

205 Kingsway Community Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes
December 9, 2021
5:00 – 6:00 pm

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

2. Introductions/Attendees

- COV Homelessness Services- 2 representatives
- COV Homelessness Services - notetaker
- Facilitator, Ideaspace
- Coast Mental Health – 2 representatives
- BC Housing
- Community Member – 4 representatives
- Vancouver Coastal Health
- Collingwood Community Policing Centre
- VPD, Collingwood CPC Liaison

3. Update on Current Conditions

a. Coast Mental Health

- 80% occupied, hoping to be 100% in next few weeks. Residents are settling in well
- We are working on getting a street clean team set up soon to help maintain streets front and back of building and do sweep of area nearby
- There was a police incident involving a tenant, Coast worked with VPD and the incident is now resolved
- Some residents are really excited about holidays. We have some tenant led programming.

b. Questions

- **Community member:** Of that 80% what percentage are people from the Mt Pleasant area? Are we still on track to have vast majority from Mt Pleasant or is mix starting to shift?
 - Besides Mt. Pleasant residents, the priority was to house folks from the Indigenous community
 - **Coast:** majority of residents in the building are from the area and we are trying to meet the city's targets on indigeneity of the residents
- **Community member:** Has there been any turnover as of now?
 - No
- **Community member:** Are residents allowed to bring pets?
 - Yes they are. There are some criteria that needs to be met.
- **Community member:** What are the conditions in regards to pets?
 - **Coast:**
 - a. There are certain animals not allowed. Dogs, cats and birds are allowed
 - b. Residents must have a contingency plan in place if they are unable to take care of their pet
 - c. Animals must have all required shots
- **Community member:** Is there a limit to number of pets?

- Yes, either one cat or one dog or one bird
- **Community member:** Donations. Would tenants be interested in pet gear or any Christmas gear or any kitchen implements?
 - **Coast:**
 - a. Kitchen – residents don't have kitchens in their units. They are limited to what they are able to make on their own. We do hope to have a community kitchen set up.
 - b. Pets and Christmas donations, absolutely welcome and much appreciated
- **Community member:** Biltmore has community health on site, will that be in place at 205 Kingsway?
 - **Coast:** Coast is meeting with VCH next week and having an ongoing conversation on what the needs of the tenants are
 - **VCH:** VCH will continue to evaluate tenant need and dedicate resources if needed
- **Community member:** What systems are in place for neighboring buildings to be helpful and supportive?
 - **Coast:**
 - a. Volunteering – Coast can connect interested neighbours with their volunteer coordinator
 - b. Programming – if neighbours have ideas then Coast is happy to discuss how to incorporate into residents programming opportunities. Neighbours and community members are asked to contact Coast to discuss.
- **Facilitator:** Does the City have any programs?
 - **COV:**
 - a. HAW grants begin in spring – we will make this info available to this group. Grants are available for agencies and projects that are a direct benefit to people experiencing or at-risk of homelessness or those who have recently experienced homelessness in the neighbourhood.
 - b. We will reach out to the Social Policy team as they may also have some programs, and then provide that information to this committee
- **CPC:** Collingwood CPC is participating in an event with Lotus Light Charity on Hastings, giving out food and there may be extra food to donate. Can this be dropped off to you (as we get quite a bit)?
 - **Coast:** Please call the office and let them know of the drop off
 - **Community member:** call Amelia at the Biltmore as they may also be able to use food donations
- **Community member:** Do we have any idea of demographics of residents in the building?
 - **Coast:** It's fairly mixed. We have residents from their early 20s into their 60s

4. Roundtable Discussion

a. Challenges or concerns

- **Community member:** One community member is connected to a number of stratas and did a poll of several strata councils in the neighborhood. BIA has been in conversations with Coast about some issues that they have been coming across at Kingsgate Mall but other than that there is nothing generally at this time from the community

5. Action Items and Next Steps

- COV will send out meeting notes to the group shortly
- COV will explore grant opportunities and bring back to the Committee
- Next meeting will be in the new year – Invite will come from COV and Coast. Happy Holidays to everyone

Coast Mental Health Contact Information

- 205 Kingsway Office – 604-566-1622
- Coast Head Office – 604-872-3502 or email info@coastmentalhealth.com
- <https://www.coastmentalhealth.com/>

More Information

If anyone has any further comments or questions please direct them to Andrea Jung and the Homelessness Services team at homelessness@vancouver.ca and they will follow up with you directly.

Additional information on the City of Vancouver's efforts to address homelessness can be found here:

- [Homelessness Services](#)
- [Supportive Housing](#)
- [Shelters and Winter Response Strategy](#)
- [Rapid Response to Homelessness](#)