



City of Richmond

Report to Committee


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**To:** Planning Committee **Date:** December 5, 2001  
**From:** Terry Crowe **File:** 4055-01  
Manager, Policy Planning  
**Re:** **Richmond Seniors Advisory Council 2001 Annual Report and the Year 2002 Work Program**

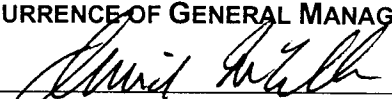
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**Staff Recommendation**

1. That the Richmond Seniors Advisory Council 2001 Annual Report (**Attachment 1 to the report dated Dec. 5, 2001 from the Manager, Policy Planning**) be received for information.
2. That the Richmond Seniors Advisory Council 2002 Work Program, as outlined in the 2001 Annual Report, be endorsed.
3. That the Richmond Seniors Advisory Council 2002 Operating Budget of \$1000.00 be approved (**Attachment 2 to the report dated Dec. 5, 2001 from the Manager, Policy Planning**).

  
Terry Crowe  
Manager, Policy Planning

Att. 2

<b>FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY</b>
<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b>


## Staff Report

### Origin

This report presents the Richmond Seniors Advisory Council (RSAC) Annual Report to Council, describing RSAC activities and accomplishments for the year 2001, as well as the RSAC Work Plan and operating budget for the year 2002.

### Findings Of Fact

#### 1. RSAC 2001 Accomplishments

Highlights of RSAC accomplishments for the year 2001 are listed below. A more detailed description is available in the attached Annual Report (**Attachment 1**).

- Supported the operation of Wellness Clinics at six Community Centres;
- Hired a part-time Wellness Co-ordinator to organize seniors workshops (in partnership with the Minoru Seniors Society and the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board);
- Participated in Richmond Peer Counselling Program, from which 12 volunteer peer counsellors graduated this year;
- Participated in the Seniors' Affordable Supportive Housing Steering Committee that presented the Affordable Seniors Supportive Housing Report to Council in June and oversees follow-up work on recommendations;
- Participated on the Slips, Trips, and Falls Committee, developing a brochure and a "Walkable Richmond" strategy;
- Participated on the TransLink Advisory Committee;
- Co-ordinated the annual "Salute to Seniors" event with Community Centre Seniors Co-ordinators;
- Developed and operated a "Healthy Richmond Seniors" booth at the 17<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Gerontology, and provided bus tours of Richmond to over 40 international delegates, followed by a reception at City Hall;
- Liased with the Richmond Public Library through the recently appointed seniors' librarian;
- Liased with multicultural organizations, the BC Seniors Advisory Council, Vancouver/Richmond Health Board (V/RHB) Population Health Advisory Committee, and the V/RHB Community Health Committee.

#### 2. RSAC 2002 Work Plan

The following projects will be undertaken in 2002:

- Peer Counselling - ongoing operation;
- Seniors Affordable Supportive Housing – implementation of recommendations;
- Adult Guardianship – community education and awareness;
- Seniors' Week – annual community seniors celebration;

- Pedestrian Safety Strategy – finalizing brochure and developing a framework to manage City sidewalk development, maintenance and repair;
- Consumer protection for seniors – community education and awareness;
- Health Fair – community education and awareness;
- Emergency Response Program – identify support systems to assist seniors living alone;
- Various workshops – topics to be determined.

### Analysis

The RSAC continues to address the concerns of Richmond seniors and to plan for the future needs of this growing segment of the community.

### Financial Impact

- For 2001, the RSAC received an operating grant of \$1,000 to cover miscellaneous expenses (e.g., meeting expenses). As well, the City provided extra funds to cover expenses related to the 2001 Gerontology Conference in Vancouver.
- The RSAC is proposing an operating budget of \$1,000 for 2002 (**Attachment 2**). The RSAC operating budget is an operating base budget item.
- The RSAC also seeks community sponsors for events such as Seniors Week and the Health Fair.

### Conclusion

Staff recommend:

1. That the Richmond Seniors Advisory Council 2001 Annual Report (**Attachment 1 to the report dated Dec. 5, 2001 from the Manager, Policy Planning**) be received for information.
2. That the Richmond Seniors Advisory Council 2002 Work Program, as outlined in the 2001 Annual Report, be endorsed.
3. That the Richmond Seniors Advisory Council 2002 Operating Budget of \$1000.00 be approved (**Attachment 2 to the report dated Dec. 5, 2001 from the Manager, Policy Planning**).



Lesley Sherlock  
Social Planner

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## RICHMOND SENIORS ADVISORY COUNCIL

### 2001 Annual Report and Year 2002 Work Program

The Richmond Seniors Advisory Council supports the following sub-committees:

<b>Housing</b>	Carol Smith Pat Kaspro Lois Carson-Boyce Neil Bernbaum Aileen Cormack
<b>Peer Counselling</b>	Lillian Durrant Aileen Cormack
<b>Health</b>	Lillian Durrant
<b>Vancouver/Richmond Health Committee</b>	Aileen Cormack
<b>PHAC</b>	Carol Smith
<b>Multicultural</b>	Shams Jilani
<b>BC Seniors Advisory Council</b>	Mohinder Grewal
<b>Transportation</b>	Charles Barry Aileen Cormack
<b>Safety</b>	Lois Carson-Boyce Aileen Cormack
<b>Secretary</b>	Lois Ashford Angela Gauld

This annual report presents the Richmond Seniors' Advisory Council's (RSAC) 2001 accomplishments and activities being pursued in 2002.

#### ***ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 2001***

##### **Health**

We continue to support Wellness Clinics in three Community Centres and, before the end of the 2001 fiscal year, Thompson and West Richmond Community Centres will also have Wellness Clinics. These monthly clinics not only provide minor medical attention (i.e. blood pressure monitoring), but also includes podiatrists, physiotherapists and pharmacists to give talks on the pros and cons of drugs.

2001 was a banner year as the RSAC, along with Minoru Seniors Society and the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board, applied for a grant from the City of Richmond to hire a part time Wellness Co-ordinator for a period of 10 months. Margie Hardie was the successful applicant and commenced working with seniors in September 2001. She is planning to have workshops with our assistance on various issues concerning seniors. The health fair to be held in April 2002 will highlight all of the facilities available for Richmond Seniors.

### **Peer Counselling**

We are continuing with our partnerships with Richmond Connections, Richmond Health Services, Minoru Seniors Society, City of Richmond and the Victoria Order of Nurses to provide Peer Counselling for Richmond seniors. In July 2001, we had the pleasure of congratulating 12 volunteer peer counsellors at their graduation held at City Hall. It was a very emotional and inspiring day and we are now looking forward to having further training courses throughout the coming year.

Sponsorship from a financial institution to enable the training program to continue has been dedicated.

### **Supportive Housing**

This year, there has been significant headway in our ongoing efforts toward the future provision of affordable supportive housing for the elderly in Richmond. City staff have been an integral part of this effort in ongoing discussions with developers and non-profit organizations to work towards such housing in Richmond, as well as the construction of new and/or renovation of existing seniors facilities.

Our Housing Subcommittee is a member of the Seniors' Supportive Housing Steering Committee, which includes a representative from the Greater Vancouver Housing Corporation, BC Home Builders Association, Progressive Homes, Vancouver/Richmond Health Board and Richmond Long Term Care (Richmond Health Services).

In 2001, we presented to the City the consultants' report and recommendations which were endorsed by City Council. During the year, there has been ongoing dialogue with various stakeholders and developers and this fall we have scheduled meetings with the original steering committee to discuss further efforts.

RSAC have visited a number of supportive housing complexes in the Lower Mainland to ascertain what could be achieved in Richmond. In October 2001, four members attended the Seniors Affordable Supportive Housing Conference in Vancouver, which made us aware of the ongoing barriers we have to overcome before entering our next phase.

### **Safety**

A representative from ICBC provided an informative talk on driving issues.

The major effect of the Safety Committee for the year 2001 has been centered on the Slips, Trips and Falls project. We produced Pedestrian Safety Grids that have been and continue to be distributed to individual walkers and walking groups. The purpose of these grids is to increase awareness of walking hazards, to record and report them.

We now have a Slips, Trips and Falls Committee with representation from the City's Policy Planning, Transportation, Public Works Departments, Richmond Health Services – Population Health, Minoru Seniors Society and the Safety Committee of the Seniors Advisory Council. The main activity of this Committee has been the production of a brochure and a Walkable Richmond Strategy.

### **Transportation**

The Seniors Advisory Council has been involved in discussions with the City and TransLink to develop the 98B Transit Line to Richmond. We hope that a member of TransLink will make a presentation to RSAC before the end of the year to hear our complaints and concerns regarding seniors safety. A member of the RSAC will be attending further meetings at City Hall to represent seniors and voice their concerns.

### **BC Seniors Advisory Council**

Regular updates were provided on the activities of the BC Seniors Advisory Council, as well as priority issues brought forward by the Provincial Associations, by seniors attending the Community Public Forums and BCSAC and by the individual members of the Council itself.

A member of RSAC has put forward their application to continue representation on this Council from Richmond.

### **Salute to Seniors**

This year we changed the format of the annual Salute to Seniors. Community Centre Senior Co-ordinators came on board and after a number of meetings, it was decided to have activities for seniors during the week at various community centres, including transportation. At the outset, we had a fashion show and to close we had a golf tournament, which was viewed as a great success by over 40 participants along with our Seniors' Liaison from the City. A 2002 gold tournament appears to be a must.

### **Gerontology Conference**

The 17<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Gerontology in July 2001 was the jewel in our crown of achievements for 2001. On behalf of Lois Carson-Boyce, myself, and the RSAC, I would like to thank City staff for a remarkable job in helping and guiding us through the intricacies of organizing our booth and the bus tours of Richmond enjoyed by over 40 delegates from various countries along with a reception held at City Hall. Over 30 seniors were involved in manning the booth and attending various lectures.

**Library**

During 2001, Richmond Public Library employed a librarian to be a liaison with seniors to designate a seniors' corner with reference material and implementing computer courses to enhance seniors' ability to enter the computer age.

**Multiculturalism**

A member reports on meetings concerning seniors' issues.

**Vancouver/Richmond Population Health Advisory Committee (PHAC)**

A member reports on monthly meetings concerning seniors' issues.

**Vancouver/Richmond Health Board – Community Health Committee**

A member reports on monthly meetings concerning seniors' issues.

**Volunteer Hours**

RSAC members during 2001 have recorded approximately 5000 volunteer hours on various committees.

**Correspondence**

Over this past year, RSAC has had dialogue on seniors' issues with:

The Honourable Jean Chretien, Prime Minister  
 The Honourable Allan Rock, Minister of Health  
 The Honourable Gordon Campbell, Premier of British Columbia  
 The Honourable Geoff Plant, Attorney General  
 Provincial Health Ministers (NDP and Liberal)  
 Federal Housing Ministers  
 Provincial Housing Ministers  
 Delegates from the 17<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Gerontology  
 TransLink

***YEAR 2002 WORK PROGRAM***

The following projects are to be either finalized during the year 2002 or considered to be a part of our long-term planning.

- Wellness Clinic and Wellness Co-ordinator – ongoing support and co-ordination;
- Peer Counselling – ongoing operation;
- Seniors Supportive Housing – 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase completion, presentation to Council and implementation;
- Adult Guardianship – community education and awareness;
- Seniors Week – annual community seniors celebration;

- Pedestrian Safety Strategy – a framework towards managing City sidewalk development, maintenance and repair;
- Consumer Protection for seniors – community education and awareness;
- Health Fair, April 20 – community education and awareness;
- Emergency Response Program – identify support systems to assist seniors living on their own.
- Various Workshops – to be determined at a later date;

## **CONCLUSIONS**

Our wish for 2002 is that City Council and staff will continue to make more referrals to our Committee when issues concerning seniors arise.

Councillor Dang has provided the Committee with ongoing support in all aspects of the Committee's tasks.

On behalf of the Committee, I especially wish to thank Kari Huhtala and Lesley Sherlock for their highly valued assistance in all areas to our Committee, along with David McLellan, Jim Bruce, Dave Semple, Terry Crowe, Cathy Swan and other city staff. They have always been available for consultation on projects or ideas.

The Richmond Seniors Advisory Council has had a very successful year and hopes to continue to be a major player for the advocacy of seniors concerns. The energy and enthusiasm of council members continues to grow and this should be a banner year for the completion of projects, which will last for many years.

Prepared by:  
Aileen Cormack, Chair  
Richmond Seniors Advisory Council



9 – 5531 Cornwall Drive  
Richmond, B.C. V7C 5N7  
October 4, 2001

City of Richmond  
Finance Department  
City Hall  
No. 3 Road  
Richmond, B.C.

Dear Sir(s):

Re: Richmond Seniors Advisory Council  
2002 Budget

On behalf of Richmond Seniors Advisory Council, I wish to submit our proposed 2002 Budget for consideration:

On-going projects	\$1,000.00
Special Events	

Looking for a favourable response.

Yours sincerely,



Aileen Cormack  
Chair  
Richmond Seniors Advisory Council