

Smart Update (Consent Agenda) April 10, 2015

At meetings of most organizations, at least a few items come to the agenda that do not need any discussion or debate either because they are routine procedures, for information only or are believed to be unanimously supported. A consent agenda allows the organization to approve all these items together without discussion or individual motions.

Depending upon the organization, this can free up valuable time that can be devoted to more substantial discussions about undecided issues. Any member has the right to “pull” any item from the consent agenda and add it to the regular agenda for discussion or comment or clarification.

Consent agendas are published on the WRCPC website www.preventingcrime.ca along with minutes after approval. **Consent agendas are selective not comprehensive.** Consent agenda items whenever possible will fall under the directions of the current strategic plan.

A. Collaborative Leadership

1. **Neighbourhood Engagement** – Community Engagement Staff are still involved in assessing & supporting the significant challenges experienced by a Kitchener neighbourhood. Together, with two partners, we have secured enough funds to hire two Youth Outreach Workers for one year as a pilot project. Interviews are in progress. An evaluation framework is in the works with the intention of sending an RFP for the evaluation once the Youth Workers are hired. WRCPC is playing a significant supporting role in this project, on behalf of the Region of Waterloo and of course the Crime Prevention Council.
2. The **Community Engagement League** (the newest ‘committee’ of WRCPC) began its work in December 2014. The CEL is tasked with a two-year commitment and its primary work activities are to:
 - 1) Develop and boost a strategy for the Friends of Crime Prevention network, and,
 - 2) Develop and implement a process for defining and deeply understanding the “prevention” value of WRCPC with respect to crime prevention through social development and community engagement.

The CEL updated its remaining details of their Terms of Engagements as follows:

League Decision Making:

The League strives for **Consensus** as a decision making tool. Where consensus might not be attainable, we will work toward **Convergence**.

At times, we may need to seek input or clarification from the WRPCPC Executive Director and/or Council in order to aid in decision-making.

Any major directional changes in CEL work activities or recommendations to WRPCPC projects require approval from the Council, presented by the CEL Chair.

League Meetings:

The Community Engagement League agrees to meet on a monthly basis, with dates set in a block and in advance.

CEL members may participate via Skype or telephone if the need arises.

Notes & Action Items are taken during the meetings to capture the essence of discussions.

Notes & agendas will be sent out to the group at least one week in advance of the meetings, along with location details.

CEL members also agree to use Google Drive (Docs) for document storage in order to access notes, articles & other materials between meetings. This helps to keep email to a minimum.

3. WRPCPC staff has supported the work of the **Waterloo Region Restorative Justice Circle** with assistance in the development of a logo and documents for the group. The group seeks to take the history of restorative justice to a place of restorative practice as the first response in all work, school, faith, and other situations where conflict is possible.
4. The **National Municipal Network** official launch date has been set for June 18/19, 2015. Network members are currently updating their city profiles, re-engaging their Councils' commitment to crime prevention and anticipating the hiring of a manager through the city of Montreal once final approval from Council and senior administration has been secured.
5. **Waterloo Region Integrated Drugs Strategy** welcomes Paul Gregory as part time Coordinator for the Strategy, funded by Trillium and administratively housed by the Kitchener Downtown Community Health Centre. Discussions about the KDCHC and WRPCPC partnership details continue as we collectively forge ahead with the implementation. The **Waterloo Region Integrated Drugs Strategy** now has a pamphlet, new copies of the report and a display. Don Roth as steering committee chair, the strategy coordinator and WRPCPC staff made a last minute dash to bring these materials to print.

B. Education and Learning

1. The **Social Media Committee** continues to meet monthly. Focus will stay on the elementary and secondary school levels, but will also aim to include parents, university students, and workplaces. The committee is additionally looking at launching a Community Champion campaign for the fall of 2015. An information report and presentation about the work of the Social Media Committee and THINK was made to Community Services Committee (Regional Council) on March 24.
2. On behalf of the **Justice Dinner** Committee, please be advised that due to a scheduling conflict for a couple of our Justice Dinner speakers, we have decided to move the date of the Justice Dinner from April 23, 2015 to **Thursday, October 22, 2015 at the Crowne Plaza** in Kitchener. Please be sure to adjust your calendars to reflect this change.

This decision to move the Justice Dinner to the fall was based on a few things: primarily the availability of our six speakers and a venue. We also did not want to compete with the many AGMs held in May and June and the WRCPC office is gearing up for a summer move to the Governors House on Queen St in Kitchener.

The planning committee is excited about this year's "Back to the Future" theme and the 6x8 format similar to last year's event featuring local speakers. The dinner had not been publicly promoted yet other than being announced at the WRCPC meeting.

Please share this new date of Thursday, October 22, 2015 with any staff or networks that may have had April 23 noted as the scheduled date for the annual Justice Dinner. More specific details will follow in the coming months.

C. Research & Inquiry

1. Staff presented preliminary data result of our Strategic Planning consultations to the March Friends of Crime Prevention council meeting. Analysis is continuing and a more detailed report is slated for completion in May.
2. Research on the spatial distribution of crime continues. A report is in progress examining how other cities have used police reported crime data to influence intervention within the community. This report is also slated for completion in May.

D. In the News

[Alberta to dispense life-saving antidote to fentanyl abusers](#) (Reid Southwick, Calgary Herald, April 1, 2015)

Jane's Walk Interview w/ Juanita Metzger, Midday with RJ (CKWR 98.5, Randy Johnston, March 30, 2015)

[Jane's Walk looking for volunteers](#) (The Record, March 20, 2015)

[Alberta playing catchup in response to fentanyl deaths](#) (Reid Southwick, Calgary Herald, March 15, 2015)

[Life without Parole Bill](#) w/Chris Cowie (570News Midday, March 10, 2015)

E. Community Partners Corner/ Additional Information of Interest:

1. Congratulations to Kevin Thaler (former member of WRCPC) for his appointment to Deputy chief of Waterloo Region Police.
2. Regional Council approved the **budget for WRCPC** for 2015. A copy is attached.
3. **April 29, 2015:** Invitation from the Centre for Community Research, Learning and Action mini conference recognizing accomplishments of the 2014-2015 Student-Community Research Partnership (SCRIP) interns. To RSVP contact Sue at cclra@wlu.ca
4. **May 2, 2015:** Workshop for boys ages 6 to 18 dealing with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder (FASD). For more information please go to [Boys Unplugged - Canine Heroes](#)
5. **May 5 to June 9, 2015:** Workshop called "Understanding Violence and the Choices We Make". Tuesdays, 5:30pm-8:30pm at Carizon, 400 Queen St. South, Kitchener. The cost is \$75.00. Light refreshments provided. For more information, please go to avp-kw@hotmail.com or call Will Stoltz at 519-650-9525.
6. **June 13, 2015:** Invitation from Michael May, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Community Services Department, City of Kitchener to community organizations asking for their involvement with [Neighbours Day](#). Neighbours' Day is a chance for community members to come together with their family and friends to enjoy some time together, celebrate their unique neighbourhoods and check out some of the city facilities, programs and services available to them and their neighbours. If you are interested in being a part of this exciting initiative, please contact the Co-Chairs of the Neighbours' Day committee, Sandy Hrubik (519-741-2200, ex. 5079) or Brenda van De Keere (519-741-2200. Ex. 5343), or you can reach them by email at neighboursday@kitchener.ca

F. Attachments(2):

1. Social Media Committee - THINK Campaign Update Report
2. WRCPC Budget 2015

Respectfully submitted,
April 07, 2015
Christiane Sadeler
(Executive Director)