



Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 3:05 p.m.

McNaughton Room - 3rd Floor, City Hall

1. Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee - Information Session

Chair: Jeff Upton

2. Members

Mayor Ken Boshcoff

Paul Capon, Matawa First Nations Management

Shannon Robinson, Thunder Bay District Health Unit

Jeff Upton, Lakehead Public Schools

Diane Walker, Children's Centre Thunder Bay

3. Officials

Shane Muir, Chief - Superior North EMS

Cynthia Olsen, Acting Director - Strategic Initiatives & Engagement

Lee-Ann Chevrette, Community Safety & Well-Being Specialist

Rilee Willianen, Policy & Research Analyst & Acting Drug Strategy Lead

Lori Wiitala, Committee Clerk/Legislative Specialist

4. Welcome and Disclosures of Interest

The Chair called the meeting to order, there were no disclosures of interest declared.

The Committee did not reach quorum and the meeting proceeded as an information session.

5. Land Acknowledgement

Policy & Research Analyst Rilee Willianen provided a land acknowledgement.

6. Agenda Approval

The committee did not reach quorum and the meeting proceeded as an Information Session.

7. Minutes of Previous Meeting

This item will be deferred to the December meeting.

8. Situation Tables and Risk-Driven Tracking Database

This item will be deferred to the December meeting.

9. Phase 1 Report: Quality of the Mental Health & Addictions System

Executive Director - Children's Centre Thunder Bay Diane Walker, provided a PowerPoint presentation and thorough overview relative to the Phase 1 Report on the Quality of the Mental Health & Addictions System in Thunder Bay & District. The following information was provided.

In December 2022, a local Ontario Health Team (OHT) group of 18 local service providers named Noojmawing Sookatatagaing - Healing Working Together, funded by COMPASS and OHT, were commissioned to complete a thorough review of more than 20 reports, strategic plans and policies, and speak with service providers and users, to provide recommendations within a 3 month timeline; the report was completed March 31, 2023, and the following recommendations were made:

1. Language used is confusing: need for common and understandable language that is more user driven than government or provider driven and build a universal glossary;
2. Mental Health and Addictions System: make easier to use;
3. Collaboration: work with other organizations;
4. Deliver culturally competent care;

5. East region - Greenstone: community is impoverished and underserved, and racism a factor;

6. Crisis Services and Crisis Centre is an essential requirement for this community.

In conclusion, the system is poorly organized, with services evolving organically and priorities changing over time. Service providers collaborate to improve, but external efforts often clash. The system's goals are clear, but it's messy, inefficient, and confusing for users.

10. CSWB Implementation and Action Table and Coordinator's Report

Community Safety and Well-Being Specialist Lee-Ann Chevrette, provided a thorough update of the attached report, relative to the above noted.

The following information was highlighted.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) in partnership with Thunder Bay Police Services (TBPS) and CSWB, will be providing a full day of training; Windsor Police Service Safety & Security Specialist Barry Horrobin will be in attendance.

Planning for the 2nd Annual CSWB Forum has begun and the event will take place October 12, 2023 and the theme for the forum is Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). A report on - National Scan of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) was released in November 2022, and will be discussed at the event.

Mayor's Community Safety Awards are scheduled for November 6, 2023 at City Council Meeting. Nominations will be accepted from September 11 through October 6, 2023.

Following a recommendation from Diversity Thunder Bay after their review of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada's 94 Calls to Action, a working group of community partners is coordinating the development of a Truth and Reconciliation Toolkit to assist in supporting the community towards reconciliation.

CSWB is supporting a grant submission to the Public Health Agency of Canada

(PHAC) for Preventing Gender-Based Violence: the Health Perspective Teen/Youth Dating Violence Prevention.

The Youth Inclusion Program wrapped up June 2023 and the final report, which identifies the positive impacts and recommendations of the program, was submitted to Public Safety Canada in August 2023.

Healthy Kids HOME Initiative is ongoing and has received funding from the PHAC and in-kind contributions from local community partners to continue implementation of the program for another 1.5 years. The program includes a third-party evaluation and is showing positive outcomes.

A formal launch of the CityStudio program is planned for fall 2023; the program has been successful in 15 cities worldwide, and a full-time Coordinator has been hired to support this project. Three City Studio projects are underway, with many others being planned.

CSWB is an active member of Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention (CMNCP), and will attend and participate in a panel discussion on CSWB governance structures at the CMNCP's Annual Conference in Regina, October 23-25, 2023.

Thunder Bay District Health Unit (TBDHU) and CSWB Thunder Bay submitted a successful application to Centre for Addictions and Mental Health's Evidence Exchange Network for support to establish an Upstream Community of Interest. A Knowledge Broker is the working group until March 31, 2024. A wrap-up event is being planned for February 2024.

11. Community Strategies Update

Cynthia Olsen, Acting Director - Strategic Initiatives & Engagement, provided the following update relative to additional CSWB-related activities.

Transition of divisions within the Corporation of the City of Thunder Bay were effective July 4, 2023; Community Strategies moved to City Manager's Office and Policy & Research Analyst Rilee Willianen is the Acting lead for Drug Strategy; Sustainability Coordinator responsible for the Net-Zero Strategy has also moved Divisions.

Recovery Day was scheduled for September 6, 2023 as an outdoor in-person event; the in-person event was cancelled due to weather, and Howl at the Moon

was able to host an intimate indoor event. It was also live streamed with just over 1000 views the first day, and approximately 2800 the following day, being an overall success.

Rilee is working on an update to the situational assessment for the Drug Strategy. This will include a review of trends related to substance use from 2016 – 2022 and information on programs supporting substance use health in the community. This will help to inform priority action from the working groups over the coming years.

The Opioid Task Force recently released an updated Opioid Situational Assessment – primarily led by the Health Unit’s Epidemiologist. It is now available on the TBDHU website. Consideration being given to aligning and integrating both the Opioid Report and the Drug Strategy Report every four years.

The Vulnerable Population Planning Table continues to meet. While it was formed as a means to fill gaps during the pandemic, the group still finds value in meeting regularly. They recently have voted on a change in name, and will now be known as the Community Support Planning Table.

Related to the work to support unsheltered individuals, an outreach team from Elevate and community partners held pop-up events on the North and South sides of the city to offer assistance with identification and housing applications. Over 200 housing applications were completed. There is currently no available housing and wait lists are approximately 12 months.

Met with Halifax to discuss their processes for vulnerable homeless populations, a meeting with London is scheduled and a meeting with Hamilton is tentative. An update relative to winter planning will be presented to City Council.

12. Round Table and Announcements

Shannon Robinson shared the following link:

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Data-and-Analysis/Substance-Use/Alcohol-Harms>

13. New Business

14. Meeting Schedule

Meetings of the Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee will be held in the McNaughton Room, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., on the following date:

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.