



COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD ON HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

MINUTES

October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 /9:30 am-11:00 am

Cedar Point Main Conference Room

ZOOM

VOTING MEMBERS	RESOURCE MEMBERS
L. Auger, Board Chair D. Cardinal, Indigenous Representative B. Boulanger, Voice for the Voiceless J. Manning, Community Member R. Palmer, Grande Spirit Foundation E. Spilchen, Ministerial Assoc., CABH Recruitment committee, Cedar Point Advisory Committee A. Thibert, Complex Needs A. Timoffee, Seniors T. Brown, Youth D. Langton, Veteran C. Nelson, Alberta Health Services	T. Wentzell, Director, Community Social Development M. Byers, Housing Manager, Community Social Development W. Nekurak, Indigenous Relations Advisor T. Melom, Housing Program Support (Meeting Coordinator, Recorder) C. Chung, Engagement and Program Officer (Government of Canada) P. McPhee, Program Advisor (Government of Alberta) C. Thiessen, City of Grande Prairie Councillor M. Laroche, Executive Director, Grande Prairie Friendship Centre  <b>GUEST:</b> The Mustard Seed-K. Sledding D. Lemieux-Chief of Public and Protective Services
WITH REGRETS	WITH REGRETS
W. Bosch, Downtown Association T. Brown, Domestic Violence J. Manning, Community Member A. Thibert, Complex Needs D. Cardinal, Indigenous Representative	

1. CALL TO ORDER at 9:44am

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

C. Thiessen

“CABH respectfully acknowledges the Beaver Tribe as the original caretakers of these lands since immemorial. We also acknowledge that we get to live, learn, work, and play on Treaty 8 territory within Turtle Island, home to diverse and Sovereign First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Nations. We honour and respect the Treaties and work to advance the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action. The members of CABH will honour helping the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit by following our goals and objectives of CABH.”

3. PRESENTATION

K. Sledding

- The Mustard Seed - Cedar Point Supportive Housing

4. AGENDA & MINUTE REVIEW

- Review and Approve September Minutes  
**Moved** by Elmer Spilchen **APPROVED**
- Review and Approve October Agenda  
  - 7.15 Cedar Point Advisory Committee update was added to the round table by E. Spilchen  
**Moved** by Robin Palmer **APPROVED**

5. OLD BUSINESS

- Review Action Table **ALL**



## 6. NEW BUSINESS

### 6.1 Department Updates

T. Wentzell, D. Lemieux

- Housing & Homeless Initiatives (HHI) will be rejoining Community Social Development under the leadership of T. Wentzell. These two departments will be fully integrated. This is considered to be a pilot project for six months to determine if the new structure is effective.
- A Housing Manager position has been added to the structure. This position will be filled by M. Byers for the time being.
- The Research Coordinator position will soon be vacant as F. McGregor will be leaving the City in the coming weeks. The position has been posted, and our hope is to fill it soon.

### 6.2 Discuss Annual Work Plan

T. Wentzell

#### 6.2.1 Community Plan Recap

- Five city representatives will be attending the CAEH Conference taking place October 29th - 31st: Mayor Jackie Clayton; Councillor and CABH representative Wendy Bosch; Councillor Mike O'Connor; CABH representative Elmer Spilchen; and Program Coordinator for Community Social Development with the City of Grande Prairie Ashley Saunders.
- The Point in Time Count was completed on October 9th. No numbers have been compiled yet, but data entry has begun. Official results will be released coinciding with the release of the national numbers reported in the new year.
- Connect Day will take place on October 23rd to support our vulnerable population.  
**Action Item:** T. Melom to send Connect Day information to Voice of Albertans with Disabilities.

#### 6.2.2 Funding Processes

- Several funding agreements that we have in place are expiring on March 31st, 2025. These include Prevention and Shelter Diversion, Cedar Point Food Services, Winter Shelter Services, Daytime drop-in services, and Low Barrier Transitional Housing.
- The current Prevention and Shelter Diversion service provider is Grande Prairie Friendship Centre. Discussions are ongoing with M. Laroche, Executive Director of the Grande Prairie Friendship Centre, to build the scope of work. The goal is to have contracts completed by January or February. This contract is going out for Request for Proposal (RFP) rather than direct award because other organizations in the community may be interested in providing this service.  
**Action Item:** Complete the scope of work in the next few weeks so it can go out for bids and tender.
- Cedar Point Food Services supports residents in the care of The Mustard Seed. This has been a direct award to the Grande Prairie Friendship Centre. This falls under the supportive living act, which mandates that food be provided to the residents. This designated funding allocation will continue in order to meet these standards.
- The Winter Shelter Services has recently been submitted as a direct award to complement the funding given directly to Wapiti House from the province. The second floor of Saint Lawrence Center has been renovated to accommodate overflow cots during the winter months. The renovation was done as a more efficient alternative to finding an alternate space and staffing to go with it. This service will be available from November 1st to April 30th.
- The daytime drop-in services have historically been awarded to Saint Lawrence Centre. This is a yearly contract that is typically a direct award. Considering that Wapiti Community Support Association requires this funding to remain operational, we might consider changing how this is done.  
**Action Item:** T. Wentzell will have a discussion with procurement to review contract options and bring her findings back to CABH in November.
- The low barrier transitional housing agreement covers the salaries of the staff on the third floor of Wapiti House. The department will have further discussions regarding this contract as well.
- M. Byers added that interviews with service providers across the city will be happening in the next two weeks. This will inform the creation of the community plan. The community plan will be sent to CABH

for review a week before the next meeting. This timing will allow for feedback and the final submission of the plan in December.

### 6.3 Discuss New CABH Member Application

**E. Spilchen**

- Robbie King, a local pastor, submitted an application for CABH.
- Openings are available in the representation of the Francophone Community as well as the Immigrant Community.  
**Action Item:** Chair L. Auger will have a conversation with J. Manning to discuss her future on the board. She has expressed an interest in stepping back.  
**Action Item:** City will do a review of Terms of Reference and compile an analysis piece to bring back to CABH.

## 7. ROUND TABLE

### 7.2 Business Sector

**W. Bosch**

- Not in attendance

### 7.3 Voice for the Voiceless

**B. Boulanger**

- No update

### 7.4 Domestic Violence

**T. Monro**

- Not in attendance

### 7.5 Francophone Community

**Vacant**

### 7.6 Immigrant Community

**Vacant**

### 7.7 Seniors

**A. Timoffee**

- No update

### 7.8 Youth

**T. Brown**

- Not in attendance

### 7.9 Family and Seniors Housing

**R. Palmer**

- News of the Smith build has been released. It will be 160 units with 40% as affordable housing. This is a partnership between the City and Grande Spirit Foundation.

### 7.10 Alberta Health Services

**C. Nelson**

- Flu season is upon us and vaccinations are available at the Public Health Center.

### 7.11 Indigenous

**L. Auger/D. Cardinal**

- Youth conference happening this upcoming weekend in Grande Prairie.
- Discussion at the board meeting around what needs to happen for the rebuild of the Grande Prairie Friendship Centre to become fully operational.
- For the month of September 4,458 meals were served at the Friendship Centre, 3,800 meals were brought to The Mustard Seed and 336 weekend brunch meals were served.
- Over 111,000 meals served in 2023.
- Salvation Army and Grande Prairie Friendship Centre collaboration has been very successful in its ability to help the community.

- Partnering with Subway this week to collect donations for One-Window Resource. Non-perishable food items, warm clothing, and toiletries are all appreciated.
- “I Am a Kind Man” is starting on October 24th. It is an eight-week program designed for boys and men around domestic violence and learning about the culture.
- Renovations in the Friendship Centre building have started, and the hope is to be at full capacity by January 2025.
- 4th Annual Gala is scheduled for April 12th, 2025.
- September 2025, Grande Prairie is hosting the Alberta Native Friendship Centre Associations annual general meeting. All 21 Friendship Centres will be in Grande Prairie.

**7.12 Complex Needs**

**A. Thibert**

- No update

**7.13 Veterans**

**D. Langton**

- No update

**7.14 Community Member**

**J. Manning**

- Not in attendance

**7.15 Cedar Point Advisory Committee**

**E. Spilchen**

- The committee is looking for more input and participation from council.
- There is one vacancy available. Formal application process is in place for this committee.
- The committee meets quarterly.
- K. Sledding from The Mustard Seed provided information at the recent meeting regarding the progress in her role.

**8. UPDATES FROM RESOURCE MEMBERS**

**8.1 Indigenous Relations Advisor**

**W. Nekurak**

- Northwestern Polytechnic signed their indigenous education protocol commitment.
- Native counselling services of Alberta has changed executive directors. Through engagement with them they are very interested in showing a stronger presence in the community and getting their programs out there.
- Eradication of Poverty Day- Elder Loretta opened with prayer and a song, Clinton Soto also played a song for leaders of the community.
- National Truth and Reconciliation Day occurred on Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>. There were powerful speakers and many leaders in the community who attended the event.
- Northwestern Polytechnic also held their annual student welcome Tea Dance celebrating traditional Dene culture.
- Maskwa Medical Centre meeting yesterday between a couple of their Board Members and the Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation Band Manager and Health Director.
- November 16th- National Addictions Awareness Week Round Dance, hosted by Recovery Alberta
- November 8th is Indigenous Veterans Day; Councillor O'Connor will be speaking.

**8.2 City Council**

**Councillor Thiessen**

- Breaking ground on the Smith build is set to start later this month. As mentioned by R. Palmer it will be 160 units with 40% as affordable housing.
- The city has reapplied for the accelerated housing grant
- The city has done a restructuring on permits and fees charged for new builds and loosened the secondary suite regulations

- A new apartment complex is set to be built in Trader Ridge that should help reduce the strain on the rental market.
- C. Theissen was re-elected as north zone rep for Alberta Seniors Community Housing.

**8.3 Government of Alberta**

**P. McPhee**

- No update

**8.4 Update from the Government of Canada**

**C. Chung**

- No update

**9. NEXT MEETING**

- November 21st, 2024, Cedar Point - Main Conference Room & Microsoft Teams

**10. ADJOURNMENT** at 11:41am

CABH ACTION ITEMS – October 2024		
ITEM	ASSIGNED MEMBER	DEADLINE / COMMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>T. Melom to send Connect Day information to Voice of Albertans with Disabilities</li> </ul>	T. Melom	October 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have a conversation with J. Manning to discuss her future on the board. She has expressed an interest in stepping back.</li> </ul>	L. Auger	November 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Plan update</li> </ul>	T. Wentzell	November 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>City will do a review of Terms of Reference and bring results back to CABH.</li> </ul>	T. Wentzell	November 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete the scope of work for the prevention and shelter diversion service agreement in the next few weeks so it can go out for bids and tender</li> </ul>	T. Wentzell	November 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have a discussion with procurement to review contract options for daytime drop in service agreement and bring her findings back to CABH in November.</li> </ul>	T. Wentzell	November 2024

### 2024-2025 FUNDED PROJECTS

PROVINCIAL OSSI FUNDING		
Category	Term	Amount of Funding per year
Supportive Housing-Cedar Point	Feb 1, 2024 - Mar 31, 2028	\$1,820,400.00
Scattered Site- Adaptive Case	Apr 1, 2022 - Mar 31, 2026	\$842,000.00
Supportive Housing-Fletcher House	Oct 1, 2023 – Mar 31, 2027	\$800,000.00
Daytime Drop-In Warming Center	Apr 1, 2024 - Mar 31, 2025	\$350,000.00
Transitional Housing	Apr 1, 2024 - Mar 31, 2025	\$217,000.00
Winter Emergency Response- TBD	Oct 1, 2024 – Mar 31, 2025	\$180,000.00

### REACHING HOME - DESIGNATED FUNDING

Category	Term	Amount of Funding per year
Housing Access Service	Apr 1, 2024 - Mar 31, 2026*	\$132,200.00
Prevention and Shelter Diversion	Apr 1, 2024 - Mar 31, 2025	\$272,066.00
Community Kitchen	Apr 1, 2024 - Mar 31, 2025	\$250,000.00

### REACHING HOME - INDIGENOUS FUNDING (3 MONTHS)

Category	Term	Amount Funding for 3 months
Housing Outreach Worker -Oasis	Apr 1, 2024 - Jun 30, 2024	\$33,050.00
Prevention and Shelter Diversion	Apr 1, 2024 - Jun 30, 2024	\$47,943.00
Youth Housing First	Apr 1, 2024 - Jun 30, 2024	\$40,000.00
Unallocated	TBD	\$15,074.00

Total Funding	\$4,996,733.00
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\* Option to extend the agreement for up to two 1yr terms to March 31, 2028