

Terms of Reference



Reaching Home Program Community Advisory Board (CAB)

PREAMBLE

On April 1, 2019, the Capital Regional District (CRD) entered into a five-year agreement with the Government of Canada to act as the Community Entity (CE) responsible for administering the Designated Communities Funding Stream of the Reaching Home Program, the Government of Canada's homelessness strategy. Reaching Home requires that all CEs facilitate a Community Advisory Board (CAB) that is inclusive and representative of the community and supports community planning and priority identification. The geographic scope of the CAB is the boundaries of the Greater Victoria Census Metropolitan Area (CMA), as defined by Statistics Canada.

1.0 PURPOSE

Reaching Home is a community-based program aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness across Canada. This program provides funding through various streams across Canada including Designated Communities (urban centers), Indigenous Communities, Territorial Communities and Rural and Remote Communities. Reaching Home supports the goals of the National Housing Strategy, in particular to support the most vulnerable Canadians in maintaining safe, stable and affordable housing and to reduce chronic homelessness nationally by 50% by fiscal year 2027 to 2028.

2.0 ESTABLISHMENT AND AUTHORITY

- a) Members of the Reaching Home CAB will be recommended by the General Manager, Planning and Protective Services to the CRD Board for approval.
- b) The convening Chair and Vice Chair of the Reaching Home CAB will be selected on an annual basis.

3.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- a) Create and implement a Terms of Reference and other policies and procedures central to the functions of the CAB that address membership terms and conditions, including recruitment processes, length of tenure, attendance requirements, and/or any delegated tasks. Provide advice to the Community Entity (CRD) in its actions directed toward fulfillment of its roles and responsibilities (see Appendix A).
- b) Through the CAB, provide advice to the Alliance to End Homelessness in the Capital Region (AEH) on CE responsibilities delegated to the AEH as outlined in Appendix B.
- c) Collaborate with the Indigenous Homelessness Community Advisory Board to ensure effective coordination of funding for the purpose of service delivery in the community.
- d) Develop an engagement strategy that includes detail on how it will achieve and sustain broad and inclusive representation.
- e) Provide approval of a Community Plan that includes outcomes and indicators to be used to guide action and monitor progress toward effectively addressing issues related to homelessness in the Greater Victoria area.

- f) Assess and recommend projects for funding to the Community Entity.
- g) Be representative of the community by recruiting members that provide broad and inclusive representation of the community.
- h) Support the Community Entity (CRD) and its partners in the planning and implementation of coordinated access.
- i) Approve Community Progress Reports.

4.0 MEMBERSHIP

- a) The Reaching Home CAB will consist of up to 16 voting members. BC Housing, Vancouver Island Health Authority and The Alliance to End Homelessness in the Capital Region are considered standing members and will have the opportunity to appoint members to the CAB.
- b) The Reaching Home Community Advisory Board will have up to 13 voting members from the following groups:
 - Agencies serving Indigenous people experiencing homelessness
 - First Nations located within the boundaries of the Capital Metropolitan Area
 - Local non-profit organizations providing housing to people experiencing homelessness
 - Local health or social support service providers
 - People with lived experience of homelessness
 - Police or Correctional service providers
 - Local business community
 - Senior serving agencies
 - Youth serving agencies or Child Welfare authorities
 - Newcomer serving agencies
 - Local neighborhood or community associations
- c) Ex-officio representation from both Service Canada and the Community Entity (CRD Staff) who will advise on program eligibility requirements, and guide the CAB if and when significant changes to the program are introduced.
- d) Non-standing members will be identified through a public recruitment and selection process.
- e) The CAB may provide input on membership to CRD Staff who in turn will submit a slate of members for approval by the CRD Board.
- f) Whenever possible, Indigenous representation will be a true reflection of the percentage of Indigenous people experiencing homelessness at any point in time.
- g) The Community Entity will make an effort to provide for the participation of individuals from groups who experience systemic discrimination in the community, particularly those who are identified within various protected grounds of Federal and Provincial human rights legislation.
- h) In the event of the death, resignation, termination or disqualification of a CAB member, CRD Staff can appoint a successor for the remainder of the term.
- i) If a member is absent from two or more consecutive meetings of the CAB without approval of the CAB Chair, the CRD Board may, upon the recommendation of the GM of Planning and Protective Services, terminate the appointment of such member thereby creating a vacancy on the CAB.
- j) Members will be appointed to serve an initial two-year term and can serve up-to an additional consecutive two-year term for a maximum of four years at the discretion of the General Manager of Planning and Protective Services and with CRD Board approval.

5.0 MEETINGS

- a) The CAB will meet on a quarterly basis throughout the year.

6.0 PROCEDURES

- a) Any directions and decisions requiring a vote will be done by assigning each member one vote.
- b) A quorum of the CAB is a majority of the representatives nominated and/or appointed from time to time. In the case that a conflict of interest is declared, quorum will still be in effect and not be reassessed dependent on the number of voting members leaving.
- c) Representatives of the CAB shall serve without remuneration.
- d) At the request of a CAB member, and with the consent of the CAB Chair, guests or delegations may be invited to attend, present to and/or participate in meetings of the Committee.
- e) The CAB Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually or as required.

7.0 RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

- a) The Senior Manager of the CRD Regional Housing Division, the Manager of CRD Housing Initiatives and Programs, will provide strategic support and act as liaisons for the Committee.
- b) Minutes and agendas are prepared and distributed by the CRD Regional Housing Division.
- c) The CRD Regional Housing Division will employ staff that provide additional administrative and planning support as required.

Appendix A

Reaching Home Program

Designated Communities

1.0 Community Entity Roles and Responsibilities

- a) Enter into agreements with the Government of Canada to administer the Reaching Home Program.
- b) Ex-officio representation on the CAB to include the CE who will advise on program eligibility requirements, and guide the CAB where significant changes to the program are introduced.
- c) Implement Reaching Home in accordance with ESDC approved work plans.
- d) Manage all aspects of program administration.
- e) Implementing selection processes and soliciting and assessing sub-project proposals in an open and fair manner;
 - Facilitating calls for proposals;
 - Determining eligibility of proposals based on Program Directives;
 - Overseeing proposal evaluation and recommendation processes;
 - Completing due diligence and approving project budgets;
 - Executing final agreements with sub-projects and other planning projects;
 - Managing sub-project funding agreements, including financial and activity monitoring of sub-projects to ensure compliance with sub-agreements and achievement of expected results.
 - Implement required data collection processes with sub-project organizations
 - Reporting quarterly and annually to ESDC on Program implementation, sub-project performance, financial claims, and progress toward achievement of outcomes;
 - Conducting and submitting annual audit to ESDC;
 - Overseeing Community Progress Report development, submission to ESDC and publication.
- f) Ensure Designated Communities funding stream is fully invested to address priorities identified in the Community Plan. Ensure Indigenous Homelessness funding stream is fully invested to address priorities identified by the CAB.
- g) Inform the CAB about the status and results of sub-projects and other activities related to the prevention and reduction of homelessness in the community.
- h) Manage all public communications related to the implementation of the Reaching Home Program.
- i) CABs and CEs are expected to identify Official Language Minority Communities (OLMCs) within their community and ensure that appropriate services and supports are available in both official languages where there is significant demand. See Directives for more details on CE roles related to OLMCs.
- j) Through working with community partners, including, if applicable, in partnership with the Indigenous Homelessness stream Community Entity within the Designated Community where the Recipient is located, CEs shall provide annually to Canada, beginning in 2020-2021, using a template provided by Canada, no later than sixty (60) days following the period covered by the report (i.e. the previous fiscal year), a Community Progress Report, satisfactory to Canada in scope and detail. The

Community Progress Report will be published publicly in a time and manner prescribed by Canada.

2.0 Coordinated Access

- a) Oversee the development of policies and procedures outlining how the coordinated access process operates in the areas of access, assessment, prioritization and matching & referral.
- b) Have a Coordinated Access system in place by March 31, 2022, that fully meets all Reaching Home minimum requirements for Coordinated Access. The minimum requirements, as prescribed by Canada, outline Canada's expectations for the design of Coordinated Access systems across the following areas: coverage, governance operating model, access, assessment, prioritization, matching and referral, and Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) platform.
- c) Where one Community Entity is responsible for delivering both streams, the Community Entity will be responsible to engage with the Community Advisory Board(s) and Indigenous service providers as they are critical partners in a community's efforts to prevent and reduce homelessness, and their participation in coordinated access is essential to its success.

3.0 HIFIS

- a) Develop a set of local agreements to manage privacy, data sharing, and client consent within a community-wide HMIS in compliance to municipal, provincial and federal laws.
- b) Work with BC Housing and ESDC to sign necessary Data Provision Agreements and an End-user License Agreements to support the use of HIFIS to support the delivery of Reaching Home.
- c) Setup a governance structure to oversee decisions related to implementing and maintaining HIFIS and the data collected.
- d) Access a server and establish corresponding security and safeguards to secure the data collected.

Appendix B

Reaching Home Program

Designated Communities

1.0 Alliance to End Homelessness in the Capital Region (AEH)

- a) Coordinate government agencies, non-profits, health services and community organizations around the delivery of housing and services directed toward efforts to reduce homelessness in the region, and report to the CAB through the AEH Executive Director.
- b) Support engagement in the development of a Community Plan that includes outcomes and indicators to be used to guide action and monitor progress toward effectively addressing issues related to homelessness in the Greater Victoria area.
- c) Engage with community organizations and individuals, including Indigenous, in the community beyond the homeless serving sector and gather all available information related to the community's local homelessness priorities, and develop a coordinated approach to addressing homelessness in the region.
- d) Receive and report on quantitative and qualitative data that outlines progress toward the achievement of the goals of the regional Community Plan to End Homelessness.
- e) Provide advice and feedback on any plans or strategies required by the Government of Canada related to the CEs delivery of the Reaching Home Program.

Appendix C

Reaching Home Program - Designated Communities Conflict of Interest Policy (From BC Community Charter)

Division 6- Conflict of Interest

100 Disclosure of conflict

- a) This section applies to council members in relation to:
 - council meetings
 - council committee meetings, and
 - meetings of any other body referred to in section 93 [*application of open meeting rules to other bodies*].
- b) If a council member attending a meeting considers that he or she is not entitled to participate in the discussion of a matter, or to vote on a question in respect of a matter, because the member has:
 - a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the matter, or
 - another interest in the matter that constitutes a conflict of interest, the member must declare this and state in general terms the reason why the member considers this to be the case.
- c) After making a declaration under subsection (2), the council member must not do anything referred to in section 101 (2) [restrictions on participation].
- d) As an exception to subsection (3), if a council member has made a declaration under subsection (2) and, after receiving legal advice on the issue, determines that he or she was wrong respecting his or her entitlement to participate in respect of the matter, the member may:
 - return to the meeting or attend another meeting of the same body,
 - withdraw the declaration by stating in general terms the basis on which the member has determined that he or she is entitled to participate, and
 - after this, participate and vote in relation to the matter.
- e) For certainty, a council member who makes a statement under subsection (4) remains subject to section 101 [restrictions on participation if in conflict].
- f) When a declaration under subsection (2) or a statement under subsection (4) is made,
 - the person recording the minutes of the meeting must record,
 - the member's declaration or statement,
 - the reasons given for it, and
 - the time of the member's departure from the meeting room and, if applicable, of the member's return, and
- g) unless a statement is made under subsection (4), the person presiding at that meeting or any following meeting in respect of the matter must ensure that the member is not present at any part of the meeting during which the matter is under consideration.

101 Restrictions on participation if in conflict

- a) This section applies if a council member has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in a matter, whether or not the member has made a declaration under section 100.
- b) The council member must not

- remain or attend at any part of a meeting referred to in section 100 (1) during which the matter is under consideration,
 - participate in any discussion of the matter at such a meeting,
 - vote on a question in respect of the matter at such a meeting, or
 - attempt in any way, whether before, during or after such a meeting, to influence the voting on any question in respect of the matter.
- c) A person who contravenes this section is disqualified from holding office as described in section 108.1 [*disqualification for contravening conflict rules*] unless the contravention was done inadvertently or because of an error in judgment made in good faith.

102 Restrictions on inside influence

- a) This section applies if a council member has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in a matter, whether or not the member has made a declaration under section 100.
- b) The council member must not
- remain or attend at any part of a meeting referred to in section 100 (1) during which the matter is under consideration,
 - participate in any discussion of the matter at such a meeting,
 - vote on a question in respect of the matter at such a meeting, or
 - attempt in any way, whether before, during or after such a meeting, to influence the voting on any question in respect of the matter.
- c) A person who contravenes this section is disqualified from holding office as described in section 108.1 [*disqualification for contravening conflict rules*] unless the contravention was done inadvertently or because of an error in judgment made in good faith.

102 Restrictions on outside influence

- a) In addition to the restriction under section 102, a council member must not use his or her office to attempt to influence in any way a decision, recommendation or action to be made or taken by any other person or body, if the member has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the matter to which the decision, recommendation or other action relates.
- b) A person who contravenes this section is disqualified from holding office as described in section 108.1 [*disqualification for contravening conflict rules*] unless the contravention was done inadvertently or because of an error in judgment made in good faith.

104 Exceptions from conflict restrictions

- a) Sections 100 to 103 do not apply if one or more of the following circumstances applies:
- the pecuniary interest of the council member is a pecuniary interest in common with electors of the municipality generally;
 - in the case of a matter that relates to a local service, the pecuniary interest of the council member is in common with other persons who are or would be liable for the local service tax;
 - the matter relates to remuneration, expenses or benefits payable to one or more council members in relation to their duties as council members;

- the pecuniary interest is so remote or insignificant that it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to influence the member in relation to the matter;
 - the pecuniary interest is of a nature prescribed by regulation.
- b) Despite sections 100 to 103, if a council member;
- has a legal right to be heard in respect of a matter or to make representations to council, and
 - 105 is restricted by one or more of those sections from exercising that right in relation to the matter, the council member may appoint another person as a representative to exercise the member's right on his or her behalf.

105 Restrictions on accepting gifts

- a) A council member must not, directly or indirectly, accept a fee, gift or personal benefit that is connected with the member's performance of the duties of office.
- b) Subsection (1) does not apply to:
- a gift or personal benefit that is received as an incident of the protocol or social obligations that normally accompany the responsibilities of office,
 - compensation authorized by law, or
 - a lawful contribution made to a member who is a candidate for election to a local government.
- c) A person who contravenes this section is disqualified from holding office as described in section 108.1 [*disqualification for contravening conflict rules*] unless the contravention was done inadvertently or because of an error in judgment made in good faith.

106 Disclosure of gifts

- a) This section applies if;
- a council member receives a gift or personal benefit referred to in section 105 (2) (a) that exceeds \$250 in value, or
 - the total value of such gifts and benefits, received directly or indirectly from one source in any 12-month period, exceeds \$250.
- b) In the circumstances described in subsection (1), the council member must file with the corporate officer, as soon as reasonably practicable, a disclosure statement indicating;
- the nature of the gift or benefit,
 - its source, including, if it is from a corporation, the full names and addresses of at least 2 individuals who are directors of the corporation,
 - when it was received, and
 - the circumstances under which it was given and accepted.
- c) A person who contravenes this section is disqualified from holding office as described in section 108.1 [*disqualification for contravening conflict rules*] unless the contravention was done inadvertently or because of an error in judgment made in good faith.

107 Disclosure of contracts with council members and former council members

- a) If a municipality enters into a contract in which;
- a council member, or

- a person who was a council member at any time during the previous 6 months, has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest, this must be reported as soon as reasonably practicable at a council meeting that is open to the public.
- b) In addition to the obligation under section 100 [disclosure of conflict], a council member or former council member must advise the corporate officer, as soon as reasonably practicable, of any contracts that must be reported under subsection (1) in relation to that person.
- c) A person who contravenes subsection (2) is disqualified from holding office as described in section 108.1 [*disqualification for contravening conflict rules*] unless the contravention was done inadvertently or because of an error in judgment made in good faith.

Approved by Reaching Home CAB March 02, 2023