



**Canadian Mental
Health Association**
Kelowna

Community Advisory Committee - Meeting Minutes

McCurdy Place | 130 McCurdy Road

May 10, 2021, 5:00 – 6:00 | Zoom

1) Welcome and land acknowledgement

2) Update on McCurdy Place

- CMHA Kelowna
 - i) Action Items that were followed up on:
 - (1) The recreation worker has been informed about the possibility of Adopt a Park.
 - (2) The first monthly McCurdy resident meeting is scheduled for next week, one of the agenda items is to discuss a community clean up.
 - ii) There is a monthly activity calendar for residents to sign up for programs such as: art, lawn bowling, gardening group, book club, kitchen program, recovery group for adults, recovery group for youth, etc. Activities are added based on resident interest and ability to adhere to COVID-19 restrictions.
 - iii) Two new move-ins happened today and a welcome BBQ was hosted for the residents of the building.
 - iv) CMHA Kelowna's national fundraising campaign Ride Don't Hide is taking place in June. The McCurdy residents are translating all minutes of physical activity into money raised for the fundraiser through a partnership with a community donor.

3) McCurdy Place – Roundtable Discussion

- Challenges or concerns
 - i) Community Representative: Noticed that there is a lot of entry from the west-side of the building. There is a secure access on both sides of the building. East-entry is for mobility issues or for anyone?

CMHA Kelowna: There is a secure access on both sides of the building and when staff are on-site they have been monitoring the use of both entrances. There are residents who have health and mobility concerns that make it

challenging for them to walk around the building. We can ensure residents are only using this entrance if it is a necessity.

- ii) Community Representative: Noticed an increase in open drug use in the area. Other community members have posted on social media that there are people using in the community garden.

CMHA Kelowna: Urges community members to call RCMP if this issue comes up. Community policing has noticed an increase in individuals spending time outdoors, likely related to the warmer weather.

- iii) Community Representative: Are the beds at McCurdy now full?

CMHA Kelowna: We have 37 out of 49 units full. There are 5 adult beds vacant and interviews are in progress for those individuals to move in soon. There are 7 youth beds vacant and this delay is related to these beds being prioritized for youth connected to MCFD. CMHA Kelowna and MCFD are developing a process for those referrals.

- iv) Community Representative: Concern raised about the plan to not meet over the summer and waiting to September to resume and that these meetings are planned to end after six months. This happened at Heath House and the community still has concerns but no committee to discuss them at.

CMHA Kelowna: A meeting can be called if anything of significance arises during the summer. The six month mark is set as a re-evaluation point. If the committee decides to continue with the meetings that can be discussed or we can decide on a change in frequency of the meetings. The Heath House community advisory committee is no longer meeting but those community members do have contact information for CMHA Kelowna CEO, Shelagh Turner, Director of Service Delivery & Program Innovation, Mike Gawliuk and Associate Director, Community Engagement, Jessica Samuels. Please encourage them to reach out if needed.

- **Opportunities**

- i) Community Representative: An offer was made to donate sports equipment to McCurdy for physical activity programming.
- ii) Community Representative: The Uptown Rutland Business Association (URBA) has a program for community clean ups in which the community is divided into zones. There is an opportunity to connect with McCurdy for residents to participate. There is also an opportunity for networking and employment opportunities through URBA.

iii) Rutland Resident's Association: The RRA recently held a community clean up and would encourage McCurdy Place to reach out to their secretary Sharlene to collaborate in the future.

Contact is: secretary@rutlandresidentsassociation.ca

iv) Strong Neighbourhoods Program: The next intake for neighbourhood grants is June. Grant applications can assist in small projects as a way to create community connection.

More information about Strong Neighbourhoods on the website: kelowna.ca/neighbourhoods

Process: Expression of interest first, then agreement with \$1500.00 volunteer hours count towards matching piece of the grant.

v) Community Representative: Jon Rever from the Rutland network of schools is offering to work with youth in connecting them to education and work together to support those youth. They also work closely with MCFD.

vi) Interior Health: There is currently a program in development to provide wellness backpacks for patients in need who are admitted to the adolescent psychiatric unit. There may be an opportunity to support youth participants at McCurdy by providing them with a backpack if they are admitted to hospital.

4) Action items and next steps

- Nancy to connect Brittney with the manager of the local KGH thrift store to discuss opportunities for on the job training / volunteer work to develop employment skills with McCurdy residents.
- Andrea to connect with Brittney about the wellness backpack program.

Next Meeting Date: Will be scheduled and sent out to Committee Members



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