

**WRCPC Minutes**

January 9, 2015

Family Centre

65 Hanson Avenue, Kitchener

Meeting Room 2015

9:00a.m. – 11:30a.m. (8:30a.m. networking)

**Present:** Doug Thiel, Jane Mitchell, Mary Zilney, Irene O’Toole, Douglas Bartholomew Saunders, Bill Davidson, Bill Wilson, Barry Cull, Shayne Turner, Marla Pender, Chris Cowie, Don Roth, Mark Pancer, Sharon Ward-Zeller, Laurie Strome, Tom Galloway, Andrew Jackson, Peter Rubenschuh, Christine Bird, Mike Haffner, Judi Lodi, Joe-Ann McComb

**Regrets:** John Shewchuk, Sharlene Sedgewick-Walsh, Angela Vanderheyden, Jennifer Mains, Pat Gillies, Pari Karem, Felix Munger, Nancy Kinsman, Frank Johnson

**Staff and Students:** Mary Anna Allen, Tracy Jasmins, Chris Sadeler, Dianne Heise, Anthony Piscitelli, Michael Parkinson, Juanita Metzger, Eleanor McGrath (student), Asnake Meshesha (student)

Chair: Bill Wilson

Recorder: M. Allen

No.	Item
1.	Welcome and Brief Introductions:  WRCPC member and guests were welcomed and introductions were made.
2.	Approval of Agenda  <b>Moved by Jane Mitchell and seconded by Doug Thiel. Carried.</b>  Community Safety and Well-Being Plans moved on the agenda to after the Nominating Committee Report.
3.	Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None
4.	Approval of the Minutes December 12, 2014  4.1 Business Arising:  Report of meetings with the MPs and MPPs carried forward to the February 2015 meeting.  Christiane added an additional business item:  One of the goals set as a Crime Prevention Council in the last strategic plan was strategic leadership. Staff have reviewed some literature to answer the question of “what does collaborative leadership mean?” Christiane has also reviewed in that

context several articles. Christiane shared an article with the WRPCPC from the Stanford Review called “The Dawn of System Leadership” One of the exercises in the report can be very helpful for organizations of this nature to have an opportunity to understand each other’s work more actively. Christiane suggested the WRPCPC engage in a pairing exercise. This would provide opportunities for Council members to learn more about the different sectors around the table in a little more depth. WRPCPC members signed up for this exercise.

Laurie Strome asked for a correction to the Better Beginnings Better Futures website. It is [www.bbbf.ca](http://www.bbbf.ca) . Post addendum: The funding was granted to North Waterloo not Sunnydale community.

Judith Lodi asked that Helen Kennedy be referred to as the Executive Director of EGALE and the Co-chair of ILGA (International lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex association).

**Moved by Laurie Strome and seconded by Doug Thiel. Carried.**

5. Nominating Committee 2015-2016 WRPCPC Slate for approval:

5.1 2015-2016 WRPCPC Slate for Approval:

**Motion to move into closed session at 9:21a.m.**

**Moved by Irene O’Toole and seconded by Laurie Strome. Carried**

**Motion to come out of closed session.**

**Moved by Irene O’Toole and seconded by Laurie Strome. Carried.**

5.2 Addition of the **Lifetime Honourary Member** Category for Approval:

Motion to approve the addition of a new category of membership called **Lifetime Honourary Membership** to the WRPCPC sector slate. This category is for those members that have served full term of 10 years and have served as Chair of the WRPCPC. This is a non-voting position. There is not a minimum attendance requirement for lifetime members.

**Moved by Chris Cowie and seconded by Doug Thiel. Carried unanimously.**

6. Community Safety and Well-Being Plans Update/Dialogue

Christiane provided an update about the Community Safety and Well-Being Plans.

At the WRPCPC meeting on October 17th, 2014 Council held a dialogue with WRPS Chief Bryan Larkin. Following that conversation informal discussions were held amongst a variety of organizations invited to the planning table that is looking at the design of the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan. The next meeting for this group, scheduled in October, was cancelled. In December, Christiane received notification that the Facilitator and Evaluator had been engaged for the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan. Since that time, Christiane received an invitation to meet with the planning table and another invitation from the Evaluator, Kathy Hogarth, from Renison College to meet on a one to one basis on Monday, January 12, 2015. The group that is meeting for the purpose of developing the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan

has been expanded and other organizations have since been invited to participate.

The Waterloo Region Police Services Board (WRPSB) has discussed the Community Safety and Well-Being plans. Peter Ringrose is the Board representation on the ad hoc planning table and reports to the WRPSB on a continual basis.

In the most recent report from the Province, [Community Safety and Well-Being in Ontario](#), there is no mention of the WRCPC or any local examples in the list of best practices. This is concerning to the WRCPC since the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services has consulted with the WRCPC in the past about creating an Ontario Crime Prevention entity. The Council has also provided them with information on different occasions about the work of Council and local best practices to assist in informing the [Crime Prevention in Ontario – A Framework for Action](#).

A Council member asked how organizations are invited to participate on the ad hoc planning table. Christiane shared that perhaps given the 20-year history and the formidable connective expertise around the WRCPC table that if Council has recommendations on how to augment the current membership of the planning committee then we can offer to make those recommendations.

The Facilitator of the Community Safety and Well-Being plan, Kathy Hogarth, was hired to engage the broader community for consultation and to talk about the purpose of the community safety and well-being plan. In addition, she will be looking at how to approach this in a community that already has organizations that are doing one or more of these things.

Christiane met with Kathy Hogarth and offered the WRCPC as a resource. She also extended an invitation to the Facilitator to attend a WRCPC meeting but her prior engagements conflict with the WRCPC meeting dates in January, February and March.

Some feedback from the WRCPC:

- How do we define Community Safety and Well-Being?
- What is the purpose and objective of the plan?
- This community already has several plans
- What is the Community and Safety Well-Being plan based on?
- Who is driving this Plan and leading the process?
- Broaden the scope and invite other sectors to provide feedback
- How is leadership defined for this process?
- There is a wealth of information from the local community that can help populate a plan. There is much current data along with data that is presently being gathered by the WRCPC.
- Too many collaborative tables are not efficient and not sustainable.
- How do we avoid duplication?
- Need to advocate for something that is integrated and aligned
- The new initiative can certainly feed into the WRCPC
- Perhaps the WRCPC may want to review its sector list and seek out appropriate representation at its table
- The positive in all this is that the government is sees the wisdom in the local community. In addition, the WWLHIN is involved and is able to provide resources towards the community and various efforts.

- This is an opportunity to integrate many of the already existing plans into an overall community safety and well-being plan.
- Is the ad hoc planning table another collaborative table or a planning process that identifies a group to lead it?
- This is an opportunity for the WRPCPC to identify what vision it has and what role it would like to play in this.

The Centre for Community Research Learning and Action (CCRLA) will evaluate the process and development of the Plan.

**ACTION:** Christiane will be resigning from the CCRLA Board because of a perceived conflict of interest.

Legislation is making its way through the provincial government in the next three months that might affect amendments to the Police Services Act. There are various reasons why the Police Services Act is being opened up and the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan may be part of the amendments. Legislation might slow down the Community Safety and Well-Being planning process. If draft legislation were being developed, it would be prudent for the WRPCPC to find out if the Community Safety and Well-Being Plans are part of that discussion. The Council could advocate to the Ministry that if the legislation is coming that there needs to be enough flexibility in the legislation so that communities have the ability to develop a plan tailored to the community, especially when there are some communities that are further ahead than others.

**ACTION:** Christiane to request a copy of the draft legislation from local MPP.

The Law Commission of Ontario Advisory Council has agreed to go through a process of reviewing legislation from other countries to see what the impact has been and based on that research will bring forward a policy paper to the government with their recommendation.

**ACTION:** Christiane will contact the Executive Director of the Law Commission of Ontario to see where they are at in the process.

Three recommendations were presented for the WRPCPC to consider:

1. That the WRPCPC have the Community Safety and Well-Being Plans as a regular agenda item and invite others from the planning group to join Council for items as they see fit. The latter is mentioned because it has been mentioned that the WRPCPC is lacking some representation in some areas and this would be a way for that representation to have a voice and to participate.
2. That the WRPCPC make recommendations to the planning group based on the many years of engagement in this area about who else needs to be at the planning table in addition to those already present.
3. That the WRPCPC empower Christiane to speak on behalf of Council at times when there is not the opportunity for further consultation with the WRPCPC because the timing does not allow. Christiane added this because she is the only one around the planning table that does not report and organization. She reports to a coalition.

A draft overview of the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan was developed as an example of how the process might progress if the WRCPC was charged with the task of developing the plan. This draft overview was provided to Chief Bryan Larkin and the Facilitating Committee. Christiane is meeting with Bryan Larkin on February 26, 2015 as a follow-up. In the interim Christiane will make this overview available to those WRCPC members interested in using it as a resource when providing feedback to the Facilitator of the Plan. When the vision is ready and at the appropriate time, it can be brought forward to the WRCPC and potentially endorse it.

It was recommended by a Council member to place the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan on the agenda of the Friends meetings where there will be a broader community representation and more opportunity for engagement and it may be helpful to the planning process to reach that larger audience.

As this initiative is being driven by the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, with Barry Zehr seconded in this role (not through his position with the WRPS), it might be beneficial to ask Barry what the response is to the original concerns expressed by the community after the first consultation, what the plan is going forward and the broader strategy. In addition, it may be useful to have a conversation with the Minister of Community Safety & Correctional Services, Yasir Naqvi.

7. Transition of the Waterloo Region Integrated Drugs Strategy (WRIDS):

Michael provided an overview of substance use issues and the development of the Waterloo Region Integrated Drugs Strategy.

**Report:**

Michael provided an overview of substance use issues and the development of the Waterloo Region Integrated Drugs Strategy.

What we know about problematic substance use is that those with identified dependency or addiction issues are often victims of childhood abuse, trauma and/or neglect; that the criminal justice system is the pre-dominant intervention to deal with problematic substance use; that despite decades of evidence, many ignore science in favour of ideology and moralism that resembles the crusades of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century; that the issues are persistent; and the absence of evidence-based planning and implementation has left an expensive and ineffective revolving door for all.

Amongst root causes of crime and victimization, problematic substance use remains a top cause, with more than 80% of male federal offenders having an identified addiction and at the local level and more than 80% of property crimes tied to addiction to illicit substances consuming more than half of the costs of the Canadian criminal justice system. In 2005, the Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council identified recurring drug-related issues in neighbourhoods we were working with as significant and further, noted the limited ability of the justice-enforcement system to affect supply and demand.

Indeed, a global meta-analysis confirms that drug market disruptions increase violence with little long-term impact on supply.

To engage both horizontal and vertical systems, WRCPC has provided more than 225 events drawing more than 11,000 people, some of which have inspired new initiatives and new approaches at multiple scales. WRCPC began several new Networks at

local, LHIN, Provincial and National levels. WRCPC has produced a variety of primary and secondary research. WRCPC, following the OxyContin decision of 2012, has made significant efforts to improve opioid safety, including efforts aimed at overdose prevention via naloxone via films, webinars and research. Accidental opioid-related deaths are the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of unintentional death in Ontario, continuing to outpace deaths via motor vehicle collisions.

In 2006, a resolution was unanimously passed by WRCPC to undertake an “Integrated Drugs Strategy” using a 4-pillar approach that includes prevention, harm reduction, recovery and enforcement-justice. A Task Force of 26 members met for 2.5 years and engaged the public, service providers and those affected by substance use that resulted in 99 recommendations to make “Waterloo region safer and healthier” by “preventing, reducing and/or eliminating problematic substance use and its consequences”. The focus of the Drugs Strategy is on both legal and illegal problematic substance use: alcohol, prescription medications and illegal substances. Addiction, dependency and sporadic use are all items of concentration.

The Waterloo Region Integrated Drugs Strategy was approved by Council in December 2011. Since then, a Steering Committee, 2 Coordinating Committees (harm reduction, prevention) and several working groups (harm reduction) have been struck. A Trillium grant to support the WRIDS via a part time coordinator was recently approved, to be administratively hosted by the Kitchener Downtown Community Health Centre.

The WRCPC was provided a draft report that will be going forward to the Community Services Coordinating Committee on January 13, 2015. It was recommended that staff follow-up the report with a presentation in the near future.

As the Drug strategy moves into another phase Don Roth asked the Council how it would like to stay involved and where does it see its role.

Three Recommendations:

1. WRCPC can help with the research. The data in the report is dated and the issue of addiction and different types of drugs continues to grow.
2. A potential joint presentation that would include the WRCPC, Community Services and Public Health to the CSC to heighten the awareness and understanding of harm reduction as a normalized medical concept. This might occur latter in the winter or early spring.
3. As part of the Trillium grant, the WRCPC is responsible for 30 hours per month to continue to support the drug strategy.

If WRCPC members have any further ideas, they can contact Don Roth or Michael Parkinson.

8. Input into the Violence Prevention Committee – Andrew Jackson and Dianne Heise

Andrew Jackson, Co-Chair of the VPPIC, and Dianne Heise requested the WRCPC provide input into the recent changes in direction to the Violence Prevention Implementation Committee.

The Violence Prevention Plan was developed 10 years ago to support the Growth Management Strategy of the Region through a 40-year commitment to the prevention

of interpersonal violence through social and community development. The WRPC at that time took on the leadership role for violence prevention planning. Since that time, a great deal of work has come out of the Committee. A report is currently being prepared to update Regional Council and this will be shared with the WRPC as well.

The statement of belief has continued to guide the work over time, which has been focused on interpersonal violence. The focus of a violence prevention plan should focus on violence along with human and social development because violence is a symptom of a community out of balance. Unless balance is created, violence will continue at unacceptable levels. Many things have changed in the last 10 years in the service environment including the number of comprehensive planning tables.

It was recently decided to take the committee in a new direction - one that is in line with one of the original mandates of the 40-year plan - and that is to measure and monitor the violence that occurs within Waterloo Region. Despite the efforts from the Violence Prevention Planning Committee to secure funding for a violence prevention centre, it was not successful. A transitional committee is in the process of looking at transitional issues for a newly constituted committee with this mandate. Currently, WRPC staff are tracking rates and root causes of violence as seen in the "Snapshot in Time" report. There is currently some work occurring on crime mapping. This will look at crime rates in relation to socio-demographic variables in the community. There is still a need for a better understanding of the extent of the various forms of interpersonal violence that are occurring in the region.

Can we develop a framework or a report card for measuring and monitoring and reporting on interpersonal violence in the region? Can we identify trends and serve as a catalyst for change? What do we know and what do we not know about the different forms of interpersonal violence that occur in the region?

The WRPC participated in a questionnaire and the information was collected at the end of the meeting. The transitional committee will accumulate and review this information and report to the WRPC with next steps.

The questions that were asked are as follows:

- 1) What would be useful to your organization or sector to know about interpersonal violence in the region?
- 2) What is the reaction to the proposed direction?
- 3) What can be done with this knowledge or is there somewhere your organization or sector can assist?

Feedback:

- Report cards were not recommended
- Looking at local initiatives
- Trend analysis: Compare data collected to other data that is being collected in community profiles. So that there is an opportunity to look at what root causes might be related to what other profile issue there are within the community.
- Info bites. Smaller bits of information where there can be conversations around single statistics. Collectively we can theorize on some meaning.
- Look at local examples that are working in the community i.e. Domestic Violence Project.
- Are there other communities that are doing similar kinds of monitoring?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police statistics can be used</li> <li>• Local research that looks beyond reported crimes and find out where the problems are that are not being talked about e.g. violence against person's with disabilities, violence against men including emotional and psychological abuse</li> </ul> <p>We do have some of this information in the community already but we do not have it in a picture. We currently have this information in disjointed reports.</p>
9.	Strategic Plan Updates: Carried forward
10.	Roundtable on Significant Trends 2014-2015: Carried forward
11.	Other Business: None
12.	Adjournment:  <b>Moved by Doug Thiel and seconded by Peter Rubenschuh. Carried.</b>
13.	Next Meeting  February 20, 2015 – 99 Regina Street South, Room #508