless population. Protocol development and updates.	Due to the significant increase in absolute homelessness in the least few years, the COOL team has expanded their outreach, and work closely to monitor the health and safety of camps/spaces.	The COOL Team continues to monitor/connect with people sleeping outside during COVID19 and to maintain communication between outreach workers and the Bylaw Department. COOL Team members continue to report decreased numbers of people sleeping outside in public spaces from an estimated 50-60 pre-COVID to a current average of between 20-30 people. Over the summer, the COOL Team identified a gap in access to laundry services for people sleeping outside. A laundry program was quickly launched in partnership with the Street Clinic, Aloha Laundry and the Social Planning Council.
Housing Action Team	Ongoing	The housing action team meets quarterly to review the housing inventory, identify gaps and explore opportunities. This provides the non-profit housing sector a chance to network, brainstorm and be strategic with plans for future affordable units.	Quarterly meetings. Updated inventory. Increased collaboration and partnership development	Increased number of affordable units owned and managed by the non-profit sector.	The housing non-profit sector is organized and prepared to apply to provincial and/or federal housing grants. Since 2018, local agencies have secured grants for 392 units of affordable housing (this includes the 100 units of supported housing for Vernon that were announced over the summer). The main focus for the sector is to secure suitable sites (that are zoned and appropriate for the neighbourhood) as land is required in order to apply for the capital grants. CMHC will present on the new federal Rapid Housing Initiative at the November meeting of the Housing Action Team as this could be a source of funding for purchasing land suitable for affordable housing.

Action Team	Open/ Closed	Background/Activities	Outputs	Direct Outcomes	Updates/Follow Up
Harm Reduction/HART					
Harm Reduction Team (HART)	Open	Vernon is one of sixteen communities receiving provincial funding to address the opioid crisis at the local level and support Community Action Teams (known locally as HART). The HART team is the advisory body for the implementation of the <i>Harm Reduction and Opioid Overdose Response Strategy</i> . Social Planning Council is the host organization.	Grant secured. Launch of eight action teams since July 2018. Launch of RCMP/OAT Pilot Project. Development and launch of Folks on Spokes Program.	Reduce opioid deaths and overdoses. Enhance access to treatment, recovery, social stabilization, and supports. Reduce the community impacts of opioid addiction. Strengthen cultural supports/services for Indigenous peoples. Reduce stigma and prevent opioid misuse.	The Social Planning Council received funding from the Community Action Initiative to host the HART team and develop the <i>Harm Reduction and Opioid Overdose Response Strategy</i> . The goal of the strategy is to reduce and prevent overdose deaths in Vernon. In February 2020, the HART team was encouraged to see that overdose deaths were down significantly from previous years. Unfortunately, since the pandemic, the number of overdose deaths is on the rise once again. May 2020 represented the highest number of illicit drug toxicity deaths ever recorded in a month in B.C.
RCMP/OAT Action Team	Closed	The RCMP/OAT action team was created to provide supports and interventions in cells that will reduce opioid overdose deaths and also reduce crime committed due to opioid addiction.	RCMP are able to distribute naloxone and refer people to the OAT Clinic for treatment.	Reduce risk of opioid overdose. Reduce crime by connecting opioid users to treatment and supports.	The Vernon RCMP Detachment is currently distributing naloxone from cells and referring people directly to OAT treatment services. These interventions will not only save lives, they will also reduce criminal activity that can result from an addiction to illicit opioids. IH and the RCMP were exploring ways to provide OAT prescriptions directly from cells but unfortunately funding was not available to launch this part of the program.

Action Team	Open/ Closed	Background/Activities	Outputs	Direct Outcomes	Updates/Follow Up
Folks on Spokes/ Community Clean Ups	Open	This action team was created in response to concerns from downtown businesses about discarded needles and debris being found in alleyways.	Community partnership and sharing of resources. Launch of Folks on Spokes and weekly clean ups.	Reduce number of needles in public spaces. Provide support and information to local businesses.	Folks on Spokes had been put on hold and the City funds redirected due to COVID19. However, the City had successfully applied to the Community Action Initiative for funds to expand the program, so the program was successfully launched in July 2020. The Community Safety Office will be providing a detailed report to City Council in November 2020.
Community Impact Action Team	Open	Each of the action teams has a role to play in providing life saving information and education to the public and helping to reduce stigma so that more people will feel comfortable seeking treatment and support (in particular, the hidden population that are housed and/or employed).	Media releases, posters, social media. Presentations to community groups. Businesses taking part in the Naloxone Challenge.	Increased education, awareness and compassion regarding the opioid crisis. Increased community support of initiatives, policies and programs that address the opioid crisis.	Monthly naloxone training at the Okanagan Regional Library were cancelled due to COVID19. However, the Street Clinic and IH have maintained other programs to ensure there is still access to naloxone and harm reductions supply during the pandemic. The University of Victoria had approved funding to host a series of community dialogues on the opioid crisis through an arts/culture lens but this project has been cancelled due to the pandemic.
Peer Recommendations	Open	The main role of this action team is to get direct input from key target populations with lived experience in order to identify opportunities/priorities.	Focus groups of key stakeholders including: peers currently using opioids; peers in recovery; as well as family members.	Identify gaps/barriers in service. Provide resources to address gaps. Ensure people know where to access interventions, treatment and recovery programs.	The following projects were initiated in February 2020; however, some projects were impacted by the pandemic: Cammy Lafleur Street Clinic provided leadership training to peers with lived experience and then launched peer outreach programs, including Indigenous peer navigator positions. There have been some adjustments made to accommodate safe distancing, but the project continues despite COVID19.

Action Team	Open/ Closed	Background/Activities	Outputs	Direct Outcomes	Updates/Follow Up
					<p>The Upper Room Mission had been earmarked to add more storage solutions to their facilities for people living outside but this has been put on hold.</p> <p>Interior Health launched an anti-stigma campaign with Beach Radio during June, July and September.</p>
Indigenous Recommendations	Open	<p>The role of this action team is to ensure that there is an Indigenous voice reflected in the HART strategy. An Indigenous consultant was hired to lead the audit and provide a final report/recommendations to the Cultural Audit Action Team.</p>	<p>Focus group of Indigenous peers.</p> <p>Individual interviews of Indigenous peers.</p> <p>Service provider survey.</p> <p>Access to cultural sensitivity training for service providers</p> <p>New recovery program using Indigenous perspective.</p>	<p>Identify cultural gaps/barriers in service.</p> <p>Identify resources and tools to address cultural gaps.</p> <p>Provide support and resources to address cultural gaps.</p> <p>Increase cultural capacity of services.</p> <p>Increase the number of culturally sensitive services.</p>	<p>In early March 2020, a new Wellbriety Program was launched in a downtown location.</p> <p>This is a recovery program that uses Indigenous knowledge and principles to support people seeking to recover from alcohol and/or drug use and make positive changes in their physical, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.</p> <p>The program was put on hold due to COVID19 but then relaunched in the summer to continue the program with proper social distancing measures in place.</p>

Action Team Open/ Closed		Background/Activities	Outputs	Direct Outcomes	Updates/Follow Up
Accessibility/Inclusiveness/Multiculturalism					
Local Immigration Partnership Council: Immigration and Settlement Strategy for Vernon	Open	The final strategy document as well as supporting research reports are available at www.socialplanning.ca	Community Survey on Immigration. Labour Market Report. Marketing Strategy. Vernon Immigration and Settlement Strategy.	Newcomers choose Vernon and remain in the community indefinitely. Newcomers participate in the local labour market, broader community and social networks.	Support is being provided to Community Futures North Okanagan for the federal Northern and Rural Immigration pilot. The program is being reviewed and adapted as needed, due to the pandemic and changing job market. In addition, funding has been secured to host diversity training workshops for interested employers and to market and promote the benefits of Immigration in the community. The workshops are being planned for January/February 2021.
"Respect Lives Here" Funding	Open	The Province of BC has launched a new program called Resilience BC to provide support to communities to address racism and hate. The Social Planning Council has received a \$7500 grant from the Province to coordinate anti-racism projects at the local level.	Community consultation. Workshops, education, awareness.	Identify and address racism at the local level. Provide resources and education to service providers and community members.	The Social Planning Council partnered with the Okanagan Regional Library and Restorative Justice Society - North Okanagan to host a free online webinar on <i>How to be an Ally</i> . The webinar will be followed by two smaller on-line Talking Circles for people who want to delve more deeply into allyship. More workshops and learning events are being planned for 2021. In addition, the Social Planning Council worked in conjunction with the City of Vernon, the Vernon North Okanagan RCMP and other community partners to take a public stance against the racist flyers being distributed throughout neighbourhoods and close to schools in the Vernon area.

Action Team	Open/ Closed	Background/Activities	Outputs	Direct Outcomes	Updates/Follow Up
					<p>Parents and teachers were quick to respond and cleaned up the flyers left around local schools on Orange Shirt Day. Residents continue to clean up neighbourhoods each time flyers are scattered around town. The RCMP continues to search for the person(s) responsible.</p>
Evaluation of Partners in Action Committee					
Indicator Updates	Ongoing	As part of the evaluation process, the Partners in Action Committee collect statistics from local partners as well as regional and national sources on an annual basis.	Indicator data tool on a wide range of topics.	Evaluation and monitoring of data guides informed decision making.	The data is used on an ongoing basis by the Partners in Action Committee to inform the discussion of social issues in the community and ways to address these problems/concerns.



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

INTERNAL M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Will Pearce, CAO **FILE:** 5700-04-01

PC: Kim Flick, Director, Community Infrastructure and Development Services **DATE:** October 27, 2020
 Mark Dowhaniuk, Manager, Infrastructure

FROM: Geoff Mulligan, Infrastructure Management Technician

SUBJECT: FCM SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AWARD PRESENTATION – DRAINAGE INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIZATION PLAN

Since 2001, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has celebrated the most innovative environmental initiatives in Canadian cities and communities of all sizes through their Sustainable Communities Awards. These awards honour those sustainability projects that demonstrate environmental responsibility and excellence in a variety of categories, and take an integrated approach to yielding social and economic benefits for their community.

In 2020, the City of Vernon was selected as a winner of a Sustainable Communities Award for exceptional work in the Asset Management category. This award recognized the Drainage Infrastructure Prioritization Plan (received by Council at the April 27, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting). The Drainage Infrastructure Prioritization Plan equips the City of Vernon with improved information and tools to prioritize drainage infrastructure investments within its affordability limits using a triple bottom line approach.

As part of the FCM 2020 Sustainable Communities Virtual Conference, award recipients were invited to present their projects in an engaging and dynamic presentation style. Geoff Mulligan, Infrastructure Management Technician, presented the City's award-winning project to conference participants on October 22, 2020.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receive the memorandum dated October 27, 2020 titled "FCM Sustainable Communities Award Presentation – Drainage Infrastructure Prioritization Plan" by the Infrastructure Management Technician.

Respectfully submitted:

Oct 29 2020 3:45 PM

X  

Geoff Mulligan DocuSign