



Community Engagement Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2024, 5:00 PM-7:00 PM

EPCOR Tower, MacKenzie Room, Floor 8 Conference Centre

Attendees: Tricia Smith (Radius), Lindy Dowhaniuk (GSS), Louise Rackel (Radius), Leah-Anne Graham (GSS), Dan Cardinal (GSS), Scott Zhu (GSS), Janis Sasaki (Radius), Sarah Terlesky (City of Edmonton), Jeff Coulombe (AHS), Dawn-Marie Diab (GSS), Nor’Ali McDaniel (City of Edmonton), Sharon Day (EPL), Mary Jane Bilisland (EPL), Weu Wang (Chinatown Business Association), Inspector Jared Hrycun (EPS HSOC), Cst. Shayle (EPS), Carmin Lastiwka (GSS/EPS Help), Emily Hargrave GSS/EPS Help), Timaf Baterdouk (GSS/EPS Help), Alyssa Miller (BSCS/Streetworks), George Anwar (Alpha Pharmacy), Elliott Tanti (BSCS), Lucy Rachynski (GSS), Daniel Erin (GSS), Helen Funnell (AHS), Jeremy Olfert (EMS), Julie Hallonquist (EPS Help), Sandy Pon (Chinese Business Association), Sindi Addorisio (BSCS), Susan Sommerfeldt (University of Alberta), Yuliya Xiao (City of Edmonton), Angela Adomonis (HIV Edmonton), Alec Johnston (HIV Edmonton), Gamil Banoub (Alpha Pharmacy), Mina Basta (Alpha Pharmacy), Patricia Young (EFRS), Cst. Noel Craig (EPS), Cst. Shane Cole (EPS),

Regrets: See invite list

Agenda Item	Action Items
<p>1.0 Introduction and Welcomes</p> <p>Lindy and Tricia extended a warm welcome to all attendees, expressing appreciation for their participation. The meeting commenced with a roundtable introduction, providing each attendee with an opportunity for a brief self-introduction. Following this, a land acknowledgment was made, followed by an overview of the agenda.</p>	
<p>2.1 Community Engagement</p> <p>Tricia highlighted that the purpose of community engagement is to connect and highlighted that its broader purpose is to share information about programs and services and to make commitments to the broader community. She emphasized that working with members of the community is important to solving issues and implementing strategies that affect the community. Tricia continued to point out the benefits of a community engagement stating that it builds trust, informs everyone directly and that meetings personalize the relationships. Tricia highlighted that it is a requirement of the Alberta of Government.</p>	
<p>2.3 What is the Good Neighbour Agreement</p> <p>Tricia described the concept of a Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA), emphasizing its role in establishing mutual expectations and responsibilities within the community. She stressed the objective of maintaining a harmonious and cooperative relationship. Tricia outlined the contents of a GNA, including communication processes, dispute resolution mechanisms, and the collection of discarded consumption supports. She encouraged attendees to sign the sheet or connect virtually if interested in adding their names to the agreement.</p>	

3.1 Radius Community Health & Healing

Tricia introduced the programs and services offered at Radius Community Health and Healing. These included:

- Primary Care Clinic
- Specialized Clinical Services
- Off-site clinics at Miowayawan and iHuman
- Community Programs at Kindred House, Mobile Clinic, and the HELP Team Collaborative
- Dental Clinic
- Pathways to Housing
- Pregnancy Pathways
- Respite to Recovery
- Supervised Consumption Service

3.2 George Spady Society

Lindy introduced the programs and services offered at George Spady Society. These included:

- Balwin Place Supportive Housing
- Unity Manor Supportive Housing
- Cloverleaf Manor Intensive Supports Program
- Housing First
- Clinical Access Team (CAT)
- Mobile Support Team
- EPS HELP
- EPS Diversion and Desistance
- George's House Palliative Care
- Medical Detox Unit
- Supervised Consumption Service

3.4 Harm Reduction in a Recovery Oriented System of Care

Lindy introduced Harm Reduction to the group, emphasizing its role within a recovery-oriented system of care. She defined Harm Reduction as policies, programs, and practices aimed at reducing risks associated with substance use, acknowledging that abstinence may not always be feasible. She pointed out that it focuses on meeting individuals in their present circumstances and working with them as the driver of their goals prioritizing dignity and inclusivity, fostering a supportive community that encourages seeking help when needed. Initiatives include medical care, disease prevention, education, and connecting individuals to health services and addiction treatment. Lindy clarified common misconceptions, noting that Harm Reduction also encompass abstinence-based interventions. Ultimately, it advocates for treating individuals with dignity, respect, and providing diverse support and options tailored to their unique needs to minimize harm.

4.0 Supervised Consumption Services

Tricia briefed the group on the purpose of a Supervised Consumption Site (SCS), emphasizing its role as a safe space supervised by medically trained

<p>staff capable of responding to medical emergencies, including administering naloxone for opioid overdoses. She underscored its significance in reducing the impact on emergency medical services and mitigating harm associated with substance use, such as HIV, Hepatitis C, bacterial infections, and fatal overdoses. Tricia outlined the process for operating an SCS, highlighting the need to apply for an exemption with Health Canada and obtain a license from the Government of Alberta.</p>	
<p>5.0 EPS Updates</p> <p>5.1 Health Streets Operation Centre (HSOC)</p> <p>Inspector Jared Hrycun began by introducing himself and the teams under his supervision, which encompass the Transit Community Safety teams (TRACS - a city-wide response to improving safety throughout the transit system), the Disruption teams (teams who address concentrated issues of crime and disorder throughout the city), and the High-Risk Encampment Team (HRET - encampment response). He proceeded to discuss the Healthy Streets Operations Centre (HSOC) initiative, aimed at tackling a spectrum of downtown issues such as safety concerns and overdoses. This initiative involves the use of multidisciplinary Community Safety Teams comprising police, EMS, and Edmonton Fire Rescue Services, as well as City of Edmonton Community Peace Officers and Community Safety Liaisons. Inspector Hrycun provided an update on the ongoing operations of HSOC in their designated area, highlighting the collaborative efforts of various partners involved in this endeavour. Two members of the HSOC team, Cst. Noel Craig and Cst. Shane Cole was also in attendance.</p> <p>5.2 EPS Human-centred Engagement and Liaison Partnership Unit</p> <p>HELP Team Lead Timaf Baterdouk spoke about the program and discussed the differences between the Core and Divisional HELP teams. The HELP Unit aims to divert vulnerable community members away from the criminal justice system and towards community supports. Timaf highlighted the 5 different community agencies partnered with Edmonton Police Service (George Spady, Radius, Hope Mission, Bent Arrow, and the Mustard Seed). The Core team focuses on onboarding clients and supporting community members through case management. Noting the most common requests are related to housing, income, and ID but will support community members with any self-identified goals including mental health, physical health, and addictions. Currently, Core HELP is supporting 60 community members through case management. The divisional teams consist of a total of 12 navigators working with police members, providing 7-day coverage, and are stationed in all the police stations. The divisional teams provide resource diversion by taking calls related to trespassing, trouble with persons, theft, etc., focusing on social disorder calls. Navigators and their police partner will provide community members with resources and information related to shelters, food security, ID services, detox services, housing, transportation, and other requests. HELP navigators Emily Hargrave and Carmin Lastiwka were also in attendance.</p>	

<p>6.0 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Jeremy Olfert provided a slide presentation discussing EMS partnership with HSOC, EMS response categories and response times within Edmonton area, some attendees requested a copy of the presentation shared.</p>	
<p>7.0 Edmonton Fire and Rescue (EFRS) Patricia Young provided a short update on: EFRS partnership in HSOC, Community Property Safety Team and their role, reporting vacant properties and the support that can be provided, other services provided by EFRS.</p>	
<p>8.0 AHS Jeff Coulombe provided information about this role in AHS and how he is connected to the services provided at Radius and GSS. He also discussed the care continuum in AHS for those with opioid use disorder and discussed ways the system is working to remove barriers to accessing.</p>	
<p>9.0 Community Updates</p> <p>Edmonton Public Library (EPL): Discussed challenges of having open space for the community members in the area, shared information and examples of making connections to agencies in order to provide programming and supports, (such as in-reach to GSS Detox), shared that they are seeing Naloxone distribution from their Milner site reduce in demand, provided a general overview of supports and services.</p> <p>Sandy Pon (China Town Transformation Collaborative): Stated her support for the work Radius and GSS are doing and the supports that we are providing to community members, asked how we can provide better community engagement and how can they help. Asked if there was any way to address the issue of convenience store in the area selling items that are contributing to crime – knives, bear spray etc., asked a question about the number of referral GSS and Radius are making to services outside the SCSs and how we can better tell the picture of the work that is happening. Was suggested to take this question off-line to have a more detailed discussion of the intent of the question. Stated that China Town is seeing a difference in the area, an improvement to safety and security and that people are happier. Mentioned the affordable housing crisis and initiative to try to attract people to live in the China Town area. Asked a question about the “over-permitting” of pharmacies in the downtown core. Stated she feels some of taking advantage or victimizing already vulnerable people. Shared her intent to bring the issue to all levels of government and asked if there was anyone in the room that could take the issue to the city. City of Edmonton (Community Safety Liaisons) present stated they would bring it to the appropriate person within the City.</p> <p>Community Pharmacy Owners (Hope, Alpha and Trinity Pharmacies): Asked a question as a group about how they can how and how they can help connect individuals more easily for supports. Short conversation ensued about options the pharmacy owners presented re: use of space in their pharmacies to</p>	<p>Tricia and Lindy to connect off-line with Sandy Pon to further discuss questions and concerns.</p> <p>Tricia and Lindy to connect with pharmacies at a later date to</p>

provide access to services. Agreement with GSS and Radius to meet at a later date to discuss referral pathways and use of space potential. Mentioned the lack of access to public washrooms for the community members and how they do not feel safe having their bathrooms available for fear of community members overdosing in the bathrooms. Provided supportive voices for the work of Radius in primary health care provision but stated it's not enough, more services are needed.	discuss referral pathways and use of space potential.
5.0 Adjournment Tricia thanked everyone for coming and asked everyone to reach out anytime they wish. The contacts for each agency were put up on the screen and everyone was looking forward to the next meeting at EPCOR. (TBD)	Lindy and Tricia will plan next session and send out invite.

Minutes taken by Lindy Dowhaniuk, Tricia Smith and Louise Rackel

**Community Engagement Attendees and Invitees
March 06, 2024**

Attendees:

Tricia Smith (Radius), Lindy Dowhaniuk (GSS), Louise Rackel (Radius), Leah-Anne Graham (GSS), Dan Cardinal (GSS), Scott Zhu (GSS), Janis Sasaki (Radius), Sarah Terlesky (City of Edmonton), Jeff Coulombe (AHS), Dawn-Marie Diab (GSS), Nor'Ali McDaniel (City of Edmonton), Sharon Day (EPL), Mary Jane Bilisland (EPL), Weu Wang (Chinatown Business Association), Inspector Jared Hrycun (EPS HSOC), Cst. Shayle (EPS), Carmin Lastiwka (GSS/EPS Help), Emily Hargrave GSS/EPS Help), Timaf Baterdouk (GSS/EPS Help), Alyssa Miller (BSCS/Streetworks), George Anwar (Alpha Pharmacy), Elliott Tanti (BSCS), Lucy Rachynski (GSS), Daniel Erin (GSS), Helen Funnell (AHS), Jeremy Olfert (EMS), Julie Hallonquist (EPS Help), Sandy Pon (Chinese Business Association), Sindi Addorisio (BSCS), Susan Sommerfeldt (University of Alberta), Yuliya Xiao (City of Edmonton), Angela Adomonis (HIV Edmonton), Alec Johnston (HIV Edmonton), Gamil Banoub (Alpha Pharmacy), Mina Basta (Alpha Pharmacy), Patricia Young (EFRS), Cst. Noel Craig (EPS), Cst. Shane Cole (EPS),

Invitees List:

Name	Attendance	Response
Tricia Smith	Meeting Organizer	Accepted
Lindy Dowhaniuk	Meeting organizer	Accepted
Francesco Mosaico	Optional Attendee	Declined
Julie Strome	Optional Attendee	None
Candice Brietzke	Optional Attendee	Declined
Tally Mogus	Optional Attendee	Declined
luxeyeyecare@shaw.ca	Required Attendee	None
gstamand@bissellcentre.org	Required Attendee	None
KrisKnutson@theseed.ca	Required Attendee	None
reception@hopemission.com	Required Attendee	None
churchstreet@mintdrugs.com	Required Attendee	None
info@newdestiny.ca	Required Attendee	None

ahmed.metwally@myiphararmacy.ca	Required Attendee	None
Emily Jackson	Optional Attendee	Accepted
info@niginan.ca	Required Attendee	None
ronmacdonell@telus.net	Required Attendee	None
edmontoninterculturalcentre@gmail.com	Required Attendee	None
info@neumannplumbing.ca	Required Attendee	None
info@hong-kong-bakery.ca	Required Attendee	None
bia.chinatown@gmail.com	Required Attendee	Accepted
league@mccauleycl.com	Required Attendee	None
chanfat2008@hotmail.com	Required Attendee	None
kingnoodlehousephohoang@gmail.com	Required Attendee	None
info@electrictreehouse.ca	Required Attendee	None
Sarah Terleskey	Required Attendee	Accepted
Lucy Rachynski	Required Attendee	Accepted
Julie Hallonquist	Required Attendee	Accepted
Amber Heyd	Required Attendee	None
ashaw674@mynorquest.ca	Required Attendee	None
shelby.suazo@aawear.org	Required Attendee	None
catherine.b@hivedmonton.com	Required Attendee	None
chelsea.hawrelak@edmonton.ca	Required Attendee	None
sharon.day@epl.ca	Required Attendee	None
payri.yamarte@albertahealthservices.ca	Required Attendee	None
christopher.sikora@albertahealthservices.ca	Required Attendee	None
emily.lennon@edmonton.ca	Required Attendee	None
Elliott Tanti	Required Attendee	Accepted
graeme.mcalister@albertahealthservices.ca	Required Attendee	None
jan.fox@reachedmonton.ca	Required Attendee	None
jane.yi@albertahealthservices.ca	Required Attendee	None
jeff.coulombe@albertahealthservices.ca	Required Attendee	Accepted
sheri.klassen@albertahealthservices.ca	Required Attendee	None
Jenna Pilot	Required Attendee	None
Chelsey Anseeuw	Required Attendee	None
amiller@boylestreet.org	Required Attendee	Accepted
Daniel Erin	Required Attendee	Accepted
EPS HSOC	Required Attendee	Accepted
Yu Zhu	Required Attendee	Accepted
SCS Full Time	Optional Attendee	Accepted
Sindi Addorisio	Required Attendee	Accepted
Dan Mirau	Required Attendee	None
info@rogersplace.com	Required Attendee	None
Elaine Hyshka	Required Attendee	None
g.tallin@shaw.ca	Required Attendee	None
EPCOR Tenant Services	Required Attendee	None
Lee Zorniak B	Required Attendee	None
Patricia Young	Required Attendee	Accepted
jmpeverett@gmail.com	Required Attendee	None
kari.jesswein@albertahealthservices.ca	Required Attendee	None
kari10@gmail.com	Required Attendee	None

shay@aawear.org	Required Attendee	None
kathryn.dong@albertahealthservices.ca	Required Attendee	None
Kayla Anderson	Required Attendee	None
kthomas@homewardtrust.ca	Required Attendee	None
laurene.viarobo@thenorthedge.ca	Required Attendee	None
lpbillingsley@gmail.com	Required Attendee	None
mapeters@ualberta.ca	Required Attendee	None
meauer@ualberta.ca	Required Attendee	None
mike.kohut@albertahealthservices.ca	Required Attendee	None
mohit.singh@albertahealthservices.ca	Required Attendee	None
mtaylor@boylestreet.org	Required Attendee	None
petraschulz100@gmail.com	Required Attendee	None
4bharmreductionsociety@gmail.com	Required Attendee	None
Scott McKeen	Optional Attendee	None
Pilar Martinez	Optional Attendee	None
amisingh7@gmail.com	Optional Attendee	None
stephencody2020@gmail.com	Required Attendee	None
Janis Sasaki	Optional Attendee	Accepted
Louise Rackel	Optional Attendee	Accepted
Selikke Janes-Kelley	Optional Attendee	Tentative
Noella Cardinal	Optional Attendee	None
Marisa Orfei	Optional Attendee	None
William Lau	Required Attendee	Accepted
Mary Jane Bilsland	Required Attendee	Accepted
Susan Sommerfeldt	Optional Attendee	Accepted
Yulia Xiao	Required Attendee	Accepted
Helen Funnell	Required Attendee	Accepted
Jason Seeney	Required Attendee	None
Margaret Paliwoda	Required Attendee	None
Kelly Husack	Required Attendee	None
Katie Thomas	Required Attendee	None
Nor'Ali McDaniel	Required Attendee	Accepted
ndumaine@boylestreet.org	Required Attendee	None
Sandy pon	Required Attendee	Accepted
Crystal McCarthy-Nelson	Required Attendee	None
Jodie Graham	Optional Attendee	None
kellybennett@ualberta.ca	Optional Attendee	None
Aisha Ciza	Optional Attendee	None
Alan Markewicz	Optional Attendee	None
Jackie Foord	Optional Attendee	None
MSD Full Time	Required Attendee	None
MSD Leadership	Required Attendee	None
Rachael Smith	Required Attendee	None
Aline Ndahimana	Required Attendee	None
Rachelle Herman	Required Attendee	None
Happy Smoke	In person invite	None
Macarons & Goodies French Bakery	In person invite	Did not attend
Omonia Foods Import	In person invite	Did not attend

Banh Mi Nhon Hoa	In person invite	Did not attend
Rayyan East Africa Restaurant	In person invite	Did not attend
Hope Mission Medical	In person invite	Did not attend