



**RCSAC | Richmond Community Services  
Advisory Committee**

To: Mayor Brodie and Councillors  
 From: Daylene Marshall & Alex Nixon, RCSAC Co-Chairs  
 CC: Cathy Carlile, Lesley Sherlock & Kim Somerville  
 Date: April 5, 2016  
 Re: **Changes in VCH Management in Richmond and the potential impact for the community.**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this Communication Tool (CT) is to inform City Council of Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) Mental Health staff reductions that may impact services to Richmond residents. VCH-funded agencies will monitor the situation and provide further information as deemed appropriate. RCSAC suggests City Staff meet with VCH Management to learn more about these changes in Richmond and that City Council advocate to the Provincial Government to stop reductions in Mental Health funding for our community. The CT supports:

- Council Term Goals: #1. A Safe Community; 1.4 Effective interagency relationships and partnerships.
- RCSAC 2016 Work Plan Actions: “Advise Council if changes in social service programs and corresponding funding structures will impact the City of Richmond” and “Support initiatives that reduce barriers to accessing services in the community”.

Issue	Potential impact	Agency or individuals affected	Advice
<p>There have been several changes to mental health managerial positions; VCH has reduced the number of senior managers from 4 to 2. The Manager of the Child and Adolescent with Mental Health Issues Program and the Program Manager of the Adult Mental Health and Addictions Program have been reassigned. Two other managers that were already working in Richmond have taken over these portfolios.</p>	<p>RCSAC members are concerned that these reductions in managerial positions may cause strain to an already underfunded system due to the increased workload assumed by the managers that have picked up the open portfolios.</p>	<p>All VCH funded agencies and their clients may be potentially impacted by these changes.</p>	<p>For City Staff to meet with VCH Management team to inquire about changes in Richmond and its impact on our community.</p> <p>To send a letter to the Province respectfully requesting that consideration be given to stopping reductions in mental health funding for our community.</p>