Township of Langley

Est. 1873

SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 7:00pm
Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC

A G E N D A

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES

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A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Seniors Advisory Committee – April 19, 2023

Recommendation that the Seniors Advisory Committee approve the agenda and receive the agenda items of the April 19, 2023 meeting.

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1-5

1. Seniors Advisory Committee – March 15, 2023

Recommendation that the Seniors Advisory Committee adopt the Minutes of the March 15, 2023 meeting.

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

D. REPORTS

1. Co-Chair Reports

E. CORRESPONDENCE

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F. WORK PROGRAM

6-7

1. Spaces to Connect project

Update on Phase 1 of the Spaces to Connect project (see Terms of Reference attached to the agenda), including information on intergenerational spaces. This item is related to "Project No. 3: Social gathering places for seniors" on the SAC 2023 Work Plan.

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. Committee Member Updates

I. NEXT MEETING

Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023
Location: Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC
Time: 7:00pm

J. TERMINATE

Township of Langley
Est. 1873

SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 7:00pm
Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC

MINUTES

Present:
S. Hedao, Community Co-Chair
Councillor T. Baillie, Council Co-Chair
Councillor S. Ferguson, Council Co-Chair

S. Baker, S. Bennett, P. Chhina, K. Mackie, S. Soheili, T. Taylor, and S. Thompson

Staff:
A. Reeve, Planning Assistant
P. Ward, Manager, Strategic and Social Planning
K. Stepto, Recording Secretary

Acknowledgment of the Traditional Territories of the Coast Salish Peoples
Councillor Ferguson acknowledged the Traditional Territories of the Coast Salish Peoples.

Round table introductions took place.

A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Seniors Advisory Committee – March 15, 2023

Moved by S. Thompson,
Seconded by P. Chhina,
That the Seniors Advisory Committee approve the agenda and receive the agenda items of the March 15, 2023 meeting.
CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Seniors Advisory Committee – February 15, 2023

Moved by K. Mackie,
Seconded by T. Taylor,
That the Seniors Advisory Committee adopt the Minutes of the February 15, 2023 meeting.
CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

D. REPORTS

1. Co-Chair Reports

Councillor Ferguson reported that Council is currently working on the 2023 Budget and that TransLink announced that they have received additional funding from the Province of BC.

E. CORRESPONDENCE

F. WORK PROGRAM

1. 2023 Work Plan

The committee reviewed the 2023 Work Plan which incorporated the workplan items that were suggested at the February meeting.

MOTION
Moved by S. Baker,
Seconded by S. Thompson
That the Seniors Advisory Committee endorse the 2023 Work Plan, as presented.
CARRIED

COUNCIL
Moved by P. Chhina,
Seconded by S. Soheili,
That the Seniors Advisory Committee recommends that Council approve the Seniors Advisory Committee 2023 Work Plan, presented as Attachment A.
CARRIED

2. Seniors' Skills and Stories Project

A. Reeve provided a presentation on the Seniors' Skills and Stories Project. She noted that the Township received grant funding to complete this project which is derived from the Age- and Dementia-friendly Action Plan, Priority 1, Action H which states: "explore additional opportunities to share skills and stories across generations". The Social Sustainability Strategy, Priority 2, Action E also states: "conduct research and pilot innovative programs, initiatives, and events that foster intergenerational, intercultural, and urban-rural connectedness".

A community brainstorming event took place in November of 2022 where stakeholders were asked for suggestions on how best to use the grant funding. Expressions of Interest are anticipated to be invited in March/April 2023, with the project being complete in January 2024.

The grant opportunity is looking to:

- Make communities more age-friendly;
- Build on previous work in the community;
- Build on best practices and established policies;

F. WORK PROGRAM

- Collaborate with partner organizations; and
- Sustain project benefits beyond the grant period.

The project will be:

- A series of activities that give older adults opportunities to share skills and stories;
- Delivered by local non-profit organizations; and
- $15,000 in total.

Best Practices for Intergenerational Programs include:

1. Use partnerships with organizations that serve other generations.
2. Seek input for planning, especially with individuals from vulnerable groups.
3. Prepare participants for working with another generation.
4. Foster personal connections through many interactions spread over time.
5. Aim for program longevity by seeking projects with long-term potential.

A resource for project development is the “BC Care Providers Association – Intergenerational Guide and Toolkit”.

Discussion ensued regarding what the committee would want to see in a supplementary guide. The following suggestions were provided:

- The BC Community Response Network has many resources with could be helpful: www.bccrns.ca
- A list of organizations in Langley that are intergenerational focused (community centres etc.)
- A list Adult Day programs
- Ethnic group resources
- Information on Fraser Health’s “Social Prescribing” program which connects volunteers with seniors.

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. 2023 Membership List

Provided electronically.

2. SAC Photo

A photo was taken of the committee for the Township website.

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

3. Committee Member Updates

S. Baker reported that she sits on the TransLink User Advisory Committee as a representative of seniors and noted that her appointment will expire at the end of 2023, suggesting that a member of SAC sit on this committee in her place.

P. Chhina indicated that the Aldergrove Veterans and Seniors Society is interested in grant funding.

S. Hedao raised the issue of financial elder abuse and suggested that the committee receive a presentation at a future meeting.

K. Mackie and T. Taylor commented on issues related to affordable seniors housing.

I. NEXT MEETING

Date: Wednesday, April 19, 2023
Location: Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC
Time: 7:00pm

J. TERMINATE

Moved by S. Soheili,
Seconded by T. Taylor,
That the meeting terminate at 8:36pm.
CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Community Representative Co-Chair

Council Representative Co-Chair

Seniors Advisory Committee
2023 Work Plan

This document outlines the projects that the Seniors Advisory Committee (SAC) intends to undertake in 2023. In keeping with the Committee's Terms of Reference, engagement in these projects may include exchanging information, supporting strategic planning, making recommendations to Council, and providing input to Township staff. Each project includes information about the existing policy context.

2023 Projects

1. Accessible and affordable housing

- Age- and Dementia-friendly Action Plan Action 3B: Continue to develop and implement plans and policies, such as the Housing Action Plan, that support appropriate, affordable, and accessible housing.
- Housing Action Plan Action 1B: Explore opportunities to enhance the adaptable housing policy.

2. Volunteer programs to support seniors

- Age- and Dementia-friendly Action Plan Action 2A: Continue to promote community service and health service resources for older adults and update the Township's seniors website.
- Social Sustainability Strategy Action 2F: Develop a volunteer strategy to, among other items, consider emerging trends in volunteering, enhance the Township's volunteer programs, and support volunteering in the community.

3. Social gathering places for seniors

- Age- and Dementia-friendly Action Plan Action 5D: Map and inventory community gathering places with a view of identifying gaps and opportunities.

4. Primary care network

- Age- and Dementia-friendly Action Plan Action 4C: Continue to liaise with Fraser Health Authority and other community partners to support health care planning and delivery.
- Age- and Dementia-friendly Action Plan Action 4D: Convene health authority, social service organizations, and community members to share information and explore opportunities for more effective referrals and access to appropriate healthcare and support services.

5. Mobility

- Age- and Dementia-friendly Action Plan Action 3F: Integrate an age- and dementia-friendly lens as part of the development of a new Transportation and Mobility Strategy with a view of strengthening accessibility features throughout the community
  Note: At the December 12, 2022 Regular Council meeting, Council referred email correspondence regarding a sidewalk in Brookswood-Fernridge to the Seniors Advisory Committee for comment.

6. Intergenerational skills and stories

- Age- and Dementia-friendly Action Plan Action 1H: Explore additional opportunities to share skills and stories across generations.

7. Partnerships and Liaison with Local Seniors' Organizations

- Age- and Dementia-friendly Action Plan Implementation Principle: Collaborate across sectors – engage a range of organizations and service providers to reflect population diversity across the Township.

Spaces to Connect – Phase 1

Project Terms of Reference

Introduction

Social connectedness is vital to thriving communities. The benefits of strong social connections in community include increased neighbourhood safety, improved health, and enhanced resilience.

"Community-serving gathering places" play an important role in facilitating social connectedness and are an integral part of complete communities. These places provide physical space for informal social interaction and community-based programming. The purpose of the *Spaces to Connect – Phase 1* project is to better understand the availability and accessibility of "community-serving gathering places" in the Township, with a view of identifying gaps and opportunities.

Policy Context

Social Sustainability Strategy:

Action 2B: Address community space needs through initiatives such as:

- preparing and publishing an inventory of low-cost space available for community use, and working with local organizations, including FVRL, School District 35, local businesses, and strata corporations to explore opportunities to make more space available for community use
- exploring opportunities to support community hubs that offer a range of community programs, services, and gathering places
- exploring smaller neighbourhood-based centres with amenities like exercise equipment, games areas, and meeting space

Age- and Dementia-friendly Action Plan:

Action 5D: Map and inventory community gathering places with a view of identifying gaps and opportunities.

Project Scope

The *Spaces to Connect* project will focus on "community-serving gathering places" – public and non-profit spaces that are primarily intended for social interaction and social programs (e.g., community meeting spaces, multi-purpose rooms, and spaces with seating and/or games). As shown in the figure, "community-serving gathering places" are part of a broader network of "community gathering places" that also include private spaces like coffee shops, restaurants, and banquet halls. "Community gathering places" then form part of a broader social infrastructure that includes spaces for learning, child care, and health, among others.



While recognizing that outdoor plazas, parks, and even street corners provide opportunities for social connection, *Spaces to Connect – Phase 1* will focus on spaces that can comfortably used through all seasons in all but the most extreme weather conditions. The following types of spaces are anticipated to be within the scope of the project:

- Multi-purpose rooms, meeting rooms, and other social gathering areas in community / recreation centres
- Meeting rooms and other social gathering areas within libraries
- Community halls and neighbourhood hubs (e.g., legions)
- Community kitchens
- Seniors and youth centres
- Community-serving spaces within places of worship and public schools
- Sheltered areas in parks

For clarity, virtual / digital spaces are out of scope.

Scope of Work

Phase 1 of the *Spaces to Connect* project is primarily a desktop exercise focused on research and analysis. There may be a need for some consultation with stakeholder groups to support the research.

The three main work components are as follows:

1. Mapping, Data Collection, and Analysis

- Map and inventory existing (and planned) community-gathering places (include contact information for a potential future list of no / low-cost space available for community use)
- Gather information on accessibility/availability of the space (e.g., capacity, current usage rates and, if applicable, admission / rental fees)
- Assess the accessibility of the space from geographic and social equity perspectives (e.g., space per capita, demographic and socio-economic considerations, and multimodal accessibility)

2. Promising Practices Research

- Case studies for co-location (e.g., community-serving gathering places and housing) and shared use, including intergenerational spaces (e.g., combined youth and seniors centres)
- Case studies of smaller neighbourhood-based centres with amenities like exercise equipment, games areas, and meeting space
- Opportunities for local governments to support community-serving gathering places (e.g., municipal scan), which may include convening, planning, financial supports, and advocacy
- Opportunities for embedding equity considerations into future work and priority setting

3. Observations, Implications, and Recommendations for Future Work

- May include, but is not limited to:
    - Ways to increase access to public sector space (e.g., community schools model)
    - Opportunities to support non-profits with office space (e.g., shared use spaces)
    - Opportunities to address specific community-serving space gaps (e.g., culturally-safe Indigenous spaces)
    - Ways to assess spaces that may be at-risk (e.g., disrepair, redevelopment and/or funding challenges)