



Meeting: Community Safety and Well-Being Integration Table

Date: June 9, 2022

Time: 10:00 A.M.

Location: Webex

Attendees: Warden Mary French – County of Elgin, Chair
Mayor Joe Preston, City of St. Thomas
Bashir Adeyemo, Elgin Workforce Development Network
Chief Chris Herridge, Public Safety Action Table
Sandra McCabe, Elgin Mental Health and Addiction Network
Marcia Van Wylie, Elgin Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy Steering Committee
Julie Gonyou, Chief Administrative Officer – County of Elgin
Katherine Thompson, Manager of Administrative Services/Deputy Clerk – County of Elgin
Carolyn Krahn, Interim Manager, Economic Development & Tourism – County of Elgin
Jenna Fentie, Legislative Services Coordinator – County of Elgin
Delany Leitch, Legislative Services Coordinator – County of Elgin

Regrets: Danielle Neilson, Housing and Homelessness Action Table

Minutes

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

2. Approval of Minutes from March 10, 2022

The minutes were approved as presented.

3. Mental Health Forum Update – Carolyn Krahn, Interim Manager of Economic Development and Tourism

C. Krahn presented an update on the planning for the CSWB Mental Health Forum. The Forum will take place on July 13th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Masonic Centre of Elgin. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Leith Deacon from the University of Guelph, and he will

be presenting the findings of the “Rural Response to COVID-19” survey as they relate to mental health before and after the pandemic. Speakers will also include representatives from the Canadian Mental Health Association and from the City of St. Thomas Mobile Outreach Support Team and the Elgin County Mobile Crisis Response Team.

4. Roundtable – Action Tables

i. Substance Use and Addiction – Elgin Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy Steering Committee, Marcia Van Wylie

A summary report and associated work plans will go to the Steering Committee for approval. Following Strategy approval, the next phase will be implementation.

Mayor Preston requested that a copy of the report be shared for review.

ii. Education and Skills Development – Elgin Workforce Development Network, Bashir Adeyemo

The Employer One Survey was recently completed. Hiring and childcare were big issues. Also working on the Local Labour Market Plan, which captures significant changes in the past few years in local economies and labour markets, as well as the community action tailored to ensure economic growth.

Working on an initiative to make Labour Market Information (LMI) more accessible and to expand LMI in the community. The initiative is called *Labour Market Information Made Easy*.

iii. Housing Security – Housing and Homelessness Action Table, Danielle Neilson

C. Krahn provided the following update on behalf of D. Neilson:

- The INN is continuing its work to settle into its new space and is seeing more housing outcomes than it has in previous years.
- The high support micro units operated by Indwell are seeing great successes in outcomes for its tenants, and the construction for the second Indwell build is well underway with the goal of opening its doors in early 2023.
- We continue to see long wait times for social housing across our municipality. There are rent supplements available for low income households who qualify and we are working hard with these tools to address affordability challenges.
- Overall, we are seeing reductions in the number of people experiencing active homelessness and chronic homelessness in our community. This information

is tracked closely through our By Names List and Coordinated Access System, and we are looking forward to providing an update to Council later this month.

- All community partners continue to work diligently and collaboratively to address housing instability and homelessness needs in our community.

iv. Mental Health and Well-Being – Elgin Mental Health and Addiction Network, Sandra McCabe

Sandra McCabe has taken over the role of Regional Director for Elgin and West Middlesex from Lynn Wardell. CMHA is consolidating space at 10 Mondamin Street. Implementing hybrid support services, and working through health and safety issues associated with face to face supports.

v. Public Safety – Public Safety Action Table, Chief Chris Herridge

Undertaking some e-bike safety initiatives to ensure compliance with the rules of the road. Hosting basketball and road hockey games for local youth in the north side parking lot. CSPA grant will go towards training around human trafficking. Establishing a Community Resource Officer Unit to interact with individuals impacted by mental health, substance use, disorder and homelessness. Have hired four (4) individuals with social service and lived experience backgrounds for the unit.

5. Date of Next Meeting

A doodle poll will be circulated later in the summer to establish a meeting date for September.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.