

Surrey – Delta – White Rock Community Council

#2017 – 7495 – 132 Street, Surrey, BC V3W 1J8

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Community Council Minutes Wednesday, June 23, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

CLBC – Surrey Office

Note: Meeting held via MS Teams, due to Covid-19 Social Distancing

From 6:00 to 8:00 pm

- Present:** Bernadette Pughe, Akshay Sachdeva, Alison Scholefield
- Regrets:** Tracey Chan, Jennifer Benjamin
- Guests:** Karen Speijer (Family Support Institute), Sharrie Dahl
- CLBC staff:** Real Bernier – Facilitator; Jagdeep Rakhara – Integrated Services Manager, Regional Operations (South Fraser Region)
- Recorder:** Edwina Jeffrey
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1. Recognize and welcome to everyone

- a) Jagdeep chaired the meeting, and it was called to order at: 6:12 pm.
Acknowledgements were done to the traditional and unceded indigenous territories of the: Kwantlen, Katzie, QayQayt, Semiahmoo and Tsawwassen people.

2. Council Agenda and minute review/discussion:

a) Review and motions to approve:

i. June 23, 2021 Agenda

The Agenda was accepted as written.

Carried

ii. May 26, 2021 Minutes:

Bernadette moved to approve and Akshay seconded to accept the

May 26, 2021 Minutes.

Carried

3. Introductions: welcome new guests

Jagdeep, Real, Alison, Bernadette, Akshay introduced themselves and welcomed the Guests.

Sharrie introduced herself mentioning she is involved with grandparents raising grandchildren (who are FASD fetal alcohol). Talked about youngest son who is autistic. Volunteers at Sources; promise of job at Community Living.

Akshay mentioned a few things he is involved in including an Advocacy group with Semiahmoo House.

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Bernadette is a community member, mom, and operations manager of a small non-profit, is now officially a Council member and is an advocate for her daughter and serving on different committees. Also interested in looking at affordable inclusive accessible housing in the community. Learned that a task force has been formed for policy recommendations to candidates running for office at all government levels. The task force aims to strengthen relationships using personal viewpoints from self-advocates.

Jagdeep talked about her relationship with BC Housing.

Karen talked about wearing two hats; Parent Resource, Fraser South FSI, and daughter has CLBC services.

4. CLBC related updates, and Council membership discussion:

a) CLBC Updates and Council gifts

- Slowly opening things up and vaccinations are going well. Staff are going on vacation.
- Council will be sending Vernon and Linda a gift.
- Tracy Chan will be renewing her membership.
- New members Milieu, FSI (Service Providers)
- Hoping to recruit more self-advocates; Jagdeep will reach out to connections. Please invite if you know of someone else.
- Nathan Shipley will be joining Council, as a community member.
- This is Real's last meeting tonight. Council members appreciated and thanked him for his diligence and support.
- The Chair and the Vice Chair positions are open, and once filled, they will be supported.

b) Update from May 29, 2021 Annual CLBC Joint PAC/Council/IAC/Board of Directors Meeting

The 4-hour meeting included: Michael Prince; CLBC Board Chair; and Ross Chilton, CLBC CEO.

Councils shared what they've been up to but it has been difficult to be 'normal' during the Pandemic.

Central Island did a plaque recognition to Service Providers. They also recognized bus drivers; and wrote letters to City Council around inclusivity and community housing.

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Thompson/Cariboo also did an inclusion workshop on housing, initiated by Self-advocates there that really want to own their own home.

- The above topic sparked conversation within our Council meeting around PWD and what you can do with it. Karen explained more on this subject; encourage people to find out about FSI webinars that speak on this topic; i.e., trusts and financial planning.

Another council noticed that self-advocates and families who did have trouble with connections, so that they brought in Kim Bartell, on resiliency training.

- An idea is to use some of our Council’s budget to bring in this person.

Self-advocates shared at this meeting, communication needs to be strengthened. Challenges with technology, but on flip-side we can adapt to virtual meetings. There are pros and cons. Social connections are important. Pen pals created during the pandemic.

c) Potential for Guests from CLBC strategic initiatives, head office

Do we want someone from the strategic initiatives to come to visit a meeting. Thoughts on meeting in summer months: ?

Just getting to the end of the pandemic.

Guide to Support Allocation tool: Facilitators use this to determine resources for an individual based on disability needs. Thought is to invite a Facilitator to come speak about it. It is one tool, and a priority ranking tool.

d) Council membership: vacant chair and vice chair positions?

Not discussed.

e) Recruitment for council members, renewal of expired memberships

Refer to 4a).

5. **Translink- HandyDART presentation Planning- Date: October 27, 2021**

a) Invitation/Save the date/Guests?

Accessible transportation has been a Council goal:

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- The Council brainstormed on how we should do this presentation, with an emphasis on HandyDART.
- Comment: feels that there is a separate pass for each type of transportation? Does each get renewed every month?
- Suggest brainstorming for questions that will be forwarded to Alison.

ACTION: By the August Meeting: Everyone brainstorm questions; get a basic understanding for who and why it was created, and how HandyDART works; particularly with safety and working with non-verbal individuals.

Note: Combine this with results of the earlier survey HandyDART sent out.

ACTION: By the September Meeting: Edwina will draft up a poster for this event so that we can advertise to others; e.g., service providers, self-advocates, families.

ACTION: Where and how the presentation will be held will be decided at September meeting.

6. City of Surrey Presentation - Tara Cleave

Not in attendance

7. Family Support Institute Presentation – Karen Speijer

Karen is a mom with a son who has Down syndrome and is a regional network coordinator and works with parents throughout the region. FSI is all about peer-to-peer support.

ACTION: Karen will send a powerpoint to Jagdeep that describes a brief overview.

FSI has volunteer resource parents (265 over the province). FSI supports families from cradle to grave. We have that lived experience; i.e., having a family member who have lived with a disability. Karen shared her experiences with a child with complications. In Penticton she connected with an FSI parent.

Over the years, could always connect with a parent, and really that's what the resource parents are.

Provincial intake staff look at what the needs of the family are and within 24 hours a resource parent will connect with the family. Will meet with the family prior to a meeting to support them.

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During pandemic provided supports through zoom presentations; i.e., ‘hangouts’ and themes came out; e.g., lost all support workers, or self-advocates wanting support.

Family Support BC website: Client support BC website which lists resources; also a transition guidelines, with a checklist. Leaving high school, what’s next?

FSI was founded by families who paved the way and it has continued to pay it forward, via grants through CLBC and others. Encourage everyone to have a look at the FSI website; especially the Support Worker Central for respite support.

Also, FSI has a Facebook page; love working with community partners. If looking for parent to parent support that is what FSI is all about.

FSI is hosting a lot of sessions on housing. Also hosting a series on FASD and undiagnosed disabilities.

ACTION: Please send out FSI newsletter/calendar of events featuring series/sessions

ACTION: Please send out FSI powerpoint

Karen would like to do a presentation in the fall and invite a new resource parent, and Jagdeep recommends an invite to new CLBC staff.

ACTION: So how can Council do something on sharing on what does inclusivity mean in the Community?

8. **Checkin-in how is everyone doing?** Hopeful for the next phase and getting everyone together and go forward. Feeling light at the end of the tunnel. Looking forward to having an ‘open’ summer.

9. **Adjournment and Reminders:**

Please advise Jagdeep if you would like to invite anyone to a Council meeting. Jagdeep will let the staff know what Council is doing and perhaps they will be interested in attending a meeting.

Next Community Council meeting: July 28, 2021 at 6 pm.