



Inter – City Forum on Social Policy

January 31, 2020 Minutes

Piper Ballroom Edmonton Airport, Leduc

Alberta, 8450 Sparrow Dr, Leduc, AB T9E 7G4

| Topic | Presenter | Action |
|---|--|---|
| Call to Order | Chair Jacquie Hansen | |
| Agenda Additions | Chair Jacquie Hansen | Agenda approved by consensus |
| Approval Agenda | | Minutes by consensus approved as edited |
| Review Previous Meeting Minutes | | |
| Budget Discussion: Costs for ICFSP 20-21 | Chair Jacquie Hansen | Action: That each municipality be invoiced for \$500 as a membership fee |
| Updates: Provincial (Red Tape Reduction) FCSSAA FCM AUMA | Crista Carmichael Colleen Burton-Ochocki Krista Balsom Tyler Gandam | n/a (Attachment 1) Please see detailed minutes for further information on FCM and AUMA updates |
| Action from October Meeting: Each representative to bring back items regarding “What requests does FCSS say no to?” | Chair Jacquie Hansen to lead open discussion | Please see detailed minutes |
| Strategic Advocacy Priorities of ICFSP (Bring your ideas) | Chair Jacquie Hansen to lead open discussion | Action: Three areas of focus were identified (Attachment 2); Housing – Social support, shelters, transition, and seniors Gaps between Ministries/lack of coordination Mental Health client services That the Terms of Reference be updated and circulated to all members (Under separate cover) |



| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| | | That each municipality bring their vaping policy and be prepared to speak on it (where it works and gaps) and that the topic be a short-term focus |
| Intermunicipal Opioid Response | Clay Lewis City of Grande Prairie | Materials attached (Attachment 3 and PowerPoint under separate cover) |
| Closing Remarks | Vice Chair, Tina Petrow | Three sub-committees are established on a sign-up basis to advise on housing, Gaps in Ministries, and Mental Health (please see detailed minutes for more information). |
| Date for Next Meeting | | On consensus the 2020 meetings are as follows: May 29, 2020 at Calgary's Acclaim Hotel Calgary October 30, 2020 at Edmonton's Royal Hotel |

For detailed minutes, please see below.



Inter – City Forum on Social Policy

January 31, 2020 Detailed Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair, Jacquie Hansen

Agenda Additions:

- Inter-City Forum on Social Policy (ICFSP) Historical review presented by Jenny Kain with the City of Edmonton.
- That the ICFSP Terms of Reference be reviewed and circulated

Agenda approved as amended by consensus.

Meeting minutes are reviewed and approved as amended by consensus. (Attached under separate cover).

Overview and historical knowledge of ICFSP

Jenny Kain mentions the below topics:

- ICFSP historically has focused on social policy through research, collaboration and advocacy.
- Government of Alberta Representatives were not originally members, but over time individuals have been invited to be members (about 4-5)
- A lasting focus is how to reduce and respond to poverty
- On occasion ICFSP has engaged a consultant to conduct analysis of social policy and its impact on municipalities. prepare reports on priority issues. The consulting work was paid for based on the size of each municipality on a project-basis as a way to recover costs

Budget for 2020-2021

Chair Jacquie Hansen discusses budget for 2020-2021 and proposes that the City of St. Albert invoice each municipality for \$300 (previously \$268) as a way to recover the costs of meeting expenses.

It is mentioned that invoices include as much information as possible and go directly to the members of the ICFSP to ensure efficient and timely payment.

It is mentioned that each municipality should pay \$500 as a way to run a contingency and avoid multiple invoicing through out the year as projects arise. A unanimous consensus is reached: each municipality will be invoiced \$500 as a membership fee with contingency.

It is discussed that the Terms of Reference be amended to include the above budget adjustment and ensure information sharing, analyses of provincial and federal mandates and social policy, shared governance with a policy focus.



Updates

Catriona Gunn-Graham provides a brief overview of FCSSAA updates in lieu of attendance of member. Please see “Attachment 1” for updates.

Councillor Krista Balsom provides FCM update:

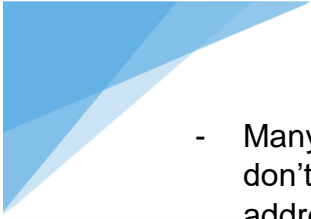
- Annual FCM Conference June 3-8, 2020 is hosted in Toronto. There are several tours involving social policy: housing, homelessness, opioid. Be sure to sign up March 1st when registration opens.
- October is the Sustainable Communities Conference in St. Johns Newfoundland.
- FCM directors will meet in March and Krista will bring information from the January 31st ICFSP meeting with her.
- A policy focus report will be circulated later this year
- FCM grants still has a green and infrastructure focus (not limited to civil infrastructure and includes policy work)

Mayor Tyler Gandam provides AUMA update:

- President's Summit discussed
 - o AUMA will advocate on social policies given the relationship with the Government and having a place at the table
 - o Budget for next year
- Spring Caucus will be March 25-26, 2020

Chair, Jacquie Hansen leads open discussion in regard to gaps and unmet needs of municipalities. The below topics are mentioned:

- Commonality with municipalities is that the budget is restricted by limited taxation powers.
 - o Only core groups within the community are given the funding to provide services for residents. Majority of grant/fund requests are rejected
 - o The answer is designated “no” in many municipalities’ strategic plan and leaves a gap in available services
- It is discussed that the Federal and Provincial responsibilities include budget and mandates. ICFSP needs to be careful what they ask for and focus on as the Province will agree but will ask municipalities to absorb the cost with no funding.
- Attention should be paid to ICFSP focus to ensure no overlap with other collaborative groups.
- FCSS has two branches: Story of Prevention and Pathways, which has less limits.
- Many projects are being cut because there is a perceived overlap with available services

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- Many ministries are giving the message that topics are not their mandate and don't appear to be talking with each other. It shows in the way they are addressing social policy changes
 - Members from Calgary mention that they have a direct service focus in order to provide for resident requests/needs and have moved away from 'capacity building'. Other agencies are fulfilling that role.
 - Grande Prairie has focused resources to early intervention and evaluated their abilities such as donations, efficient usage (business, not for profit, municipality)
 - It is mentioned that if topics focus on human rights then it is the responsibility of the government to ensure rights are met. This may be a strategy in communicating with MLAs and other influential bodies.


Gaps and Unmet Needs:

- Many smaller municipalities mention they outsource housing options as they do not have the available resources to have a local response to housing issues.
- Smaller organizations are being stretched in order to fill in gaps.
- Money to fund local organizations and not for profits is not available
- No direct services (Many are shifting away due to lack of capacity)
- Mental Health responses (root cause for individual needing other supports)
- Lack of service for transportation for poverty/seniors/those with disability
- Housing (Homelessness)
- Edmonton mentions that 1000 homelessness camps were cleaned up this year
 - o Costs are high to do clean ups
 - o There are not permanent housing options
 - o There are shelters operating at 70% capacity because homeless people will not go there due to various reasons
- Individual support to seniors (fill-out forms, map transportation)
- Red Deer says "no" to 300% of asks
- Early prevention and intervention need support and focus
- Addictions services

Information in regard to the Premier Charity Society collaboration between Coalition and Minister Sawhney. Crista Carmichael is a support to this committee and may be able to provide information. (Crista Carmichael was not in attendance at the meeting)

Strategic Advocacy Priorities of ICFSP

It is mentioned that Vaping could be a short-term priority that would target standard messaging from drug and tobacco companies as there is currently mixed labeling that does not explicitly advise consumers of the tobacco content.



Business Bylaws could be amended in order to restrict the type of labeling and sales of vape products.

Next meeting municipalities are to come back with their current bylaws and be prepared to discuss gaps and next steps.

Chair, Jacquie Hansen asks all members in attendance to place dots over discussed topics then leads open discussion of ICFSP strategic advocacy priorities for 2020 and 2021. Please see Attachment 2 for identified topic focus.

Three identified topics are: Housing – Social support, shelters, transition, and seniors; Gaps between Ministries; and Mental Health client services

It is discussed that ICFSP needs a “champion” (either an MLA or Minister) to regularly attend meetings so as to have a consistent response and message that leads to action.

Possible invites to the below are presented:

Minister of Child Services, Rebecca Schulz

Shelly with the Family Resource Centre

Russ Pickford, ED for Regional and Community Program Delivery

Associate Minister of Mental Health, Jason Luan

It is asked that if any other ideas of who invitations should be extended to please email contactmayor@stalbert.ca.

Does ICFSP extend invitations to MLAs/Eds/Ministers? A common agreement that we should is reached by consensus.

Opioid Workshop


PowerPoint can be found in the attachments under separate cover. Reports, and other materials can be found in attachment 3.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Three sub-committees are established to represent the three strategic initiatives (housing, gaps in ministries, and mental health) upon consensus and on a sign-up basis. Each sub-committee is to explore their area further and bring all gathered information to the next meeting. They can connect either through email, teleconference, or other options. The sub-committees are as follows:

Housing

Karen Lamola, Airdrie Karen.Lamola@airdrie.ca



Councillor Chantal McKenzie, Spruce Grove cmckenzie@sprucegrove.org

Paula Yung, Calgary paula.yung@calgary.ca

Jenny Kain, Edmonton jenny.kain@edmonton.ca

Toni Elliott, Wood Buffalo Toni.Elliott@rmwb.ca

Councillor Tina Petrow, Airdrie tina.petrow@airdrie.ca

Gaps in Ministerial

*Tina Petrow, Airdrie tina.petrow@airdrie.ca Team Lead

Karen Lamola, Airdrie Karen.Lamola@airdrie.ca

Menna Kebede, Calgary

Judy Smith, Edmonton FCSSAA Judy.Smith@edmonton.ca

Krista Balsom, Wood Buffalo krista.balsom@rmwb.ca

Mental Health

*Catriona Gunn-Graham, St. Albert cggraham@stalbert.ca Team Lead

Mayor, Tyler Gandam, Wetaskiwin tyler.gandam@wetaskiwin.ca

Doug Burch, Calgary

Jenny Kain, Edmonton,

By consensus the 2020 meetings are as follows:

May 29, 2020 at Calgary's Acclaim Hotel Calgary Airport

October 30, 2020 at Edmonton's Royal Hotel

Meeting Adjourned at 3:24 p.m.



FCSSAA Update to Inter City Forum

January 31, 2020

Early Childhood Coalitions Funding

On November 5, 2019 the FCSSAA received a letter from Children's Services informing the Association that the contract between FCSSAA and Children's Services would not be renewed and funding for the Early Childhood Coalitions would therefore cease March 31, 2020. The FCSSAA administers the grant to 98 Coalitions throughout Alberta, with the majority of the coalitions receiving \$22,500 per year. In addition to the elimination of the funds to coalitions, the elimination of specific funds to Parent Link Centres and Home Visitation programs was also announced. A new model for service delivery has been identified by Children's Services, and an Expression of Interest process closed January 20. Children's Services will then make decisions as to which submissions will receive funding; organizations that are successful must be ready to implement their services April 1, 2020. The changes to the funding model are going to impact many FCSS programs across Alberta, which led to many small group, informal discussions and ad hoc working groups being formed at our recent FCSSAA Conference.

2019 FCSSAA Annual Conference

The 2019 FCSSAA Conference was attended by around 400 delegates, which is the highest number for the past several years. While evaluations overall were quite positive, the overwhelming favourite speaker was David Irvine, the closing keynote, who spoke on Leadership. MLAs were invited to attend breakfast on the Thursday morning, and approximately fifteen of them joined the delegates for an informal opportunity for FCSS programs to meet with their MLAs to highlight the work they do within their communities.

Resolution

The FCSSAA membership passed the following Resolution at their Annual General Meeting:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA) advocates to the Government of Alberta to commit to continual

financial support of Family and Community Support Services on multi-year budget cycles that reflect changes such as cost of living and evidenced based statement of need and other commensurable factors.

The FCSSAA Board will address the disposition of this resolution at their January 31, 2020 Board Meeting.

FCSSAA Board

During the Annual General Meeting that took place during the conference, a new President and several new Board Members were chosen. Karen Rosvold, who has been on the Board as the Regional Representative for the North West Region, and is the past Treasurer, was acclaimed as President. New Board Members chosen by their respective regions are:

| | | |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Dimitri Dimopoulos Calgary-Bow River Region Rocky View County FCSS | | |
| Duane Didow | North West Region | Green View FCSS |
| Evan Wooley | Calgary- Bow River Region | City of Calgary FCSS |
| Gordon Thomas | West Central Region | Red Deer and District FCSS |
| Michelle McKenzie | South Region | Cypress County FCSS |
| Murtaza Jamaly | Northeast Region | Westlock and District FCSS |

The above members join returning members: Vicki Van Vliet Vaitkunas (Past President)- Edmonton Evergreen/ Edmonton; Loraine Berry- Edmonton Evergreen/Evergreen; Brian Broughton- Yellowhead Region; George Glazier- East Central Region; Debbie Wood- Directors' Network Representative; Judy Smith- Directors' Network Representative and Chair; Lisa Hannaford- Directors' Network Representative, and Randy Ell- Directors' Network Representative. The rest of the Executive will be chosen at the first meeting of the new FCSSAA Board on January 31.

Learning Module

The Association has received the first draft of the Homelessness Learning Module, which was written by Lana Wells at the University of Calgary and reviewed by Dr. Alina Turner, an established professional in the area of homelessness. Once edits are made to it, the module should be ready and available on the FCSSAA website in early spring.

Gaps / Unmet needs

- ^{5th Priority} Housing - social / shelters / ^{Supportive / transition / seniors}
- Domestic violence resources
- Keeping space for prevention work
- Direct client services
- ^{2nd Priority} Mental health client services
- Transportation to bigger centres
- Poverty impacts / Homelessness
 - Income supports requests
 - Access to Legal advice
- Funding for non-profits (social profits)
 - sustainability risks
- Seniors - navigation supports
 - isolation / depression in ind. living

System level needs to change, not local level. (2).

- Daycares - rural

→ FCSS mandate restricting
which services can be funded

Prov. System Coordination Initiative
Gaps between Ministry-
mandates - intersection points
lost - drops to munis
• need updates

• Early intervention gaps

Prov. driven
• Systems/hubs for local/regional/prov
not engaged with existing local committees

• Lack of coordination/collaboration
• Human rights based approach

• Seniors services provincially

• Addictions - services

• Encouraging agencies to
collaborate - move from stand alone
agencies.

• Early intervention - shift towards
connecting to intervention

- Gaps b/wn Prev/Intervention services

Leduc, Alberta

January 31, 2020

ORP - Meeting #1

Facilitators: Kendra Besanger, Jeff Ku, Valentina Briceno-Strocchia



Engagement Notes

Questions to consider around this challenge:

- Assumptions:
 - Is there an assumption that success is a means to an end?
 - What are the biases that we need to be aware of?
 - Do we assume that collaboration means success?
 - Are you truly touching all the issues?
 - What do we need to define?
- Collaboration:
 - Could collaboration stifle thinking?
 - Why might we assume that collaboration is a way forward?
 - Can collaboration pose more complexities?
 - Wouldn't we consider individual belief systems and how this factors into success?
 - What conditions need to exist for collaboration?
 - Can everyone be honest, open, and transparent?
 - Why collaboration?
 - How is collaboration different from consultation?
 - How long do we work on something before letting someone else take project to the next level if necessary?
 - Why does this matter?
 - Do we have a vision or shared goal?
 - How do we ensure the work is necessary?
 - How do we stay focused on the goal?
 - Is what you are trying to achieve clearly defined?
 - What do we mean by collaboration?
 - What/who is included in the collaboration?
 - What is someone doesn't do their share of the work? How do we agree to address this?
- Ownership and leadership:
 - Why do we always fight for who the "banker" is and for the minute taker
 - Why are the largest agencies always leading/dictating the outcome?
 - Are you open to others and their input?
 - Why do people get so territorial?
 - How can we have strong leadership and ownership?
 - What does equal representation (power) among stakeholders look like?



- Inclusion:
 - Does someone's opinion matter more than another's?
 - In an attempt to be representative, does this unintentionally lead to tokenism?
 - Determine who is in the group? Is it inclusive?
 - What relationships are needed?
 - Are you inclusive?
 - Who needs to be at the table?
 - Whose voice is heard?
 - What do we do if someone at the table should not be there?
 - How do we decide who needs to be at the table?
- Communication and engagement:
 - How do we communicate effectively?
 - How do we decide to work together?
 - How do you keep the high level of volunteerism going?
 - How do you ensure responsibility?
 - How do you encourage growth and continued success?
 - How do we decide how to work together?
 - What does the long term time frame look like?
 - How do we engage the "right" stakeholders?
- Participants:
 - Who are we representing?
 - How do you ensure the right people are involved?
 - What relationships are needed?
 - Are you inclusive?
 - Who are we representing?
 - How do we know who are the "right" people?
 - How do we address power dynamics?
 - How do you bring municipalities, school board, RCMP, etc. together for a shared community vision?
- Sustainability:
 - What kind of structure do we need?
 - Wouldn't failure lead to success from learning?
 - How do we support the work \$?
 - What kind of resources do we need?
 - Long-term sustainability?
 - Where is funding?
 - How to find common objectives and formulated response of action?
 - Time?
 - Often?



- When?
 - How do our mandates affect our ability to collaborate?
 - How do we measure success?
 - How are you meeting?
 - How do we know we are making a difference?
 - How will we be sustainable?
 - How do we keep it sustainable?
 - How do we balance process and outcomes?
 - What is the criteria for success?
 - What does success look like for each partner?
 - Does everyone have the same version of success?
 - Why success?
 - What is success?
- Opportunities:
 - What are our strengths?
 - Why do we work so well together?

1. What does successful collaboration look like for you?

- Strong leadership
- Willing to compromise
- Clear outcome
- Power is equal
- Common agenda
- Crisis brings people together
- Sharing information
- Clear roles and responsibilities
- Commitment and shared interest
- Energy and group work
- Create a structure that welcomes perspectives
- Consider previous lessons learned
- Trust and respect
 - “Collaboration moves at the speed of trust”
- Belief in the value
- Balance between outcomes and process
- Affected groups/parties coming together
- Government / social organizations / non-profits
- Listening to others' opinions
- Asking productive questions for clarification
- Open and honest dialogue



- Ensuring that everyone's opinions are heard
- Accepting opinions that differ from your own
- “reasonably” equitable commitment / shared responsibility
 - Shared resources, inter-referral
 - Human(i.e. everyone does some of the work)
 - Dollars where necessary
 - Services
 - Interest and promoting participation
- Sustained commitment
- After needs coordination -> paid? Enabled?
- Shared ownership of the challenge – all of us feeling accountable for the outcome
- Meaningful action to combat a real issue
- Holistic – joint
- Systemic change
- Synergy – smarter work
- Increase improvements for less
- Fact-based decisions, not emotion-based
- Protect the ideals/goal, not the ego
- Common vision – all working on same problem / issue / solution
- Goals – SMART
- Whoever needs to be involved, feels welcome
- Funding for the organization to run
- Shared values
- Sharing or collaboration?
- Response versus prevention
- **Conditions of successful collaboration include:**
 - Common Agenda
 - Shared Goals
 - Measurable (SMART)
 - Good governance structure
 - Clear roles and responsibilities
 - Diversity of voices at the table (and diversity of voices feels welcome at the table)
 - Inclusive structures / ways of operating
 - Openness
 - Trust
 - Safe space
- **Build off what is currently being done:**
 - Don't reinvent the wheel
 - Share best practices
 - Share emerging practices
 - Examples:
 - **Wood Buffalo**

- High level of “transient working population”; low level of opioid related deaths
- “How can we help”
- Education
- Transfer of knowledge and resources
- Communities can play different roles, depending on the realities they face
- Workforce that moves in and out can change statistics per community



2. What are the challenges you face in trying to collaborate within “the opioid response space”

in Alberta?

- Stigma and lack of understanding
- NIMBY
- Different systems (Example: RCMP, health, not clear on data)
- Systemic policies
- Hierarchy in players
- Disconnect between 21st century problems with 18th century tools
- Different mandates vs. policies
- Provincial government is not making decisions based on data
- Philosophical difference
- Scarcity-perception, less to go around
- Some people/service providers benefitting from the problem
- Size of the community; over-stretched resources
- Information sharing
- Capacity
- System is fragmented
- Reactive
- Getting organizations to take down barriers or siloes
- Getting provincial government on the same page with funding different stapes / detox / transition recovery
- Our municipality has very little data on opioid usage, overdoses and deaths as we have no hospital and most patients are transported to Calgary
- Some streams are over-represented and some are under-represented and there are gaps
 - i.e. in my community of Camrose, focus in a more generic drug prevention / response strategy that seems to focus more on youth (perhaps because youth-servicing services are ‘over-represented’)
- Also current provincial government could be a huge challenge in terms of its “ethos” and apparent lack of evidence-based decisions regarding consumptions sites
- Stigma
- Lack of commitment to the strategy
- Distance and different needs
- More than opioids (meth and addiction in general)
- Money



- Varied levels of government (First Nation and Metis involvement, Nation-to-Nation)
- Equal buy-in
- Jurisdiction / authority
- Competing organizations with similar goals
- Catchment area not paying municipal taxes in our city
- Knowing the best place to direct resources (to best improve outcomes)
- NIMBY
- Levels of government – jurisdiction – people not understanding roles of government
- Not knowing whether UCP will pull resources
- Hierarchical, power dynamics, like police
- Front line versus policy / upstream
- Funds
- Immediate response
- Beliefs
- NIMBYism
- Bias, shame (perceptions)
- Philosophy around “treatments”
- Victims (who are they?)
- Data sharing
- Alternative voices / real experience
- Raw data – formulate education and education response
 - Previous research – measurement of failures (past) and successes
 - Assuming it has been done before
- Strong structure
- Education
- Unity of response through rigor
- New-school response that can reach youth
- Who’s mandate is it??
- Staff resources and time
- Is it a priority for my community?
- Prioritization of resources
- Decision-making / mandate clarity
- Action items
- Membership of medical associations
- Conflicting agendas
- Capacity
- Funding
- Responsibilities
- Stigma
- Capacity
- **Collaborative Initiatives**
 - Examples of Ongoing Initiatives:



- **Economic Development Strategy between City of Edmonton and First Nations**
 - Trust and rapport
 - Way better relationship
 - Learn to listen, learn to have humility
- **Leduc Regional Housing Foundation**
 - Seven years
 - Everyone comes with their expertise (their “hat”) but it’s also about taking the hats off and being in their role at the fdn.
- **Diversity and Inclusion - Coalitions Creating Equity (Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Red Deer)**
 - 5 communities
 - Alberta Human Rights Grant
- **Collaborative Response to Syrian Refugee Crisis (City of Calgary)**
 - Common vision
 - Willing to respond quickly
 - Shared ownership
- **Fort McMurray Fire**
 - Intersectoral collaboration
- **Community Partnerships Table (Wood Buffalo)**
- **Challenges of Collaboration**
 - **Funding**
 - **Capacity**
 - Somebody has to be in charge of the tasks required to collaborate
 - **Too much talking**
 - Collaboration has to move into action
 - **Order of government may be unwilling to collaborate**
 - **Level of crisis is different for different municipalities**
 - **Responding to pace of change: need to be nimble**
 - **Determining membership: WHO is at the table matters (organizations and individuals)**
 - **Deciding where decision making power lies**
 - Are we open to doing things differently?
 - **Sectoral cultural differences**
 - **Conflicting agendas and approaches**
 - Conflicting agendas and approaches
 - Conflicting personalities
 - **Different beliefs about what solutions look like**
 - **What about moving out of response space and into prevention**
 - **Capacity and staff resources**
 - Prioritization of resources
 - **Prevention**
 - Long term



- This is challenging because it requires stakeholders to look inward (e.g. at inefficiencies in their own system)
- Wood Buffalo: education and awareness to work camps to stop “before it goes home”
- Level of urgency is missing
- Hard to measure progress, re: progress: it takes generations to see change in prevention - this doesn't align with election cycles
- Prevention is a less direct approach
- Mental health awareness
- Community connection
- Big picture: resiliencies
 - Examples of prevention:
 - Every partner can bring something to the table
 - Current focus: the drug is the issue —> transition into healthy kids, healthy communities
 - Look at U of Lethbridge: Building Better Brains (1st 5 years)

3. What/where are the opportunities for collaboration in the opioid response space in Alberta?

- **Localized data beyond provincial data is key**
- Example:
 - “Opioids don't discriminate” from Strathcona County
 - Calgary, DOAP
 - Winter response collaboration
 - Data Consortium called CDP
- Have data (example: Vancouver)
- Learn about successes to be applied in the context
- Reallocation of resources
- Police and fire (resources)
- Demand from others
- Sometimes the obvious resource is not the only resource
- Time to get creative about adapting resources or sources
- Leverage with those who show up and put in the energy
- Coming together, learning, sharing, mentoring
- Using resources to work together
- Get Provincial Government on side
- Dialogue
- Resource Sharing with regional / provincial plans
- Seniors
- Focused businesses i.e. sharing of data regarding higher-risk populations
 - Men at risk, men's sheds, etc. may be helpful partners
- Collaboration with the medical profession is key



- Creating awareness of reducing stigma
- Willing partners with shared goals
 - Harnessing energy and influence
- Work / live / play in different parts in AB
- Amongst Ministries (Justice, Health, and Social Services)
- Evidence-based programming and approaches
- Think differently
- Rights
- Leverage
- Enforcement with policy, and influence of governance
- Government obligations
- Responsibilities
- CRISIS response may help with other issues
- Lethbridge – UofL and COL joint program for ECBrain development, huge positive outcomes
 - Buildingbrains.ca
- Inter City Forum, FCSS, AUMA, FCM, RMA, 7 Cities

4. Where do you need support and how might a collaborative model support you?

- Wrap-around support and a transitional focus (example: St. Albert)
- Data analysis
 - Need data to know where you are starting
- Address issues without blinders on
- Need to take it a step further without blinders on
- Look at per capita based on size
- Sense of need and urgency
- Prove the need to government
- Share lessons learned
- Getting the players to put down their guard and addressing the big picture
- Helping everyone come to the table, Urban and Rural
- Preventative educational programming
- Municipal leadership to engage business figuring out AHS
- Understanding how best we can help
- Getting to root causes instead of just putting a finger in the dam – we're pretty good at harm reduction, but it is only a bandaid, tired of throwing good money after bad
- Justice, health, and social services
- Wrap around support
- Mobility and adapting – GP moveable van
- Education
- Homelessness – full response – smaller municipality – send to bigger city
- From our council, from regional fcsc programs, resources, staff
- Virtual webinars



- Post cards -> key messages
 - Call to action – what do you want us to do?
 - Clear message from province
 - **We need support to create a unified voice**
 - Documentation
 - Housing Strategy is an example of unified voice
 - **We need support to agree upon an agenda**
 - **Consistency is lacking —> need regular phone calls**
 - **Post card idea: “key messages” that can be passed out and will be consistent, clear**
 - **Role Definitions that are practical: how much time, commitment**
 - “What will need to be done?”
 - **Solution need to focus on the 75% statistic (middle aged men)**
 - Help
 - Brainstorming
 - Change in the way we think about addiction and this challenge
 - **The work being done isn’t reaching the population of middle-aged men who are dying**
 - Is the response a collaboration between municipalities?
 - Is it gleaning best practices from each municipality?
 - **Find out HOW men in trades want to access info —> go to where people are (through employers, unions, other stakeholders**
 - Mental health workplace training
 - **That demographic/cohort needs access to mental health resources:**
 - Isolation, stigma
 - **Where does that population feel like they belong?**
5. **How might an inter-municipal opioid response steering committee help you make more informed decisions and/or steps forward in your community?**
- Consider an umbrella approach and a pointed approach
 - Umbrella:
 - Cover addiction in general
 - It might dilute the issues
 - It might be overwhelming or paralyzing
 - Pointed approach:
 - Could set model to be replicated later
 - Recognize complex root cause
 - Surface leverage points
 - Don’t duplicate
 - Lessons learned
 - Resources available (grants, toolkits)
 - Getting the players to put down their guard and addressing the big picture
 - Helping everyone come to the table, Urban and Rural



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- Municipal leadership to engage business figuring out AHS
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- Mobility and adapting – GP moveable van
- Education
- Homelessness – full response – smaller municipality – send to bigger city
- From our council, from regional fcss programs, resources, staff
- Virtual webinars
 - Post cards -> key messages
- Call to action – what do you want us to do?
- Clear message from province
- Better and more detailed information on the issues
- Gathering information from municipalities who are currently in the trenches (what works, what doesn't work?)
- Help guide evidence -based decisions and policy development
- Provide a “legitimizing” framework for “advocating” at the local level in terms of steps
- Opioid use is a symptom of other root causes, in particular lack of connecting sense of belonging. The focus of the intermunicipal work is better served by focusing on root rather than symptoms
- Shared experiences and learnings
- Positive success stories
- People in Wood Buffalo to work but actually live and play elsewhere in province. We support province-wide residents while alert and focused at work and can have impact on days off
- Outcomes, best practices, advocacy to provincial / federal levels
- Evidence-based approaches
- I don't think we need another committee
- I think a working group is a better way to go OR a task force for a limited time
- Messaging clarity
- Connect with existing body? Efficiency?
- Working group?
- Elevate issue

6. How might technologies support sustained collaboration?

- Access one space
- Collaborative tools within it (example: Google docs)
- One Drive (example)
- Consideration – security
- Need understanding about data



- Common source of **up to date** truth
- Conversations happening with the BC coroner and the reporting
- Example: Ontario and data sharing around health information
- Digestible and easy to consume
- Lit Review
- Create space around the **conversation**, teams, chat teams, or have a messenger for example
- Chat Room
- Connecting info sources – not through email
- Digital education campaigns
- Apps for “help” for users
- Combat distance
- Shared resources
- Real time statistics, sharing information, quantifying success in terms of \$ saved, virtual education campaigns
- Virtual meetings / video conferences
- Webinar
- Social media – plus and minus
- Shared resources
- Convening people virtually
- Webinar
- Deep dive into belonging / isolation regarding affected population
- Employers / unions / industry