



Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 24, 2025, 3:03 p.m.

McNaughton Room - 3rd Floor, City Hall

1. Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee Meeting 03-2025

Chair: Jason Veltri

2. Members

Geoff Abthorpe, Advisor - Mental Health

Eric Bilenki, Advisor - Not for Profit Organization

Paul Capon, Advisor - Indigenous Organization

Jodi Corbett, Educational Services

Andrea Docherty, Services to Improve Physical or Mental Health

Councillor Kasey Etrene

Jennifer Pasiciel, Advisor - Public Health

Roopa Rakshit, Advisor – Multicultural Community

Crystal Simeoni, Community or Social Services

Shannon Robinson, Director of Health Promotion, Thunder Bay District Health Unit

Danielle Thom, Climate Action Specialist

Jason Veltri, Police Service Board Representative

Diane Walker, Community or Social Services to Children or Youth

3. Officials

Cynthia Olsen, Director - Strategy & Engagement

Louisa Costanzo, Manager - Community Safety & Well-Being

Rilee Willianen, Drug Strategy Specialist & Encampment Response Lead

Kelly Hell, Committee Clerk & Legislative Specialist

4. Welcome and Disclosures of Interest

None.

5. Land Acknowledgement

Louisa Costanzo, Manger – Community Safety & Well Being, provided the Land Acknowledgement.

6. Agenda Approval

MOVED BY: Geoff Abthorpe

SECONDED BY: Jodi Corbett

WITH RESPECT to the September 25, meeting of the Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee, we recommend that the agenda be approved with the removal of Line item #12 Engagement & Brand Awareness until the next meeting, and with the addition of Communication under New Business

CARRIED

7. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of Meeting 03-2025 Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee, held on June 25, 2025, to be confirmed.

MOVED BY: Andrea Docherty

SECONDED BY: Councillor Kasey Etreni

THAT the Minutes of Meeting 03-2025 Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee, held on June 25, 2025, be confirmed.

CARRIED

8. Community Safety & Well Being Report

Louisa Costanzo, Manager – Community Safety & Well-Being provided a detailed Managers Report. Document included for your review.

A discussion relative to the outreach of the Community Safety & Well Being Advisory Committee survey was held.

[Community Safety & Well-being Plan Update | Get Involved Thunder Bay](#) link shared with the Thunder Bay District Social Services staff and the St. Joseph's Care Group staff by their respective members on the CSWB Advisory Committee.

Jason Veltri, Chair and Louisa Costanzo, Manger – Community Safety & Well-Being working collectively on obtaining a list of contacts from the existing Advisory Committee members. An introduction email to be provided to send

along with the survey to their contacts. In addition, the reach will extend to various other groups and businesses.

Students from Confederation College and Lakehead University have received the survey link. A suggestion made to include the whole organization of both.

Lakehead Public School Board, Thunder Bay Catholic School Board, Matawa Education and all youth groups including trustees and students should be contacted to participate.

Louisa Costanzo, Manager – Community Safety & Well-Being continues to expand the reach of the survey through facilitated sessions, i.e.: Age Friendly Thunder Bay.

9. Strategic Plan Action Table

Legislation prescribes that specific areas require urgent action while using existing tables:

- social development,
- prevention,
- risk intervention
- incident response

Louisa Costanzo, Manager – Community Safety & Well-Being provided four questions for the committee to discuss.

- What elements of our current CSWB Plan are working well and should be carried forward?
- Where do you see gaps, challenges, or opportunities for improvement?
- What new or emerging priorities should we consider as we refresh the plan?
- How can the committee strengthen how we work together and connect with the broader community?

Discussion:

- A primary concern of the Advisory Committee is having everything as a priority resulting in nothing being a priority.
- Some tracking has taken place regarding the 30 key indicators. To date there is not a formal evaluation available due to staff shortage.
- The process to inform the community has been through providing presentations and annual reports to City Council.

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- The priority regarding measuring indicators, moving forward with evaluation and where gaps exist to align with the community work is under way.
- Working at a community level to improve systems and support of the Community & Safety Well Being Advisory Committee work. Using system driven methods and the support of new programs focusing on upstream prevention rather than a reaction response.
- The Municipality is not mandated to operate or deliver the types of services required. A Community buy in is required and shared responsibilities of this Advisory Committee to take on this work.
- Action tables are set up to share the workload, but do not have a seat at the table. They are doing some of the work but no reporting mechanism back to the Advisory Committee on what actions they have taken to move the plan forward. Currently updates are available through staff resources.
- Existing action tables identified in the plan were not specifically set up for the Community Safety & Well-Being Committee and have existed for 20 – 30 years have agreed to assist with the work.
- A discussion was held relative to finding a better way to integrate accessing minutes and/or activities the action tables have undertaken.
- A suggestion was made to reach out to Advisory Committee members that sit on additional action tables and other community action groups to provide input from their tables. Keeping in mind they are not accountable to this table. Each action table to offer support to the Community Safety & Well-Being Advisory Committee and their responsibilities they are legislated to create.
- Legislation prescribes that specific sectors be represented this Advisory Committee and a representative from each of those sectors have been met.

To further view the Advisory Committee reports to date: CSWB 2021-2025 Plan, June 2021 Population Indicator Report and the two What We Heard Reports Phase one and two. Visit the website [Community Safety & Well-Being Plan - City of Thunder Bay](#)

Hold invites sent to the Advisory Committee members for the CSWB Forum event at the Community Auditorium November 13, 2025, 6 pm to 9 pm. Cynthia Olsen – Director – Strategy Engagement and Louisa Constanzo, Manager – Community Safety & Well-Being will send to ELTI members.

A suggestion was made to further the reach externally through the Advisory Committee members.

10. CSWB Advisory Committee Alignment

With the new governance model at the City of Thunder Bay, several Committees of Council have been dissolved as official Committees of Council, but Administration is working on transition plans to ensure the work of those groups continue. Two such groups are the former Earthcare Advisory Committee and the Anti-Racism & Equity Advisory Committee. It is being proposed that these two groups become Resource Groups that can support the efforts of, and provide additional context to, the CSWB Advisory Committee.

Community Safety & Well-Being Advisory Committee, because it is legislated, remains a Committee of Council per the Municipal Act. Meetings remain open, quorum is required and are to be formally ran by the chair.

A discussion was held regarding the primary job of the Community Safety & Well-Being it to oversee the development, execution, and evaluation of the plan. The concern raised is that other community working groups or campaigns that may or not be part of the role of the Advisory Committee may water the work down. This will be monitored as we move forward.

11. Roundtable

Jason Veltri, Chair shared the Thunder Bay Police Services Board Strategic Plan. A copy of the plan is available on the Thunder Bay Police Services website link provided. [Strategic Plan | Thunder Bay Police Service | Thunderbay](#)

12. Announcements

None

13. Meeting Schedule

The Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee will meet a minimum of six times annually or at the call of the Chair, with the exception of July and August, in the McNaughton Room, from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

- Wednesday, October 22, 2025
- Wednesday, November 26, 2025

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.