

Report to Committee

To:

Planning Committee

Date:

January 23, 2014

From:

Cathryn Volkering Carlile

File:

General Manager, Community Services

Re:

Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee 2013 Annual Report and 2014 Work

Program

Staff Recommendation

That the "Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee 2013 Annual Report and 2014 Work Program" be approved.

Cathryn Volkering Carlile

General Manager, Community Services

(604-276-4068)

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE

CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER

LUC COLLEGE

REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

The Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee (RSAC) was formed in 1992 to advise Council regarding seniors' concerns and the future needs of this growing population. The committee meets on a monthly basis to consider issues referred by City Council, City staff and members of the community. It studies a range of matters deemed of concern to seniors and submits information, options and recommendation to City Council.

This report presents the RSAC 2013 Annual Report and proposed 2014 Work Program, which supports the following 2011-2014 Council Term Goals regarding Community Social Services.

- 2.1 Completion of the development and implementation of a clear social services strategy for the City that articulates the City's role, priorities and policies, as well as ensures these are effectively communicated to the public in order to appropriately target resources and help manage expectations.
- 2.4 Initiation of a strategic discussion and ongoing dialogue with the City's MLAs and MPs to ensure better representation of Richmond's needs in Victoria and Ottawa for social service issues and the related effects of downloading.
- 2.6 Development of a clearer definition of affordable housing priorities and subsequent utilization of affordable housing funding.

Analysis

2013 Annual Report

The RSAC 2013 Annual Report (Attachment 1) highlights key activities of the committee during the past year. Noteworthy examples include:

- Contributing to the development of the Social Development Strategy by providing valuable input to City staff.
- Actively pursuing Translink regarding the need for access to washrooms at Canada Line stations. A concession was made by Translink to open the washrooms upon request from seniors. The committee will continue to monitor this issue.
- Closely following the changes proposed by Translink with the implementation of the new COMPASS card and noting its potential impact on seniors in the community.
- Continuing to monitor a number of topics of concern to seniors: the development of
 affordable housing; health issues and programs; safety (e.g. Falls Prevention and Vial of
 Life program); outreach to isolated seniors; intercultural issues and transportation
 matters.

2. 2014 Work Program

In 2014, the RSAC will provide Council with advice on matters affecting older adults in the community. The RSAC will contribute to the development of the Older Adult Service Plan update and to any consultations regarding the Minoru Place relocation project.

In addition, it will contribute to Richmond's efforts to seek designation as an Age-Friendly City. It will also continue to monitor transportation issues for seniors, and in particular the implementation of the COMPASS card.

The committee will also continue to monitor various other topics of concern to seniors, as identified in the attached table (Attachment 2). Members will continue to liaise with a wide range of community and senior-specific organizations. City staff will support the RSAC 2014 Work Program as City policies, work programs, time and resources permit.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact.

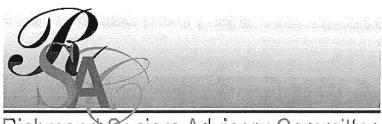
Conclusion

The RSAC continues to advise Council on matters of concern to Richmond seniors and contributes to initiatives that aim to improve the quality of life for older adults in the city. In 2014, the RSAC will focus on supporting Council Term Goals with respect to Community Social Services. Staff recommend approval of the proposed 2014 RSAC Work Program.

Sean Davies

Diversity Services Coordinator

(604-276-4390)



Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee

Serving Richmond since 1991

Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee 2013 Annual Report / 2014 Work Program

2013 Membership:

Seemah Aaron

Olive Bassett

Neil Bernbaum

Aileen Cormack

Mohinder Grewal

Hans Havas (Vice-Chair)

Joan Haws

Kathleen Holmes (Chair)

Sham Jilani

Corisande Pericval-Smith

Jackie Schell

Carol Smith

Doug Symons

Daryl Whiting

Becky Wong

City of Richmond Liaisons:

Cllr. Ken Johnston, Council Liaison Eva Busich-Veloso, Senior Services Coordinator Sean Davies, Coordinator, Diversity Services

Purpose:

The role of the Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee (RSAC) is to act as a resource and provide advice to City Council regarding senior's issues as they arise or are referred by City Council. The RSAC members identify concerns of seniors and work with various community organizations and agencies including city staff to obtain an understanding of the issues. Information, options and recommendations are prepared and submitted to City Council for consideration.

The Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee has not received referrals from City Council this past year, although members have continued to identify issues of concern and provide support and advice.

Membership:

The Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee consisted of 15 members this year including one new member. A majority of our members belong to one or more groups or organizations and attend numerous forums and workshops. These members bring to the RSAC table additional information on a broad range of topics relevant to seniors, as illustrated in the attached reports and Work Program.

Meetings:

The Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee members meet 10 months a year on the second Wednesday of the month. Monthly guest speakers are primarily from the non-profit sector and the provincial or municipal governments. The guest speaker's presentations provide committee members with insight to senior's issues and resources available for seniors located in Richmond community. RSAC members focused on several issues this year including transit washroom access and committee members are closely following Translink's Compass Card project.

Eva Busich-Velloso, Coordinator of Seniors Services, City of Richmond attends RSAC monthly meetings to keep committee members informed on programs, activities and information on wellness affecting senior's health and well being in the Richmond community.

Sean Davies, staff liaison attends all meetings providing committee members with minutes and agendas to ensure this committee fulfills its duties and achieve its goals.

The Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee would like to thank the Mayor Malcolm Brodie and Council for their continuing support of our committee and Council Liaison Ken Johnston for keeping the committee members updated on various issues.

Sani Mursalim, our volunteer web master does not attend monthly meetings but ensures minutes and other information supplied to him is posted to the RSAC web site in order to keep the public awareness of our committee's role at City Hall

Guest Speakers:

Louise Young, Coordinator, Richmond Seniors Network

John Foster, Manager Community Social Development, City of Richmond

Hon. Ralph Sultan, Minister of State for Seniors, British Columbia Government

Mary Jane Lewis, Executive Director for B.C. Centre for Elder Advocacy and Support

Rick Dubras, Executive Director for Richmond Addictions Services Society

Neena Randhawa, Coordinator, Outreach and Advocacy, Chimo Community Services

Belinda Boyd, Leader, Community Engagement, Vancouver Coast Health-Richmond

Deborah Procter, Manager, Emergency Programs

Michael McCoy, Executive Director, Touchstone Family Association

Correspondence / Meetings:

COSCO minutes

E-mail invitation to attend "Seeing Things Differently, Living with Low Vision Forum" Volunteer Richmond – "Volunteers are Stars"

Copy of a letter to the Mayor re: UBCM motion on Office of the Seniors Advocate

Copy of RSN letter to Translink re: Access to Washroom on Canada Line Station

Copy of letter to Hans Havas, RSN Transportation Chair re: Access to Washroom on Canada Line Stations

Copy of letter to Hans Havas, RSN Transportation Chair re: Travel Smart for Seniors Workshops Memo from COSCO re: Leadership Training "Passing the Torch: Training New Leaders for Senior Copy of RSN letter to Premier Christy Clark re: Ministry for Seniors Thank you card and update letter from Carol Smith Letter sent to John Foster re: Input into the Social Development Strategy Thank you letter to Hon. Ralph Sultan for presentation at the April meeting

Member Participation in Forums and Conferences:

Friesen Conference Moving in Metro

Workplan for 2014 (table attached):

- Continue to gather information on issues affecting seniors in order to provide knowledge and relevant advice to City Council
- Encourage monitoring and reporting on a broad range of topics continue
- Continue to support events in the Richmond community such as Wellness Week and Wellness
- Maintain our liaison and representation with the Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee, the Falls Prevention Committee, the R.C.M.P., Multi-Cultural Advisory Committee, the Richmond Integrated Addiction System, the Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee, he Richmond Seniors Network and organization and agencies deemed appropriate

Proposed Budget for 2014:

	The RSAC p	proposes the	following	budget 1	for 2014.
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Meeting Expenses \$1,000

Expected Events \$1,000 Seniors Week

Wellness Fair

Workshops & forums

Memberships & Website \$500

Total \$2500

Submitted by:

Kathleen Holmes, Chair Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee December 2013

RICHMOND SENIORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2013 Committee Reports

Isolated Seniors Sub-Committee

This sub-committee meets once a month on the last Monday. This year a new model of care program is being put in place through Vancouver Coastal Health. This was because of the aging population and the growing numbers of isolated and elderly seniors accessing Emergency. Richmond had identified a target population of clients age 80+or age 70+with Alzheimer's or other dementia.

Development of a screening tool was used to gain information needed. By using the GP's knowledge of client/family/caregiver it was possible to proactively identify frail patients and those at risk of frailty. This could be an opportunity to prevent or delay decline of this group and enable them to remain in their homes longer.

It also enabled VCH to identify those who could benefit from case management services or who's needs may be met by community services already in place.

Questions on 'CAREGIVER STRESS and CLIENT LONELINESS' are part of the screening test.

As well the Falls Prevention Team are involved with two new initiatives directed at Isolated Seniors. One is a new senior's drop in at the Lang (City Centre) community centre. Minoru Activity Centre, Falls Prevention Team and Volunteer Richmond have partnered to provide a senior's once a month drop in which is being well received as the initial 5 to 10 seniors who attended appear to be those not connected anywhere else.

The second initiative is at Hamilton community centre where a new Wellness Clinic has been put in place that will continue once a month, checking blood pressures, health monitoring health options and information. The Wellness clinics now available to Senior's over 55, now number eight.

Seniors Safety Sub-Committee

Seniors Falls Prevention Committee

Falls continue to be the number 1 reason for hospitalization of seniors. Each year in British Columbia 852 deaths are falls related and 10,091 hospitalization. (*) Much is being done to prevent falls regarding environmental changes by our city works yard staff such as uneven sidewalks, poor lighting and handrails which certainly contribute to falls prevention. Also the many exercise programs offered by the City's community/ senior centre(s) in Richmond.

The Vial of Life is another initiative that is seeing a great deal of interest in the community. It is a program that gives 'First Responders' information they require to treat someone in their home for whom an ambulance has been called. The vial has an information sheet inside with a person's medical history, personal information and what medications they may be taking. This allows them to assess better what treatment they should give to the patient. Those receiving the VOL fill out the questionnaire (provided) fold and place in the vial, place the vial in the fridg. place a vile of life magnet (provided) on the fridge door which alerts the responders to the information they require. One of the many places they are available is the Minoru Activity Centre.

RCMP Multicultural Advisory Committee

Acting as a liaison between the Richmond detachment's Multi-Cultural advisory committee and our Senior's advisory committee allows me to bring pertinent information to our members as well as any safety concerns to the RCMP committee from our seniors. The meetings are quarterly. Officers meet and work with the many ethnic groups bringing people together and offering assistance where needed.

During 2013 there were far too many horrendous vehicle accidents, the greater percentage caused by speed, lack of attention by many drivers still using hand held cell or smart phones despite the fact it is against the law.

The detachment's police boat the 'Fraser Guardian' patrolled the waters around Richmond all summer in order to educate boaters regarding boating and drinking.

Many of our officers take part in programs that have a positive and lasting impact for students. They play an important role in their lives simply by taking part in various sports playing hockey or baseball games (they very often lose!) against our school students, also taking them to hockey games etc. They also sponsor the program 'DARE' (Drug Abuse Resistance) in the elementary schools and in June the graduates of the program received certificates from RCMP officers. The program educates the students how to avoid high risk behaviours and make healthy informed decisions throughout their lives.

Another positive impact for our school students is talking with one of our female officers from their Youth Section as she patrols around our city and rides into school yards on her Quad ATV. This machine allows her to ride into hard to reach areas where she can do positive proactive outreach with children and youth. They also had the opportunity this summer to 'Be a Police Officer for a Day'. A dream most youngsters have came true for several this summer when officers and fireman held day camps at five different community centres across Richmond.

Richmond was selected to enjoy the 'RCMP MUSICAL RIDE' in August, and enjoy it they did! Thousands of Richmond citizens turned out to watch with amazement the formations, drills and riding ability of the officers and the splendid movements of the horses in this historic event. Many officers from our own Richmond detachment put on an excellent display

Respectfully submitted

Olive Bassett

Publicity

We are pleased to report that RSAC has had a request to forward the Terms of Reference, Agendas and Minutes and "How to Run an Advisory Group" to one of our past members now living in Montreal. She has been approached by her City Council to initiate a Seniors Advisory Group, similar to Richmond's City Appointed Committee. By the end of next year, Richmond Seniors will have a sister Advisory Committee in Quebec.

Respectfully submitted Aileen Cormack

Housing

Richmond appears to be taking a leadership role on the issue of Affordable Housing throughout Metro Vancouver.

The project located at 8111 Granville Avenue has finally reached the construction stage. Having so many partners and lawyers involved it has taken a considerable time to finalize all agreements.

The project at the Kiwanis site on Minoru Boulevard being developed by Polygon is well underway.

The many high rises we now see in Richmond, either have a percentage of affordable housing or the City has received funding for the housing fund that can be used in a myriad of projects. As seniors, we would like the City to consider having a number of affordable housing units be designated for seniors housing.

RSAC looks forward to becoming involved in the planning of the new Seniors Centre at Brighouse, if indeed it is Council's intention to have a high rise built over the Seniors Activity Centre, which would house seniors in the higher floors with the top floors being purchased to offset a portion of construction costs.

We, as Richmond seniors appreciate what the City and staff have accomplished this year and continue achieving their ambitious goal in housing Richmond's low-income and most vulnerable residents.

Respectfully submitted Aileen Cormack

<u>TransLink – Public Washrooms</u>

At the end of 2012, I had high hopes that washrooms on the Canada Line would be open between the hours of 10:00 am – 4:00 pm for seniors and other casual users of the Canada Line.

Unfortunately, this is not the case, but at least, TransLink has agreed to open the washrooms when a request is made to Canada Line attendants. I think this small concession is the most we can expect, but RSAC will continue to monitor this issue.

Respectfully submitted Aileen Cormack

<u>Transportation Committee</u>

The transportation committee has been very active over the past year dealing with issues that were important and concerning seniors. This sub-committee works with both the Poverty Response Committee transportation committee and the Richmond Seniors Network transportation committee. These committees have been sending much correspondence to TransLink concerning many issues.

One major topic that was dealt with was the washroom availability at many Canada Line Stations, mainly Brighouse & River Rock (Bridgeport). It was decided by TransLink that if any seniors needed to use the washroom facilities that they approach the Green Coats at each station and they would open the facilities for them. It was also discussed that washroom facilities be built at the new proposed Brighouse bus loop.

These committees also sent letters as to the use of HandyDART service or lack of. We were very lucky to have Mr Peter Hill from TransLink attend a meeting to share some valuable information as to the service improvements within the Richmond area that would make transit an easier means for many seniors.

The committees are currently working with the city in finding easier seniors /disabled access at major bus shelters around the City of Richmond.

Most recently, the committees sent a letter regarding the concession pass for seniors asking that the discounted price be extended to all daytime hours and not just on evenings and weekends. The newly proposed Compass Pass is also causing some major discussion as to how the pass will confuse seniors. A guest from TransLink may be invited to meet with us in 2014.

Transportation is a continuing concern for seniors and the Seniors Advisory Committee will continue to liaise with other community transportation committees to work with Transit as much as possible to make the transition to Compass an easier one.

Submitted by
Hans Havas
Transportation Chair - Richmond Seniors Advisory Council

This Work Program supports the following Council Term Goals (2011 - 2014):

manage expectations. priorities and policies, as well as ensures these are effectively communicated to the public in order to appropriately target resources and help 2.1 - Completion of the development and implementation of a clear social services strategy for the City that articulates the City's role,

needs in Victoria and Ottawa for social services issues and the related effects of downloading. 2.4 - Initiation of a strategic discussion and ongoing dialogue with the City's MLAs and MPs to ensure better representation of Richmond's

Topics monitored or addressed by the RSAC are outlined in the table below. 2.6 - Development of a clearer definition of affordable housing priorities and subsequent utilization of affordable housing funding.

	Indicator of ASAC Success	Partners	Status
Regular communication	- RSAC informed of affordable	- Developers	Ongoing
with City staff and	and supportive housing	- NGOs	
Council regarding	developments	- Faith Community	
affordable housing	 RSAC consulted regarding 	- Paverty Response	
Initiatives in Richmond	seniors affordable and	Committee	
	supportive housing	- Homelessness Coalition	
	developments	- Rental Connect	
	 Council advised as necessary 		
	Regular communication with City staff and Council regarding affordable housing Initiatives in Richmond	cation	cation - RSAC informed of affordable and supportive housing developments - RSAC consulted regarding seniors affordable and supportive housing developments - Council advised as necessary

Initiative	RSAC Actions/Steps	Expected Outcome	Indicator of RSAC Success	Partners
Monitor quality of health care services	 Monitor community concerns: long term care, adult day care 	- Better quality long term care	- RSAC informed of and consulted about a range of seniors health care concerns	- Vancouver Coastal Health
	- Continue to monitor cleanliness issues at Richmond Hospital	care - Improved cleanliness at Richmond Hospital - Community health	RSAC monitors the impact of and response to changing demographics - RSAC monitors Provincial	Services - Community services - Healthy Living - Secretarial
	changing demographics in community services	services more	progress re: Aging Well in BC	- Government
	- Follow up with the	demographics	 Council advised as necessary 	Departments
	Healthy Living Secretanat	- Implementation of		
	and appropriate	Aging Well in 8C		
	departments re: Aging Well in BC	recommendations		
Raise awareness of	- Bring forward speakers to	- RSAC well informed	- Speakers on health issues	- Community Health
	issues	issues	s e	
	Health Advisory	audience on seniors'	well-allelided public events	
	committee to consider	health concerns		
Advocate for	- Work with the Medical	- Seniors addiction	- Medical Health Officer speaks	- Vancouver Coastal
increased and improved seniors'	Health Officer on seniors' addiction issues	issues better understood and	to the RSAC - CHAC and RSAC mutually	Health - Richmond Health
addiction services	- Liaise with the	addressed	informed	Services
	Community Health	- RSAC well informed	 Council advised as necessary 	NGOs
	Advisory Committee (CHAC) on seniors'	about seniors' addiction issues		
	,			

Initiative	RSAC Actions/Steps	ons/Steps Expected Outcome Indicator of RSAC	Indicator of RSAC Success	Partners	Status
Intercultural/Multicultural Liaison	al Liaison	Ait			
Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee (RIAC) Liaison	- Continue participating on RIAC and bring senior's perspective, including new immlgrant seniors, to the RIAC deliberations - Participate in RIAC subcommittees (e.g. Newcomers Guide sub-committee arranges financing, translation, printing, reprinting and distribution of the Guide In English and two other	- Other members of RIAC recognize how inter-cultural issues may, in particular, impact seniors	- Recommendations and advice provided by RIAC have been viewed through a seniors lens RSAC is. in general, kept informed of the major initiatives undertaken by RIAC - Newcomers to Richmond are provided with the Newcomers' Guide to assist with settlement	RIAC	Ongoing
RCMP Multicultural Committee Liaison	 Attend meetings, monitor activities, report back 	RSAC informed re: RCMP Multicultural activities RCMP outreach includes seniors' perspective	 RSAC informed about Committee activities Seniors' perspective contributed to the RCMP 	RCMP	Ongoing
Transportation					
Seek information and make recommendations regarding transportation issues affecting seniors	Arrange subcommittee meetings with representatives of various transportation related agencies, e.g., Translink, HandyDART Invite speakers to RSAC meetings, e.g., re: Canada Line, No. 3 Road improvements	Transportation reflects seniors' needs	- RSAC informed re: transportation issues - RSAC advises re: transportation concerns - Council advised as necessary	Richmond Centre for Disability - Minoru Place Activity Centre - Translink - HandyDART	Ongoing
Increase the profile of seniors issues in Richmond	- Continue to publicize seniors' issues (e.g., RSAC member writes monthly column for local newspaper)	- Greater public awareness of seniors issues	- RSAC informs the public - Council advised as necessary	- Local media	Ongoing

Initiative	RSAC Actions/Steps	Expected Outcome	Steps Expected Outcome Indicator of RSAC Success	Partners	Status
Council of Senior Citize	Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of BC (COSCO)	osco)			
COOCO Dalson	activities, report back	- NONC Illibritied about COSCO initiatives - COSCO enriched with Richmond seniors' perspective	about seniors issues and COSCO activities - RSAC Is known to COSCO		Crigoria
Seniors community con	Seniors community committees (formerly the Richmond Seniors Planning Table)	nond Seniors Planning Tab	sie)		
Monitor the community response following the dissolution of the United Way Seniors Planning Table.	- Attend meetings, monitor activities, report back	- New committees addressing seniors issues may be formed	RSAC has a role participating in any new and relevant committees that are formed.	 Minoru Seniors Society Volunteer Richmond Information Services 	Under review
Older Adult Service Plan				の日本のないとしている。	とのできるとので
Contribute to the update of the Richmond Older Adults Service Plan	 Attend meetings, provide Input, monitor activities, report back 	- Older Adults Service Plan is endorsed by Council and community.	 Richmond seniors better served through new and/or improved services and opportunities 	 Minoru Seniors Society Vancouver Coastal Health Non-profit community organizations 	Update initiated and scheduled for completion in 2014,
Isolated Seniors		1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 100		THE REPORT OF THE PARTY OF THE	The Application of the Control
Identify isolated seniors in Richmond	 Monthly meetings will be held Assist Minoru Place Activity Centre and 	 Seniors will be more connected with the services available in the community 	 More and more isolated seniors are being contacted and made aware of the services available Many more seniors connected 	 Minoru Seniors Society Richmond Health Services Vancouver Coastal 	Ongoing
Reduce the isolation of seniors by coordinating services	Seniors Wellness Coordinator with expansion of Wellness Outreach programs to offsite locations.	 Follow up is now done by hospital staff to elderly seniors after release from hospital; many of the former 	with the community and programs available to them such as the Minoru Activity Centre programs	Health - Richmond City Council - Richmond Addiction - Richmond Addiction Services - Falls Prevention Network	
	immigrant groups and other cultural and non- English speaking groups,	isolated are now connected to the community Seniors will be more Informed and aware of services available to them Seniors with barriers to participation will be able to fully engage in recreation and leisure opportunities			