

Housing Working Group Meeting Notes

November 16th, 2021

Virtual WebEx Meeting

10:00AM – 12:00PM

Those in attendance: Lance Dingman, Tom Manzuk, Paula Kilburn, Robert Semkow, James Kemp

Also in Attendance: Cole

Those Absent: Jayne Cardno, Sophie Geffros

1. Welcome and Introductions,
2. Approval of Agenda: Agenda was approved
3. Approval of October 19th Meeting Notes: As there are no meeting notes to review yet, we omitted this step.
4. Canadian Alliance in Homelessness Conference Report: Lance gave us a report on the conference held earlier this month. It was an informative in person gathering. Some of the issues discussed included ending Senior and Veteran Homelessness; Numerical Dyslexia and people having trouble understanding finances; Opioid Crisis and how it affects the Homeless.

5. CityHousing AODA Review: We reviewed the letter written to Tom Hunter, CEO of CityHousing. The only change requested was removing the word social before housing.
6. Upcoming Housing and Homelessness Delegation: We discussed some of the things that will be discussed. Lance asked the Chair to help him highlight disability related issues with the group. The Chair feels that the first meeting will be more of an information gathering session. We will see if there is enough commonality between us to warrant further meetings.
7. Other Business: We discussed RCFs and how it is affected by ODSP funding levels. The government pays \$750 per month, \$600 of it goes to the RCF giving people \$150 per month for all other necessities of life. Residents cannot live on so little so they find a mailing address and can get their check in full and live in the encampments. Not to mention the terrible conditions in the shelters.

Lance also asked us to look into creating or partnering in an initiative that would create a newsletter or newspaper like publication for RCF tenants. The Chair will investigate and get back to Lance with more information/questions.

8. Adjournment.