

WRCPC Agenda

June 11, 2021

9:00 am to 11:30 am

Video Conference

Chair: Richard Eibach

Minutes: M.A. Allen

1. Land Acknowledgement and Moment of Silence
2. Welcome (5 min)
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
5. Approval of the May 14, 2021, Minutes (attached)
 - 5.1 Business Arising
6. Standing Items:
 - a. Regional Councillor Update (5 min)
 - b. Regional Liaison Update (5 min)
7. Harm Reduction Report Community Services and Public Health - Justine Sparling & Chris McEvoy (20 min)
8. Urgent Public Health Need Status Update – Michael Parkinson (10 min)
9. Developmental Assets Overview – Jill Stoddart, Family and Children’s Services (30 min)
10. Break (10 min)
11. Youth Engagement Working Group update – Mark Pancer & Shama Saleh (15 min)
12. Truth and Reconciliation Discussion – Irene O’Toole & Lu Roberts (45 min)
13. Executive Director Update - Deb Bergey (5 min)

WRPCPC Minutes

May 14, 2021

9:00 am to 11:30 am

Video Conference

Present: Amanda Trites, Andrew Jackson, Arran Rowles, Bill Wilson, Chris Cowie, David Jaeger, Doug McKlusky, Dave Dunk, Irene O'Toole, Jamie Sheridan, James Bond, Janice Ouellette, Jennifer Hutton, Joe-Ann McComb, Jonathan English, Judah Oudshoorn, Karen Spencer, Kathy Payette, Kelly Anthony, Lu Roberts, Mark Pancer, Myeengun Henry, Peter Ringrose, Richard Eibach, Rosslyn Bentley, Sara Escobar, Sharon Ward-Zeller, Sue Weare, Tom Galloway Trisha Robinson

Regrets: Angela Vanderheyden, Patricia Moore and Ashley Warne, Barry McClinchey, Cathy Harrington, Hsiu-Li Wang, John Goodman, John Shewchuk, Sarah Shafiq

Staff and Students: Deb Bergey, Abbi Longmire, Julie Thompson, Mary Anna Allen, Michael Parkinson, Shama Saleh

Chair: Richard Eibach

Minutes: M.A. Allen

1. Land Acknowledgement:

Joe-Ann McComb provided the Land Acknowledgement.

2. Welcome:

Richard Eibach welcomed members, and staff and asked to first address first the agenda item: 'Ratification of Motions' before carrying on with the rest of the agenda items.

3. Ratification of Motions:

The Council members were asked to ratify the motions that were approved in closed session. Chris Cowie declared a conflict of interest and did not participate in any of the motion voting.

Motion One:

The Crime Prevention Council does not see its work as being viable within a department of the Region of Waterloo and will therefore not accept an invitation to move into a position that involves reporting to staff within the Region.

Moved by Irene O'Toole

Seconded by Lu Roberts

Approved by Consensus

Motion Two:

The Crime Prevention Council shall write a letter to Karen Redman, the Regional Chair, with copies to all members of Regional Council, asking for clarification of the Region's plans for the Crime Prevention Council.

Moved by Mark Pancer

Seconded by Bill Wilson

Approved by consensus

Motion Three:

The Crime Prevention Council shall pursue a partnership with Community Justice Initiatives in order to form a justice centre.

Moved by Sharon Ward-Zeller

Seconded by Judah Oudshoorn

Approved by consensus

4. Approval of Agenda:

Moved by Andrew Jackson

Seconded by Doug McKlusky

Carried

5. Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

None

6. Approval of the April 9, 2021, Minutes:

Moved by Judah Oudshoorn

Seconded by Mark Pancer

Carried

6.1 Business Arising:

None

7. Approval of the Consent Agenda: Information (Up) Stream Update:

The Consent Agenda has been reformatted to reflect the new strategic directions. Council was asked to provide any feedback concerning the new format and content.

Moved by Irene O'Toole

Seconded by Kathy Payette

Carried

8. Standing Items:

a. Regional Councillor Update:

Tom Galloway shared that the COVID-19 vaccination roll out in the Region's hotspot is going well. Those involved at the clinics are going door to door to make individuals aware that the opportunity for vaccination exists in the designated areas.

All elected members in the Region of Waterloo are participating in a four-part Reconciliation training with Dr. Darren Thomas Lecturer, Indigenous Studies Wilfrid Laurier.

b. Regional Liaison Update:

Arran Rowles shared that the Provincial Ministries are in the midst of a transformation of the social assistance program. The province is looking to co-design the system, and the Region of Waterloo has received direction from the Province that four consultations will be held from now to December 2021. One consultation will be held with community partners Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program and community with Ontario Disability Support Program so that there will not be any duplication. The community feedback session will most likely be held in the summer.

Homelessness to Housing Stability Strategy is continuing to work internally and externally with the House of Friendship to bring back Region of Waterloo community members back that are currently in temporary housing in the City of Guelph. Presently, there are no homeless persons in the isolation spaces.

c. Anti-Racism Working Group Update:

Lu Roberts shared that the Anti-Racism Group is strong this year and has worked on a contextual statement for the strategic plan to put the vision into context. The group is also providing input into the glossary of terms available on www.preventingcrime.ca that will act as a companion to the Strategic Plan. It will be a living document. Please let Lu Roberts or Deb Bergey know if you are interested in joining the Anti-Racism Group.

A question was asked about consulting with Indigenous groups regarding the GCI students advocating for a Kitchener Street name change. Lu Roberts indicated that she is part of the Indigenous Advisory group at the WRDSB and is aware of the advocacy from GCI students. It is difficult to know if the many indigenous groups in the community have been consulted. Myeengun Henry encouraged ongoing advocacy efforts so as not to discourage advocacy.

9. Final Draft Strategic Plan for Approval:

Included in the WRCPC Strategic Plan will be the addition of the following documents: The Contextual Statement, to complement the Vision Statement, and the Glossary of Terms (key definitions). This document will live on the www.preventingcrime.ca website with a link to the Strategic Plan. The Anti-Racism group with staff support, Shama Saleh, have assisted in the development of these two documents. The key definitions are in the process of being developed and will be shared with the WRCPC when completed.

In addition, incorporated in the Contextual Statement, as part of the Strategic Plan, will be the concepts of Restorative Justice, Transformative Justice, Upstream, and Downstream approaches paired with concrete examples. This is still to be finalized.

Lu Roberts shared the following Contextual Statement for WRCPC to approve in principle:

‘We acknowledge that intersecting systems of domination such as white supremacy, colonialism, capitalism, patriarchy and ableism deny many in our community access to safe, equitable, and just opportunities. Because of these systemic harms, our vision is not easily attained and will require deep structural transformation. We commit to engaging in transformational work until our vision is fulfilled.’

During the development of the Contextual Statement, the words ‘such as’ was used in an effort to name some of the systems of domination.

The term ‘intersecting’ was included in the statement recognizing that some of the systems of domination can influence one another.

Lu shared that the following statement weaved intersectionality into everything, the Council (or we) do: ‘Everything the Council does has to centre intersectional, anti-racist, anti-colonial, equity lenses. This should weave through all undertakings of the Council.’

The focus of the Anti-Racism group is that it is considering these intersections throughout everything e.g. Speaker Series, Reports, and Research etc.

A Council member recommended that the Anti-Racism group prepare a strategy response to address groups in the community that may query the language in this statement.

This suggestion was added to the agenda of the Anti Racism working group.

Richard Eibach asked for a motion to approve the addition of the Contextual Statement to the WRCPD Strategic Plan document.

Moved by Lu Roberts

Seconded by and James Bond

Approved by Consensus

10. Shelter Report Update and Next Steps (Closed Session):

Motion to go into Closed Session

Moved by Sharon Ward-Zeller

Seconded by Lu Roberts

Carried at 9:40 am

Motion to come out of Closed Session

Moved by Kathy Payette

Seconded by Sharon Ward-Zeller

Carried at 10:29 am

Sarah Escobar asked to move the following motion:

That WRCPD staff immediately engage with area stakeholders to share local WRCPD research and advance low barrier shelter options for people consuming unregulated drugs and lacking stable housing. Staff are also directed to facilitate the establishment of an onsite Overdose Prevention Site (OPS) service(s) via Health Canada's 'Urgent Public Health Need Site' (UPHNS) application process established by Health Canada in 2020.

Seconded by Judah Oudshoorn

Karen Spencer asked for a more specific period for application submission.

Irene O'Toole asked to add 'before the end of June 2021' to the motion.

Moved by Sharon Ward Zeller

Seconded by Bill Wilson as amended

Approved by consensus

That WRCPD staff immediately engage with stakeholders to share local WRCPD research and advance low barrier shelter options for people consuming unregulated drugs and lacking stable housing. Staff are also directed to facilitate the establishment of an onsite Overdose Prevention Site (OPS) service(s) via Health Canada's 'Urgent Public Health Need Site' (UPHNS) application process before the end of June 2021.

The shelters are responsible for submitting the applications. The Region of Waterloo funds shelters. The Community Services Department and Public Health would want to be part of the conversations of any application process.

Sarah Escobar is willing to meet with Council members to have a conversation about the research and or concerns.

11. Break – 15 minutes

12. UPstream Speaker Series Update:

Julie Thompson provided an update about the WRPCPC [UPstream Speaker Series](#). The virtual seminars will be held during the month of June 2021. All the webinars will be recorded, edited, and available on the WRPCPC website.

The first virtual event called **(Re)Think Crime...because it isn't real** will be held on June 10, 2021, starting at 6:30 p.m. Jessica Hutchison will be presenting about the concept of crime and criminalization. What is crime and why are certain people seen as 'criminal'? The registration is open but the event has yet to be advertised.

The second virtual event called, **(Re)Think Our Stories: The reality of structural violence** will include those with lived experience of structural violence. The staff would like to run the series event two to three times a year with different panelists. The key messages and goals would stay the same but include different panelists that have experienced structural violence.

The third virtual event **(Re)Think Our Organizations: How we harm when we mean to help** focuses on how social organizations and systems cause harm. Panelists include Teneile Warren, an antiracism educator and equity consultant, and Karen Spencer, Executive Director of Family and Children's Services of Waterloo Region. A third panelist is to be announced.

The last event **(Re)Think "Crime" Prevention through an upstream lens** focuses on changes to systems that are at the root of suffering while preventing the harms from occurring in the first place. The panelists include Alfgeir Kristjansson Associate Professor of Public Health at West Virginia University Janice Ouellette, Supervisor of Children, and Youth Services at the City of Kitchener, Lana Mills, Associate Professor, and Chair in Prevention of Domestic Violence at the Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary.

Julie asked the WRPCPC to promote the event. An information email and flyer will be sent to Council members for them to forward to their networks. The Council members were also encouraged to share the event through social media. Staff will develop a few social media posts for Council members to share. Council members were encouraged to attend.

Julie asked the Council members for any further ideas that they may have that would fit within the upstream theme. Julie and Abbi would be willing to support Council members, as the talent coordinators, to develop a webinar specific to the topic.

Julie and Abbi Longmire are working with a communication-consulting group to develop the branding for the **UPstream Speaker Series**.

13. **Communications & Engagement Plan & Working Group:**

a. **Relaunching of the THINK campaign, Social Media Plan:**

Abbi Longmire, the Communications Community Engagement Coordinator provided a communications update, which included social media, the WRPCPC website, Constant Contact newsletter and current campaigns of the Council.

WRPCPC has four different social media channels: LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter channel. Abbi is gathering communication analytics on all channels.

A section of the WRPCPC website, called 'Updates', has been added to the website. The page will host the news and blogs. There is a desire to incorporate WRPCPC member blogs. Please let Abbi know if there is an idea or an interest in writing a blog.

Abbi is currently involved in the WRPCPC THINK campaign that began on May 6, 2021, with a focus on anti-bullying awareness, and ending on Sunday, May 16, 2021, with a focus on togetherness.

The WRPCPC collaborated with the Princess Cinemas by renting its marquee for THINK campaign messaging.

Following that portion of the campaign, the Instagram contest began for those under the age of thirty. This was in partnership with four local organizations, Kitchener Waterloo Multicultural Centre youth, Princess Cinema and Playhouse Cinema, the contest was posted on their website. This provided the potential opportunity of thirty thousand followers. Twelve different businesses supplied prizes for the contest.

In addition, Abbi has been conducting 5 days of virtual tips on all WRPCPC channels with each day focusing on each different element of the THINK campaign (think before you comment):

Is it **T**True?

Is it **H**Helpful?

Is it **I**Inspiring?

Is it **N**Necessary?

Is it **K**Kind?

Abbi asked Council members to help promote the messaging on social media.

The Constant Contact database is currently being reorganized and streamlining the different lists. The lists will include a Friends newsletter, government officials with public inboxes and WRCPD list of Council members to avoid multiple emails.

b. Communications Working Group:

Staff have been in discussions about re-establishing the Communications Working Group to collaborate on WRCPD communications. If Council members are interested in being part of this group, please contact Abbi Longmire.

14. Executive Director Update:

a. Community Engagement Coordinator Update:

Shama Saleh, the new Community Engagement Coordinator, is currently working to support the Anti-Racism work and the Youth Engagement Strategy work.

Shama shared that much of her past work has been with youth led non-profit organizations and is open to have discussions with Council members interested in this type of work. Shama will provide an update about the work of Council at a future meeting.

b. Video Conferencing Meetings Update:

The Region of Waterloo is in the midst of migrating from Zoom to MS Teams. Deb Bergey will keep the WRCPD members updated as to whether or not this will effect CPC meetings, and working group meetings going forward.

c. Transition Team:

Peter Ringrose shared that as the WRCPD starts to move forward towards a new model, the WRCPD needs to have discussions about all the various issues and ideas that are involved within the transition. There is a recommendation to create a transition steering team to investigate the various options as the Council moves forward.

Peter Ringrose moved that the WRCPD form a transition steering team to help prepare the way towards the new model of the justice centre.

Seconded by Bill Wilson

Carried

Richard Eibach shared that in addition to the transition steering team, there have been discussions about creating a partnership team to focus on partnership issues, draw on all the WRCPD's knowledge, experience, and perspectives, and to bring as many of the Council members into the conversation for the next steps and processes going forward.

This is a WRPCPC collective vision. Richard Eibach and Irene O'Toole will be reaching out to Council members.

15. Adjournment:

Moved by Sharon Ward Zeller

Carried at 11:40 am