

## CITY OF SALMON ARM

Minutes of the **Social Impact Advisory Committee** meeting held electronically on **Friday, September 24, 2021**, at 8:00 a.m.

### PRESENT:

Councillor Louise Wallace Richmond	City of Salmon Arm, Chair
Tim Gibson	Shuswap Children's Association
Patti Thurston	Shuswap Family Centre
Jen Gamble	Shuswap Immigrant Services
Jo-Anne Crawford	Shuswap Association for Community Living (SACL)
Janet Keats	Interior Health Association-Mental Health (entered the meeting at 8:05 a.m.)
Paige Hilland	Shuswap Area Family Emergency (SAFE) Society
Kim Sinclair	Aspiral Youth Partners
Erin Jackson	City of Salmon Arm, Director of Corporate Services
B. Puddifant	City of Salmon Arm, Recorder

### ABSENT:

Kristy Smith	Okanagan Regional Library
Dawn Dunlop	Canadian Mental Health Association

### GUESTS:

Gudrun Malmqvist	Shuswap Family Centre
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The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

#### 1. **Introductions**

#### 2. **Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory**

*We acknowledge that we are gathering here on the traditional territory of the Secwepemc people, with whom we share these lands and where we live and work together.*

#### 3. **Presentations**

#### 4. **Approval of Agenda and Additional Items**

Item 7.a - Access to Recreational Services

Moved: Patti Thurston

Seconded: Kim Sinclair

THAT: the Social Impact Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda of September 24, 2021, be approved with addition.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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**5. Approval of Minutes of May 21, 2021 Social Impact Advisory Committee Meeting**

Moved: Gudrun Malmqvist

Seconded: Kim Sinclair

THAT: the minutes of the Social Impact Advisory Committee Meeting of May 21, 2021 be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**6. Old Business/Arising from minutes****a) SPARC Update**

Councillor Wallace Richmond spoke regarding the SPARC BC presentation of the Social Impact Assessment to Council at the Regular Council Meeting of August 9, 2021. A review of the proposed strategic direction and the framework for moving forward as well as identifying the impact on specific groups will be discussed at the next meeting of the Committee. The Assessment identified 5 key recommendations; Economic Success, effective partnerships, community approach to safe and inclusive spaces, improving access to service and support and continuing the strength of the community as well as the role of the City.

Erin Jackson reported that the Assessment was sent to the Province and UBCM and it has been accepted.

**7. New Business****a) Access to Recreation Services**

Kim Sinclair expressed concerns regarding the closure of the gym, sauna and weight room at the Salmon Arm Recreation Centre. He spoke about the value of these services to the community and the importance of people with the Vaccine Passport to have access.

Erin Jackson communicated that these services have been closed since the onset of COVID-19 and is not related to the enforcement of the Vaccine card program. The gym is a small space with challenges for social distancing and closing of these facilities was a risk management decision. A staff shortage also has presented challenges in relation to having these facilities open to the public.

Gudrun Malmqvist, Jen Gamble and Jo-Anne Crawford spoke regarding negative responses in the community to the Vaccine card, challenges with staff mental health, retaining staff, challenges with access to services and the misinformation being circulated throughout the community. Jen Gamble spoke regarding the

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**7. New Business - continued****b) Access to Recreation Services - continued**

public perception regarding RCMP response to altercations and protesting. Erin Jackson said the City is in communication with the RCMP, the School District and Interior Health to obtain up to date information.

Janet Keats outlined Interior Health's plans to host discrete Vaccination clinics to enable the vulnerable population more access to vaccines.

**8. Other Business &/or Roundtable Updates**

Councillor Wallace Richmond spoke regarding the UBCM Convention and the meetings with the Ministries of Housing, Health, Agriculture, Transportation, Education as well as the Solicitor General. Mayor and Council were able to make the Ministries aware of local issues including the need update the hospital, a new school, additional housing, an increase to staffing for the RCMP as well as other needs in our community.

Patti Thurston reported that there are approximately 200 children waiting to access mental health counselling within our community.

Tim Gibson reported that fall programs are underway and that the summer programs were successful.

Kim Sinclair reported that staffing remains challenging and that his group is seeing an increase in more complex cases involving youth mental health and anxiety. Restoring activities and getting people back into interacting in the community is challenging.

Gudrun Malmqvist spoke regarding the ongoing need for housing and the financial pressures being felt by seniors. Invitations have been sent out to community groups to attend the Community Resource Coalition on September 28, 2021.

Jen Gamble reported that Immigrant Services is slowly reopening and new staff have been hired and are being trained to move forward with a new employment program.

Jo-Anne Crawford reported that they are continuing to hire and train new staff. Retaining staff in a COVID-19 environment is challenging and a Canadian Mental Health program for staff will available to support mental health.

Janet Keats reported that Interior Health nurses are helping out where needed and are providing support to Long Term Care facilities. Interior Health is increasing support in areas where there is low vaccination and providing vaccine support to vulnerable populations.

9. **Next meeting – Friday, October 15, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.**

10. **Adjournment**

Moved: Patti Thurston

Seconded: Jo-Anne Crawford

THAT: the Social Impact Advisory Committee Meeting of September 24, 2021 be adjourned.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 8:49 a.m.

“L. WALLACE RICHMOND”  
Councillor Louise Wallace Richmond, Chair

Minutes received as information by Council at their Regular Meeting of October 12, 2021.