

Multi-Agency Partnership (MAP)

Minutes of the HOUSING WORKING GROUP Meeting on Tuesday June 5, 2018

Location: MOSAIC

Attended: Loren Balisky (Kinbrace)

Raul Gatica (Kinbrace)
James Grunau (Journey Home)
Khim Tan (Options)
John Dube (MOSAIC)
Mandana Salimian (Canadian Red Cross)
Patricia Mahecha (Inland Refugee Society)
Theresa Harding (HPS MV CE Metro Vancouver Region)
Bob Derksen (New Hope Community Services Society)
Warren Jacobs (BCNPHA)
Jenny Moss (MAP)
by telephone Scott Small (Catholic Charities Men's Hostel)

Regrets: Saleem Spindari, Celine Mauboules, Mariana Martinez V.

1:10 pm Co-chair: Loren Balisky

Loren welcomed everyone to the meeting including new members: Theresa Harding, Mandana Salimian, John Dubé, Bob Derksen, Warren Jacobs and Scott Small. They bring much experience and wisdom to the group. Theresa mentioned there will be an invitation for MAP HWG to attend a Metro Vancouver meeting to discuss the Homelessness Strategy.

The Minutes of May 24 were approved.

The Agenda was approved and some items such as expanding the committee were tabled for Any Other Business.

1:20 REVIEW OF FIRST DRAFT HOUSING FORUM REPORT

2 vols Amy and Marzia wrote report in sections. They are ready to re-draft and have final ready for next MAP mtg. Loren requested the group to give feedback on the report as a whole: content, tone, focus, addressing the right audience. There was a lot of discussion with the following highlights:

- Didn't see comments about the 140,000 housing units the province has planned. (Warren)
- Need more stats on RC housing currently – (Jenny)
- Could include the Infographic (from Forum backgrounder) as an appendix (James)
- Seems like we need another document with more data, a better argument and clear recommendations – this wasn't within the scope of the student writers. What are our needs? (Loren)
- The recommendations are good and should be used to inform proposals and funders. (John)
- The audience is service providers and funders -good clear information needed.
- *Need list of attendees – or at least their sectors (6) (Khim & John)
- Need to mention WHO made specific offers – currently unclear in the report. Or tie the offers to the recommendations (Theresa/Khim)
- Report needs to be a good basis for action – practical. (Raul) Loren commented it's for the HWG to prioritize recommendations and even add in new ones.
- Does it appeal to reader? Feeling was that the writing was inconsistent because there are distinctly different styles.

- Report doesn't address how the govt. needs to address the housing problem for RC's – how RC's add to the reality of homelessness that govt. should be addressing – Mandana
- Would like to see a timeline of how RC's address housing of different types - along a timeline.
- Teresa commented that its not a report to go out – needs more data: evidence-based information. (Could tap into Pov. Net report and other material available)
Our work needs to dovetail into what the Province is doing.
- It was suggested that there should be DATA collection from service providers in MAP – from 2016
 - Raul – suggested HWG should collect data from Housing Providers as well as IRS and Options.
 - Khim – offered to help with support to students to research missing info.
 - Patricia offered to provide data from IRS
- But - how can we get this out by mid-June?
Maybe we need 2 reports: interim one now and properly researched report for future.
 - a) Need to produce a summary from transcriptions
 - b) Hire someone to research to provide a report as a tool.
- **Suggestion:** Celine and John could provide insights and comments on voice and content of a summary. More robust. Add some data since 2016 to summary. Connect recommendations to give and get. Add a **recommendation** to create a full evidence-based report.

ACTION: Loren will approach Celine to edit with John, email to be cc'd to John and Theresa

- **Proposed: a 6-month deadline for the full report.**
- **Other Business**
 1. **Extending the Committee**
Various suggestions were made as to other people to invite including Catherine Ludgate (Vancity) – Jenny to invite
Representatives of govt. at different levels
Private sector representatives
It was agreed people could be invited once the Summary Report was ready
 2. **Levels of Participation**
It was agreed that some people may prefer to act in an ADVISORY capacity rather than being full time on the committee.
AGREED to offer 2 levels of participation: ADVISORY and PARTICIPANT although these could be fluid:
Advisory Group will need Terms of Reference too
e.g. Advisors must be willing to be pulled into the WG at any time if they are needed.
AGREED that regular meetings will occur monthly
 3. **Terms of Reference**
Agreed the HWG needs strong Terms of Reference
Patricia, Khim and Jenny offered to work on this to submit to next meeting – Agreed
- **Meeting adjourned at 3pm**

Next Meeting: Thursday June 21th – 2pm at MOSAIC in Room 3