

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7.13  
MEETING DATE: March 19, 2024

**STAFF REPORT – COVER SHEET**

SUBJECT: Reaching Home Program Funding  
Allocations for 2024-2025 DATE March 12, 2024  
DEPARTMENT: Public Safety & Social Development PREPARED BY: Kim Spice

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**1. SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

The City of Chilliwack holds and manages funds as part of the Reaching Home Program under Infrastructure Canada (INFC) to distribute to eligible Chilliwack projects that address local homelessness challenges. This report outlines the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board recommendations for Reaching Home funding allocation recommendations for the 2024/25 fiscal year (beginning April 1, 2024.)

**2. RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council receive the Minutes of the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board meeting held on March 11, 2024, for information; and further, that Council endorse the following resolutions passed at the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board Meeting held on March 11, 2024:

“That Council endorse the recommendation of the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board, for the allocation of funds for Coordinated Community Outreach for the 2024/25 fiscal year, be awarded to Pacific Community Resources Society and Cyrus Centre in the amount of \$439,000.00 ”

“That Council endorse the recommendations of the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board, for the allocation of funds for Prevention and Diversion for the 2024/25 fiscal year, be awarded as follows:

- Wilma’s Transition Society in the amount of \$30,000.00;
- Chilliwack and District Seniors Resources Society in the amount of \$61,000.00; and further,
- That the surplus of Prevention and Diversion funding in the amount of \$70,000.00, be held until the following Community Advisory Board meeting scheduled for May 16, 2024.”

“That Council endorse the recommendation of the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board, for the allocation of funds for Case Management Services for the 2024/25 fiscal year, be awarded to Pacific Community Resources Society in the amount of \$216,088.00.”



Karen Stanton  
Director, Public Safety & Social Development

**3. FINANCE COMMENTS:**

As funds distributed would be allocated from funding received under the Federal Government's Reaching Home Program, there are no additional financial implications on the City's Financial Plan.



Glen Savard, Director of Finance

**4. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION/COMMENTS:**

Supports recommendation.



David Blain, CAO

**STAFF REPORT ON  
Reaching Home Program Funding Allocations 2024-2025**

PREPARED BY:	<u>Kim Spice</u>	DATE:	<u>March 12, 2024</u>
POSITION:	<u>Social Development Specialist</u>	DEPARTMENT:	<u>Public Safety &amp; Social Development</u>

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**1. DEFINITION OF ISSUE:**

The City of Chilliwack holds and manages funds as part of the Reaching Home Program under Infrastructure Canada (INFC) to distribute to eligible Chilliwack projects that address local homelessness challenges. This report outlines the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board recommendations for funding allocations for the 2024-2025 fiscal year (beginning April 1, 2024) based on priorities identified by the community, including continued support for Community Integrated Outreach, Prevention and Diversion, Case Management Services.

**2. FACTORS:**

**2.1 Reaching Home 2024/25**

Under the renewal agreement, for 2024/2025, the City received \$1,125,985 00 for programing that addresses homelessness in Chilliwack.

Of the \$1,125,985.00.

- \$898,907.00 is to be allocated to Reaching Home projects for 2024/2025;
- \$61,180.00 is to be allocated towards building a community-led Coordinated Access System, as per the federal agreement; and,
- 15% (\$168,898.00) is to be allocated to administrative expenses.

At the January 18, 2024 Community Advisory Board meeting, members made funding recommendations for the 2024-2025 fiscal year based on continuous community engagement and consultation, while also considering priority needs in the Homelessness Action Plan, Community Safety Plan, and Reaching Home Community Plan and Directives.

The following strategic initiatives were identified by CAB:

- 2024 Point in Time Count (federally required) - \$40,000.00;
- Coordinated Community Outreach (Outreach for adults, youth and Indigenous individuals) seven days a week/12 hour a day - \$500,000.00;
- Prevention & Diversion (Rental and Utility one-time only arrears) - \$100,000.00; and,
- Case Management (for individuals either experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk - \$216,088.00.

Subsequently, Request for Proposals for project procurement were posted for the initiatives noted above.

**City of Chilliwack**  
**Reaching Home Community Advisory Board Meeting**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION**  
**Monday, March 11, 2024 – 11:30 am**  
**HYBRID – Dogwood Room and Zoom**

**Council Members:** Mayor Ken Popove, Chair

**RHCAB Members:** Steve Esau, Director of Operations –Pacific Community Resources Society  
Scott Gagliardi, Executive Director, Ruth and Naomi’s Mission  
Superintendent Davy Lee, OIC, RCMP  
Corrine McCabe, Community Member  
Larissa Kowalski, Community Health Specialist, Fraser Health  
Chief Derek Epp, Tzeachten First Nation  
Kass Levesque, Community Member  
Elder Yvonne Tumangday, Community Member  
Kristin Hall, Manager of Transitional Housing, Wilma’s Transition Society  
Tabitha McLaughlin, Fraser East Manager, Fraser Health  
Warren Schatz, Business Manager, Salvation Army Care and Share Centre

**City Staff:** Karen Stanton, Director of Public Safety and Social Development  
Holly Ferris, Manager of Social Development  
Kim Spice, Social Development Specialist

**Ex Officio:** Warren Chan, Senior Program Development Officer, Western Canada and Territories, Service Canada  
Jaskirn Munne, Senior Program Development Officer, Western Canada and Territories, Service Canada  
Frank Tick, BC Housing

**Regrets:** Councillor Harv Westeringh, Co-Chair  
Dan Bibby, Community Member  
Kat Maroney, Community Integration Specialist, Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction  
Julie Unger, Executive Director, Chilliwack Society for Community Living  
Trevor Wiens, Cyrus Centre Chilliwack Director  
Trevor McDonald, Executive Director, Downtown Chilliwack BIA  
Shawn Nygard, Member with Lived Experience  
Kelly Velonis, Executive Director, Chilliwack and District Seniors Society

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ken Popove was Chair and called the meeting to order at 11:35 am.

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

## ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved / ) That the Agenda of the Regular Meeting of the Reaching Home Community Advisory  
 Seconded ( Board  
 Held March 11, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

## ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Not required, as the Minutes from the February 15, 2024 meeting were previously adopted.

## NEW BUSINESS

Holly Ferris, Manager of Social Development, provided a presentation regarding the RFP evaluations for the 2024-2025 Reaching Home Funding. Funding priorities and proposals included the following:

- Coordinated Community Outreach:
  - Received a proposal in the amount of \$440,000.00 for partnering agencies Pacific Community Resources Society (PCRS) and Cyrus Centre
  - The funding amount available for this project is \$439,000.00
  - Stipulations to receiving a contract include clarifications regarding partnership arrangements, hosting Shop Talk and CIRT, providing a work plan and how the organizations will keep track of the budget for the project
- Prevention and Diversion:
  - Four proposals were received for Prevention and Diversion
    - Wilma's Transition Society in the amount of \$30,000.00
    - Chilliwack and District Seniors' Resources Society in the amount of \$61,000.00
    - Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) in the amount of \$22,000.00
    - Creative Society for Mental Wellness in the amount of \$100,000.00
  - MCC and Creative Society for Mental Wellness were deemed disqualified, as financials were included in the first envelope of the application process
    - It was noted on the RFP to ensure financials were only included in the second envelope
- Case Management Services:
  - Received a proposal in the amount of \$216,088.00 for the Housing HUB, PCRS

Discussion regarding the presentation ensued. It was noted by City staff that this process was a two-envelope process, which follows City RFP policy and that all submissions were evaluated regardless of how many proposals were submitted. For the 2025/26 fiscal year, a mandatory meeting will be scheduled for service providers wishing to submit proposals. This meeting will provide clarity on how to submit proposals and give service providers and opportunity to ask any questions about the RFP process.

A surplus of \$70,000.00 was noted, for the Prevention and Diversion initiative due to two proposals being disqualified. That surplus will be held until the next CAB meeting scheduled for May 16, 2024. This will provide CAB members an opportunity to see how projects are progressing and how agencies are managing funding to be better able to determine next steps.

**NEW BUSINESS - continued**

The recommendations by the evaluation committee were agreeable to members of CAB and the following motions were made:

That Council receive the Minutes of the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board meeting held on March 11, 2024, for information, and further, that Council endorse the following resolutions passed at the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board Meeting held on March 11, 2024:

Moved / ) That Council endorse the recommendation of the Reaching Home Community  
Seconded ( Advisory Board, for the allocation of funds for Coordinated Community Outreach for the 2024/25 fiscal year, be awarded to Pacific Community Resources Society and Cyrus Centre in the amount of \$439,000 00

Carried Unanimously

Moved / ) That Council endorse the recommendations of the Reaching Home Community  
Seconded ( Advisory Board, for the allocation of funds for Prevention and Diversion for the 2024/25 fiscal year, be awarded as follows  
•Wilma’s Transition Society in the amount of \$30,000 00;  
•Chilliwack and District Seniors’ Resources Society in the amount of \$61,000.00, and further,  
•That the surplus of Prevention and Diversion funding in the amount of \$70,000.00, be held until the following Community Advisory Board meeting scheduled for May 16, 2024

Carried Unanimously

Moved / ) That Council endorse the recommendation of the Reaching Home Community  
Seconded ( Advisory Board, for the allocation of funds for Case Management Services for the 2024/25 fiscal year, be awarded to Pacific Community Resources Society in the amount of \$216,088.00.

Carried Unanimously

**NEXT STEPS**

The Reaching Home funding recommendations determined by Community Advisory Board during the March 11, 2024 meeting, will be presented to Council at the March 19, 2024 City of Chilliwack Council Meeting.

Contracts will be prepared and signed by the successful proponents to ensure funding agreements will be in place for April 1, 2024.

Funding to be dispersed to Pacific Community Resources Society, Cyrus Centre, Wilma’s Transition Society and Chilliwack and District Seniors’ Resources Society

Surplus of funding for Prevention and Diversion in the amount of \$70,000 00 to be held until the CAB meeting on May 16, 2024

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**NEXT MEETING**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board will be held on May 16, 2024

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board meeting adjourned at 11:18 am.

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Mayor Ken Popove, Chair