

Homelessness Action Strategy for the Tri-Cities

Action Plan - 2007

Actions	Implementation plan (May 4, 2007)	Responsibility	Accomplishments 2007
Action 1	<p>The Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group to determine how many emergency shelter beds are required for which populations (e.g. men, women with or without children who are not fleeing abuse, couples) and an appropriate model for the shelter or shelters to serve these populations.</p> <p>The Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group in cooperation with the identified shelter provider to prepare a proposal and advocate for new capacity with BC Housing and other appropriate partners.</p>	Facilities Subcommittee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviewed key shelter provider and BC Housing representatives. • Toured existing shelter facilities. • Drafted RFEI for a full-service, minimum barrier 30 bed capacity shelter and transitional housing for adult men and women. ♦ Supported Hope for Freedom Society in implementation of CWW Mat Program.
Action 2	<p>Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group and the municipalities of the Tri-Cities to seek information from Fraser Health regarding planned changes in medical and non-medical addiction services capacity for Tri-Cities residents and the health authority's measurable, attainable goals regarding detox.</p>	Detox/Mental Health Subcommittee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gathered data on Tri-Cities client load at Surrey and Chilliwack detox facilities • Researched different practices and models

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	The Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group to conduct a planning exercise to best determine detox needs for the Tri-Cities. This will include a review of best practice models for medical and non-medical detox facilities and a determination if new and planned capacity and location of medical and non-medical detox beds are adequate.		for withdrawal management/detoxification ♦ Toured Creekside Withdrawal Management Centre in Surrey
Action 3	The Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group to strongly advocate with the four levels of government: federal, provincial, regional and municipal, to increase the supply of social housing.	Advocacy Subcommittee	No action to date
Action 4	The Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group to determine an appropriate model(s) for additional supported housing facilities, the populations to be served (e.g. focused on the chronically homeless), locations, service provider(s) and funding partners and to take the lead to advocate with BC Housing and other potential funding partners for such a facility or facilities. Each of the Tri-Cities municipalities is to be represented on the subcommittee to assist with planning for this gap.	Facilities Subcommittee	Included supportive transitional housing as component of the RFEI for a Tri-Cities Emergency Shelter
Action 5	The Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group to review examples of comprehensive homeless drop-in facilities such as those under development in Victoria at Our Place (The Our Place Society) and the Salvation Army facility in Nanaimo and determine the appropriate model, location, service provider and funding partners.	Facilities Subcommittee	No action to date
Action 6	The Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group to plan and arrange for shower and laundry facilities in an existing facility or facilities until the	Services Subcommittee	• Shower facilities available at Port

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	drop-in centre(s) is created.		<p>Coquitlam Cedar Drive Park (transport and supervision is an issue).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shower and laundry available at SHARE, 2615 Clarke St. in Port Moody. • Service Canada Coquitlam will assist homeless persons with replacing identification lost or stolen. • Washer and dryer available from HFFS if suitable location can be found.
Action 7	The Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group to determine what outreach capacity is needed in the Tri-Cities.	Services Subcommittee	BC Housing has increased amount and term of funding (to 2011) to HFFOA for outreach work. A 3 rd outreach worker has been hired.
Action 8	The Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group to advocate with Fraser Health for increased mental health outreach staff and services for those with a serious mental health illness who are not connected to Mental	Detox/Mental Health Subcommittee	FHA posted job bulletin for temporary clinical outreach worker, for a 6-month / 3

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	Health Services.		days per week trial period.
Action 9	The Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group to continue to encourage cooperation between the municipalities of the Tri-Cities and cooperation of the municipalities with the Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group to coordinate efforts to address homelessness in the sub-region.	Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 3 Tri-Cities have appointed staff and councillor reps to the Task Group. • CWW Mat Program has engaged all 3 Tri-Cities in confronting the challenges of homelessness, approving requisite rezoning and responding to neighbourhood concerns.
Action 10	The Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group to develop a transportation strategy for the homeless to enable them to better access services.	Services Subcommittee	BC Housing has supplied a van to HFFOA for homeless client transportation and has agreed to fund purchase of transit tickets for distribution by HFFOA.
Action 11	The Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group to develop and implement a community advocacy strategy to inform, promote the benefits of and engage the community in addressing homelessness in the Tri-Cities.	Advocacy Subcommittee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMHC "Gaining Community Acceptance" workshop held in June.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a communications strategy for the implementation of the Homelessness Action Strategy to inform the public about planned actions to address homelessness; ▪ Seek assistance from the BC Non-Profit Housing Association (BCNPHA), which offers a training course and communications strategy for dealing with community opposition; ▪ Organize Greater Vancouver Region Homeless Action Week (October 2007) activities; and ▪ Plan "Seeing is Believing" tours of homeless services success stories and to meet homelessness individuals in the Tri-Cities, for councillors, other key community stakeholders and community organizations. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in Metro Vancouver "Homelessness Action Week", including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – City Council presentations; – "Seeing is Believing" luncheon; – Family Wellness Month; – Clothing + supplies collection; – "Faces of the Homeless" newspaper coverage.