

INTER-CITY FORUM ON SOCIAL POLICY

March 22, 2019

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Delta Airport Hotel, Calgary, Alberta

In Attendance

<input type="checkbox"/> Gerald Aalbers	Lloydminster	<input type="checkbox"/> Tanya Galey	Chestermere
<input type="checkbox"/> Patrick Lancaster	Lloydminster	<input type="checkbox"/> Tina Petrow	Airdrie
<input type="checkbox"/> Krista Balsom	RMWB	<input type="checkbox"/> Jenny Kain	Edmonton
<input type="checkbox"/> Jacquie Hansen	St. Albert	<input type="checkbox"/> Dylan Bressey	Grande Prairie
<input type="checkbox"/> Martin Thomsen	Lethbridge	<input type="checkbox"/> Tyler Gandam	Wetaskiwin
<input type="checkbox"/> Judy Smith	Edmonton	<input type="checkbox"/> Dianne Wyntjes	Red Deer
<input type="checkbox"/> Bev Esslinger	Edmonton	<input type="checkbox"/> Lawrence Lee	Red Deer
<input type="checkbox"/> Karla Cote	Calgary	<input type="checkbox"/> Bree Claude	Strathcona County
<input type="checkbox"/> Doug Borch	Calgary	<input type="checkbox"/> Katie Berghofer*	Strathcona County
<input type="checkbox"/> Jurgen Grau	Cold Lake	<input type="checkbox"/> Linda Thompson-Brown	RMWB
<input type="checkbox"/> Kim Schmidt	Cold Lake	<input type="checkbox"/> Colleen Burton-Ochocki	FCSSAA
<input type="checkbox"/> Clay Aragon	Airdrie		

*denotes telephone attendance

	ITEM	ACTION
1.	<p><u>Meeting Called to Order</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At 9:30 am the Chair, Councillor Esslinger called the meeting to order. 	
2.	<p><u>Welcome and Introductions, Approval of Agenda and Review of November 02, 2018 Minutes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Minutes were accepted as presented The Agenda was accepted as presented 	
3.	<p><u>Addition of City of Beaumont as Member City</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consensus to extend an invitation for Beaumont to join. 	

4.	<p><u>Updates</u></p> <p>FCSSAA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update attached • Questions - clarification on some of the information in the report in regards to Early Childhood Coalitions. • Learning Modules - is there a plan for evaluation? Judy Smith, as Chair of Directors Network Committee, spoke about the Directors getting feedback and looking for opportunities to update and improve the learning opportunities. <p>FCM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community and Safety Crime Prevention - accepted change of policy from Opioid Crisis to Substance Use Disorder Committee. • Adopted a number of new policies, discussion about cannabis, various provinces have not directed funding to municipalities, collection of data needs to happen to show the effect on communities, concern about what will happen when edibles are introduced. • Edmonton put a motion forward on Gender Based Violence Prevention, aligning with the national strategy; getting municipalities at the table as they are doing the front line work. Will go forward at the AGM policy session. • Key focus - modernization of the relationship; position municipalities to be more connected to the federal government. <p>AUMA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update attached 	<p>Colleen will email the online learning modules attached here</p>
5.	<p><u>Membership Cost Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision had been made to add up costs and split the amount to share equally between municipalities, instead of rotation. Invoices were sent out and payments need to be made - \$268 per municipality • Explore booking the community room at the EIA for Edmonton meeting; more convenient for those that fly in. 	<p>Councillor Esslinger to share contact information</p>

6.	<p><u>Opioid Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strathcona County presented on their new interactive display “Opioids Don’t Discriminate.” • DIY kit of how to create your own display - all you need to do is update local stats for the display. • Strathcona is doing a re-launch April 30 - May 3. • Need a central location to have these resources - Judy Smith committed to work on this with the Directors Network Committee, FCSSAA. • Suggestion to have these exhibits at AUMA, RMA, FCSSAA conferences etc. <p><u>Update on Supervised Consumption Sites</u></p> <p>Grande Prairie - mobile safe consumption site, no public information on opening, well used, no public reaction at this time.</p> <p>Edmonton - Dispersed, coordinated model - services provided at three sites and at hospital. Established a community committee to address concerns and share information. Higher number of people have sought help regarding their addiction (through the wrap around services).</p> <p>Calgary - one site within a health facility, struggling with issue of one fixed site vs. dispersed sites. High traffic area already because of numerous services; taxing for this one site. Opioid replacement program has increased in numbers. Q4 numbers: Calgary at 6 deaths/overdoses; continued concern about impact on frontline workers.</p> <p>Red Deer - dealing with community perception and zoning issues. Red Deer has highest number of opioid deaths. Have a site now for a safe consumption site. More education needed so people really understand who is affected by this crisis.</p> <p>Strathcona County - two years ago designed Social Policy Framework. One commitment was addressing root causes. Collaborative got together to address root causes of addiction. Recognizing stigma and judgement, sought to increase empathy. Opioids Don’t Discriminate interactive exhibit; ran for two days. Re-launching and creating a do it yourself kit for other</p>	<p>Judy Smith to follow up with Directors Network</p>

	<p>communities. In 1.5 days almost 500 people participated. Result was increased empathy. April 30 - May 03 re-launch, then going to Red Deer for event there in June.</p> <p>Fort McMurray/RMWB - has developed something similar on mental health. DIY kit - Edmonton also launched interactive exhibit: "This Is What It Feels Like" to increase awareness of impact of Gender Based Violence.</p>	
7.	<p><u>City of Calgary: Cannabis Legalization Process and Procedure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation attached 	
8.	<p><u>Aftermath of New Zealand</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on communities - launch of AB Kind. • Communities are reaching out in different ways. • Strathcona County focus on inclusion. • Centre for Civic Literacy. • Focus on diversity and inclusion training for FCSS agencies. • Lots of sharing of what is happening in different communities. • Other municipalities want to learn more about Edmonton - Intercultural and Active Witness Training. • Suggested resource, "Culture Influences Everything: Making it Work", Presenter: Elizabeth Entz from Lethbridge Public Library. 	<p>Doug Borch to send link</p> <p>Judy to share information</p>
9.	<p><u>Presentation by CMHC - Federal Housing Strategy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMHC has an ambitious goal: by 2030, everyone in Canada will have a home that they can afford. • Overview of National Housing Strategy. • 10-year, \$40B investment. • Canada Community and Housing Initiative - Provincial and Territorial housing. • Federal Community Housing Initiative: to protect low income tenants as old operating agreements expire. • Housing rights are human rights • National Housing Co-investment Fund and Federal Lands; very low interest loans and some grants, intended to assist in the creation of new affordable housing units. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Federal Provincial Territorial Housing Partnership. ● New Canada Housing Benefit. ● Evidence Based Housing - to measure the success - research and data. ● Improving Home Ownership options for Canadians. ● CMHC, one single purpose: to make housing affordable for everyone. ● Areas of focus under the strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create new housing; ○ Modernize existing housing; ○ Resources for community housing providers; ○ Innovation and research. ● Partnerships in the development of projects is key ● If you are aware of parcels of federal land and you know the owner, then approach your regional CMHC representative and they can approach their federal partners; ensure you have an interested developer to develop the land. <p><u>Question: Concern if municipalities do not have public transportation as it impacts their scoring.</u></p> <p>Response: Encouraged to apply. There is recognition that some rural communities have no or limited public transportation. Transit not the sole anchor for decisions.</p> <p><u>Question: Lot of concerns/challenges in rural areas. This seems more difficult to access. Do Metis communities qualify for First Nations funding?</u></p> <p>Response: There is a discussion underway and this includes a strategy for the Metis settlements.</p> <p>There is also a specific strategy for urban indigenous being discussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CMHC - absolutely open to discussing mixed market developments. ● As part of multilateral and bilateral agreement just reached - it speaks to mixed market. Seeking not to recreate old agreement but to develop new based on current context. ● Values mixed market but recognizes may not be best for everyone. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement struck just before the writ dropped. Action plan not completed by time election announced. Action Plan will follow once government in place after the election. <p><u>Question: Timelines? Are there any deadlines for applying?</u></p> <p>Response: All of the programs are 10 year programs - no fixed deadlines.</p> <p>Encouraged to reach out and discuss with your CMHC affordable housing consultants to discuss as their job is to navigate best solutions and opportunities for innovation.</p> <p>Solutions can be multifaceted.</p> <p><u>Question: Is there a way to better understand the details of the agreement?</u></p> <p>Response: 2 buckets of funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada community housing funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding intended to help repair, and maintain existing stock and also to increase the capacity in the community housing sector. • Alberta priorities funding - starts large and finishes smaller: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Intention similar with slightly different flavour - to assist community with what is needed that may not fit under other community housing funding. ○ Best time to review would be once the Province has a chance to put their action plan together. <p><u>Question: Lot of organizations assist cities to deliver affordable housing, do you provide any best practice services for not for profit partners?</u></p> <p>Response: Responsibility for managing has been transferred from CMHC to GoA so this is provincial jurisdiction. There is some information available on the website.</p> <p><u>Question: What are portfolio applications?</u></p> <p>Response: It is when someone approaches them with multiple projects. If proponent wants a better idea of what funding options there are then CMHC can assist with overall portfolio and provide guidance.</p> <p>Do consider the experience of the operator - take this into consideration when reviewing the application. However, if developer does not have a lot of experience they will still receive</p>	
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	<p>application and will be considered. Stressed the importance of the relationship between CMHC and the municipalities.</p> <p><u>Question: Direct to tenant rent supplement program?</u></p> <p>Response: GoC and GoA will work together on design of Canada Housing Benefit but not yet confirmed. There is already a rent support program delivered by the province. Co-development process is still underway. Province held some consultations in the fall. Sometime this summer will begin talking more about this program and look to deliver beginning in 2020. It is based on specific principles.</p>	
10.	<p><u>Next Meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting: June 14. <p><u>Suggested Topics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active witnessing. Wood Buffalo interested in training information. • Future topic: anti-racism/discrimination strategy. • Elizabeth Entz - Culture Influences Everything. • Anti-racism; new provincial committee: can GoA provide an update. • Mental Health and access to mental health services. • Shelter funding, no core funding; daytime shelter funding. • Lack of access to dual diagnosis services and psycho-social supports. • Minister of Community and Family Services - invite new Minister to next meeting. • Harm reduction - new Minister of Health. • AHS - municipal guide to alcohol policy to be released in June. 	
	<p><u>Meeting Adjourned</u></p> <p>3:30 p.m. the Chair, Bev Esslinger adjourned the meeting.</p>	