

## WRCPC Minutes

November 18, 2016

WCSWR – Haven House

10 Acorn Way, Cambridge, ON

Community Room, second floor

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

**Chair: Chris Cowie**

**Recorder: M. Allen**

**Present:** Barry Cull, Carolyn Albrecht, Cathy Harrington, Chris Cowie, Courtney Didier, Denise Squire, Derek Haime, Doug Thiel, Helen Jowett, Jane Mitchell, Jennifer Mains, Jonathan English, Kathy Payette, Kelly Anthony, Sharlene Sedgwick-Walsh, Liz Vitek, Mark Pancer, Mark Poland, Pari Karem, Peter Rubenschuh, Sarah Shafiq, Peter Ringrose, Trisha Robinson

**Regrets:** Alison Scott, Karen Spencer, Angela Vanderheyden, Bill Wilson, Bryan Larkin (Inter-municipal exchange), Mike Haffner, Don Roth, Douglas Bartholomew-Saunders, Carolyn Schoenfeldt, Felix Munger (Inter-municipal exchange), Irene O'Toole, Joe-Ann McComb, John Shewchuk, Karey Katzsch, Michael Beazely, Sharon Ward-Zeller, Shayne Turner (Inter-municipal exchange), Tom Galloway (Inter-municipal exchange)

### 1. **Welcome:**

Chris Cowie provided greetings and introductions were made. WRCPC members Felix Munger, Shayne Turner, Bryan Larkin and Tom Galloway and Executive Director, Christiane Sadeler were in Winnipeg for an inter-municipal exchange. The community of Winnipeg is interested in adopting the WRCPC model.

### 2. **Approval of Agenda:**

**Moved by Denise Squire and seconded by Pari Karem. Carried.**

### 3. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest:** None

### 4. **Approval of the October 14, 2016 Minutes**

**Moved by Jane Mitchell seconded by Trisha Robinson. Carried**

#### 4.1 **Business arising:**

##### **Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention:**

WRCPC will be hosting Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention meeting March 30-31, 2017. Staff will be looking to form a working group with WRCPC participation. Christiane will follow-up with the Council.

##### **Youth Navigator Project:**

The evaluation for the Youth Navigator Project has been completed and results are very positive. Michael Parkinson and David Siladi will report to the WRCPC at the December 9, 2016 meeting.

##### **Overdose Crisis in Ontario:**

Michael Parkinson will be presenting updates about the overdose crisis in Ontario to the Community Services Committee on December 6, 2016 and to the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) on December 14, 2016.

After these updates, if still indicated, Christiane Sadeler will write a letter to the Provincial Medical Officer of Health for a resource request as directed by WRCPC. Dr. Nolan is unable to provide suggestions for additional resourcing at this time.

##### **Charter for Inclusive Communities:**

The Charter for Inclusive Communities is going forward to Community Services Committee (CSC) on November 22, 2016. Sarah Shafiq will also be going forward to the CSC as a delegation. Thank you to Sarah for her support in writing the report.

##### **Summary of Meetings with the MPs and MPPs:**

Please forward any questions about the summary of meetings with MPs and MPPs to Christiane Sadeler

#### 5. **Approval of the Consent Agenda - Smart Updates:**

**Moved by Denise Squire and seconded by Derek Haime. Carried.**

#### 6. **Sexual Assault and Harassment Response:**

Dianne Heise, on behalf of the working group, brought forward the Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council's draft response to the **Select Committee on Sexual Violence and Harassment Report and Bill 132 and Bill 177** with a request for approval. Please see draft response attached. Working group members are as

follows: Kelly Anthony, Bill Wilson, Felix Munger, Carolyn Albrecht, Sharon Ward-Zeller. Chris Sadeler also participated.

WRPCPC's process of developing a response began with a presentation to Council about the Provincial report called "**It's Never Ok**" **An Action Plan to Stop Sexual Violence and Harassment** (March 2015). Following this report, the province formed a **Select Committee** to lead a consultation process in Ontario. As a result of the consultations, a report was developed that included many of the recommendations from the consultations. MPP Daiene Vernile and MPP Kathryn McGarry, Select Committee Chairs, shared these recommendations with Council in a presentation. Subsequently, MPP Catherine Fife attended a Council meeting to share her thoughts and concerns with Council about the associated legislation.

The WRCPC made the following recommendations:

- Clarify what 'upstream', 'root causes' and 'universal prevention' mean
- Provide some concrete examples of early intervention approaches and evidence based strategies, like educational programs as well as examples for different target audiences (e.g. employees)
- Use restorative language in the report
- Title the WRCPC response "Sexual Violence and Harassment Recommendations for Future Directions"

The Response will be going to Regional Council as an information memo. Helen Jowett suggested to contextualize the issues for Regional Council and to make a presentation in addition to the information memo.

The response will also be forwarded to the local MPPs. It was suggested that the Minister should also receive a copy.

Mark Poland declared a Conflict of Interest.

**Motion to approve the response "Sexual Violence and Harassment Recommendations for Future Directions" with amendments.**

**Moved by Courtney Didier and seconded by Peter Ringrose. Carried.**

## **7. Truth and Reconciliation Circle Update:**

Derek Haime, on behalf of the Truth and Reconciliation Circle (working group), provided an update to the WRCPC. Derek will also be providing a comprehensive report and recommendations on behalf of the working group to the WRCPC at the January 2017 meeting.

Derek shared some general observations about the Circle. Several people have put careful work into trying to assign objectives and collect information on various justice related initiatives. To date the initiatives include:

- Local FASD (Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder)
- Family and Children's Services Reconciliation Process and their new Aboriginal dispute resolution role
- The Aboriginal Support Worker at the Provincial Court
- Land Acknowledgement in local school boards and other organizations
- Reconciliation efforts within groups such as WRPS, Grand Valley Institute for Women, local municipalities, and associated work on the calls to action that is happening locally

A pattern is emerging of positive changes that are mostly the result of local initiatives rather than larger systemic change. There is the need to reach out to the local MPs and MPPs, Directors of the Law Society of Canada, Directors of local faculties of law etc. because we need both local initiatives and the systems level organizations for sustainable change. This is a major finding of the Committee and part of the report anticipated for January 2017.

Some of the useful insights that have emerged are related to the diversity of Truth and Reconciliation related work going on in the community and the lack of coordination, collaboration and communication between these initiatives. Some of the local elders are finding it difficult to contribute to all the processes.

There is an effort to bring this work together and one of the positive ideas that emerged is the possibility of using the Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council TRC work as a catalyst to bringing other TRC related groups together.

Another interesting theme is the desire for the WRCPC to be more visible at aboriginal events in the community and a question of whether or not the WRCPC might consider using "Land Acknowledgement" at the beginning of Council meetings.

The working group has been honoured to have Gerard Sagassige, as knowledge keeper of the group who has guided the group through the assignment. He has followed a traditional approach. This has been really important for trust building and to de-colonize the learning process. Newcomers to this Circle tradition have needed time to learn how to participate and contribute effectively. Although this process may be slower because of learning how to do the work together, it is important that the process itself be one of reconciliation. The loss in efficiency is gained in new understandings and hopefully people are more skilled in working together in a way that represents indigenous culture and traditional knowledge.

**Motion that WRPCPC consider doing “Land Acknowledgement” prior to meetings and look to the Waterloo Region Aboriginal Academic Advisory Council that has already developed a statement.**

**Moved by Kelly Anthony and seconded by Courtney Didier. Carried.**

**Jane Mitchell and Helen Jowett abstained.**

It was suggested that the WRPCPC invite someone from the Aboriginal community to talk about the importance to the connection to the land and to share the significance of what it means before the Council moves forward.

Chris Cowie recommended that Facilitating Committee move forward with this discussion and to place this item on its agenda.

Derek shared that a statement of “Land Acknowledgement” will be made available for residents for their gardens/yards.

Derek also shared that many of the local initiatives will be listed in the WRPCPC report going forward in January 2017.

Derek asked for Council approval of the draft letter including appendices highlighting the particular calls to action and seeking information from local MPs and MPPs and for the group to share that information with Council. The letter does not speak to “Land Acknowledgement.”

**Moved by Pari Karem. Seconded by Doug Thiel. Carried.**

## **8. Say Hi Day 10th Anniversary Update:**

Tracy Jasmins provided an update about the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Say Hi Day event and asked for Council's guidance on how to move forward with the event.

The Say Hi campaign began as a community event in 2004 before it was adopted into the schools in 2007. This was partly because it was more manageable to do it in the schools rather than the broader community, as well it speaks to prevention as we are aiming to change attitudes and behavior over time, so look to start with children and youth.

Over 170 local schools were invited to participate in our 10th Annual School Say Hi Day, held in partnership with WRDSB and WCDSB on Sept. 23, 2016.

### **New this year:**

- All local MP's, 2 MPPs and the Chief of Police provided video greetings
- Marwan Tabbara, MP read statement at the House of Commons during Question Period - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6xCy9peZE>
- Daiene Vernile, MPP read statement at Queen's Park <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LQCA4aa7qhA>
- Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region provided 500 school bus drivers with Say Hi buttons to wear on Say Hi Day (and beyond)
- The Record published 4 x ½ page feature articles about Say Hi Day, bringing awareness into schools and community
- The Kitchener Rangers promoted via players videos and social media
- WRPS school resource officers visited schools for Say Hi Day

On Say Hi Day, Say Hi Teams comprised of local media personalities, community leaders, WRPS School Resource Officers, Regional Councillors and WRPCPC members and staff visited 20 schools to make presentations at assemblies, say hi and hand out buttons/stickers.

Two schools were selected for annual Connected School Award of a \$500.00 bursary to further the message of inclusion and belonging.

WRPCPC discussed the event and made some suggestions and recommendations. There was an overall consensus by the Council that the campaign should stay within the WRPCPC.

The Say Hi campaign anecdotally has had a positive impact in the schools but the campaign has never been formally evaluated. Tracy suggested to the Council the potential of evaluating the campaign. Mark Pancer offered to add “Evaluation of the Say Hi Campaign” to the AGORE agenda for their consideration. Tracy will take Council’s recommendations and suggestions to the AGORE Committee meeting for further discussion.

#### **9. WRCPC Chair Dialogue:**

Chris Cowie led the Council in an open dialogue. Christiane had previously provided some suggested questions for the Council to reflect upon to allow the Council to have a chance to think ahead:

- How would you describe where we are at as an initiative in the year 2016?
- What are some definite keepers and what are some of the things we may need to let go of in our processes, strategic focus or place in the community (or even beyond)?
- How do we do as a group when we get together? What might we want to change? What is the expected gain to that proposed change? What might be the loss?
- As you think back: What do you celebrate? What are you glad to leave behind?
- As you think ahead: What excites you? What makes you feel de-energized?

The WRCPC had a discussion and made suggestions and have been noted. Chris Cowie will take this information forward to the Facilitating Committee for further discussion.

**Motion to adjourn moved by Kathy Payette. Carried at 11:29 a.m.**