



## COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2009  
9:00 AM / COMMITTEE ROOM NO. 2  
175 INGRAM STREET, DUNCAN, BC

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### AGENDA

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**Distribution:**

**Representatives by Geographic Area**

Southern Sector

CVRD – Director Lori Iannidinardo (Committee Chair)  
Community Representative – Michelle Bell

Central Sector

CVRD – Director Phil Kent (Committee Vice-Chair)  
Municipality of North Cowichan – Councillor John Koury  
City of Duncan – Councillor Joe Thorne

Western Sector

Community Representative – Bruce Ingram

Community Group Representatives

Cowichan Women Against Violence Society / Safer Futures Program – Theresa Gerritsen  
Community Options Society – Cheryl Stone  
disAbility Resource Centre – Jim Harnden  
RCMP – Corporal Kevin Day  
Social Planning Cowichan – Candace Spilsbury

**CSAC Support**

Joe Barry, Corporate Secretary, CVRD (Staff Liaison)  
Dominique Beesley, CVRD (Recording Secretary)

**Cowichan Valley Regional District**

(Agenda Cover Only)  
Warren Jones, Administrator  
CVRD Directors

Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Community Safety Advisory Committee held in Committee Room #2, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, on Thursday, May 21, 2009 at 9:03 a.m.

**PRESENT:** Director L. Iannidinardo (Chair)  
 Director P. Kent (Vice-Chair)  
 Councillor John Koury, Municipality of North Cowichan<at 9:15 a.m.>  
 Theresa Gerritsen, Cowichan Women Against Violence Society / Safer Futures  
 Bruce Ingram, Community Representative  
 Candace Spilsbury, Social Planning Cowichan and Cowichan Valley School District No. 79

**ABSENT:** Councillor Joe Thorne, City of Duncan  
 Cheryl Stone, Community Options Society  
 Jim Harnden, Cowichan Independent Living  
 Corporal Kevin Day, RCMP  
 Michelle Bell, Community Representative

**ALSO**

**PRESENT:** Pamela Alcorn, Cowichan Women Against Violence Society / Safer Futures (Committee Support)  
 Dominique Beesley, Recording Secretary

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES  
2M1**

**It was moved and seconded that minutes of the Regular meeting of the Community Safety Advisory Committee held March 12, 2009 be adopted.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

**3BA1**

***Work Plan Review Session***

Pamela Alcorn said that a 2009 work planning session had not yet been held due to the unavailability of a facilitator although that an orientation session for new members was held instead. She distributed the CSAC Activity and Progress Report May 2009 to the Committee that, she said, provides detailed accounting status of action items from 2008's Work Plan.

**DELEGATIONS****4D1**

Chuck McCandless, Outreach Worker representing the Canadian Mental Health Association, provided a presentation on homelessness and panhandling.

Chuck McCandless said that because there are so few people panhandling in Duncan it is not, in his view, a particularly large problem.

Mr. McCandless said that homeless people's behavior may be uncomfortable for some although, in his experience, these people are often the victims of violence and crime. Many homeless people have problems with drug and alcohol abuse and there are no beds in Cowichan to support their recovery, noted Mr. McCandless.

Mr. McCandless said that the new Warm Land House, which is currently under construction, will have 24 bachelor suites for transitional housing; however it will not have supportive housing for these people to transition into.

**9:15 a.m.**

Councillor John Koury joined the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

With regards to people panhandling on the Highway medians, Mr. McCandless said that he sees this as a safety issue for them. He noted that they earn \$80 to \$90 per day.

The Committee discussed: addictions as a progressive illness; the distinction between homeless and at risk of being homeless; the challenges for First Nations people and their place of residency (on or off reserve); and challenges facing seniors.

Pamela Alcorn distributed copies of research specific to the issues of homelessness that she had obtained during a workshop through the University of Victoria's Office for Community Based Research.

**REPORTS****5R1**

Verbal Report from Pamela Alcorn, Safer Futures, re: Safety Lens, was received as information.

The Committee directed that Ms. Alcorn liaise with other CVRD local government members that are undergoing official community plan reviews to ensure that they are aware of the Safety Lens Tool.

**5R2**

Verbal Report from Pamela Alcorn, Safer Futures, re: Safe Needle Disposal Initiative, was received as information.

**5R3** Verbal Report from Pamela Alcorn, Safer Futures, re: Probation and Parole Services Canada, was received as information.

**5R5** Verbal Report from Director Kent, re: Centennial Park, was received as information.

Given the information gathered during Safer Futures' work in the Cairnsmore neighbourhood with the Making the Links Project, said Ms. Alcorn, she is suggesting that the Committee make note of 'tagging' and that more information about it would be helpful.

It was the consensus of the Committee to form a sub-committee comprised of Councillor John Koury, Bruce Ingram, Michelle Bell and Jim Harnden for the purpose of liaising with the Citizen's Advisory Committee to the National Parole Board and Correction Service of Canada.

**5R4** Verbal Report from Chair Iannidinardo, re: Orientation Meeting for New CSAC Members, was received as information.

**5R6** Verbal Report from Director Kent, re: Duncan Stairs, was received as information.

**5R7** Verbal Report from Pamela Alcorn, Safer Futures, re: Community Options Society – New Location, was received as information.

**5R8** Verbal Report from Pamela Alcorn, Safer Futures, re: City of Richmond: Family and Youth Court, Provincial Conference, was received as information.

Director Iannidinardo announced that the next Committee meeting would be held on Thursday, July 16, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room No. 2.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

**10:40 a.m.**

**It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Certified Correct:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cowichan Valley Regional District  
Corporate Services Department  
Request to Appear as Delegation**

**APPLICATION DATED:** September 3, 2009

**NAME OF APPLICANT:** Brad Tomlin

**ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:**

**PHONE NO.:**

**REPRESENTING:** Crown Counsel

**MEETING DATE:** September 10, 2009

**COMMITTEE/BOARD NAME:** Community Safety Advisory Committee

**NO. ATTENDING:**

**TOPIC TO BE PRESENTED:** Designated Court Days Initiative

**NATURE OF REQUEST/CONCERN:**

**Note:** Once the request for delegation application has been favourably considered, presentations will be restricted to ten (10) minutes, unless notified otherwise.

**Cowichan Valley Regional District  
Corporate Services Department  
Request to Appear as Delegation**

**APPLICATION DATED:** September 3, 2009

**NAME OF APPLICANT:** Angela Langlois

**ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:**

**PHONE NO.:**

**REPRESENTING:** Aids Vancouver Island

**MEETING DATE:** September 10, 2009

**COMMITTEE/BOARD NAME:** Community Safety Advisory Committee

**NO. ATTENDING:**

**TOPIC TO BE PRESENTED:**

**NATURE OF REQUEST/CONCERN:** To provide information on the best way to launch the Needle Safety Initiative in communities with regards to media coverage, etc.

**Note:** Once the request for delegation application has been favourably considered, presentations will be restricted to ten (10) minutes, unless notified otherwise.





Safer Futures Update Report  
August 2009

Prepared for  
CVRD Community Safety Advisory Committee  
Chair: Lori Iannidanardo, CSAC Chair

September 2009

Safer Futures is a program of Cowichan Women against Violence Society (CWAV)



## Safer Futures and Support to the Community Safety Advisory Committee (CSAC)

### **Safer Futures'**

completed the project called 'Making the Links' funded by the National Crime Prevention Centre of Canada and Vancouver Foundation which came to a close on March 31 2009.

The project assisted to develop capacities in local neighborhoods to identify safety issues.

Safer Futures continues to work with groups and agencies to integrate a community safety perspective.

Safer Futures makes connections between local concerns and local government on issues related to community safety.

### **About Safer Futures:**

Safer Futures is a community research and development program of CWAV Society. We research issues related to the safety of women, children and other vulnerable groups in their communities and work collaboratively to develop and implement solutions.

### **History:**

Safer Futures has provided a supportive role to the work of CSAC since CSAC's origins in 2003. Safer Futures has provided a leading role in bringing a safety perspective to the Cowichan region, including safety audits and other initiatives. Safer Futures has provided support to CSAC in its mandate of advising the CVRD on safety issues of regional, inter-municipal, and inter-agency importance.

### **The Role of Safer Futures:**

Safer Futures provides support to the CSAC Committee as follows:

- Coordinates planning and provides facilitation, education and training.
- Contributes to the development and implementation of the CSAC Work Plan and the work plans of CSAC subcommittees.
- Brings forward and represents the perspective of neighborhoods and its residents on safety issues.
- Assists in issue or problem identification and conducts relevant research on safety issues at the local, provincial, federal, and international scales.
- Assists CSAC in identifying activities to promote and enhance safety for the Cowichan region based in research as above.
- Creates or contributes to CSAC reports and produces documents upon direction of CSAC and CSAC subcommittees.
- Assists with the production of communication materials related to community safety.



Safer Futures

### CSAC Work Plan

#### **Safer Futures Project Team** 250-748-7000

Theresa Gerritsen  
Executive Director  
[exec.dir@cwav.org](mailto:exec.dir@cwav.org)  
extension 228

Veronica Scott  
Contractor

Su Hallett  
Contractor

Thanya Al-Saadoon  
Contractor

Jane Whorton  
Contractor

Terri Dame  
Consultant

Terri Ferris and  
Heather Atherton  
Admin support

#### **CCSI Steering Committee**

Patti Deslisle  
Jacob Ellis  
Nelson Folland  
Chris Hall  
B McKenzie  
Lorna Newman  
Brigid Reynolds  
Veronica Scott  
Mark Turner

The 2009 CSAC Work Plan identified action priorities that form the basis of the main activities of CSAC for this fiscal year.

#### **Work Plan item #1: Continue to Review Community Safety Action Plan**

In 2006 CSAC developed a draft Community Health and Safety framework entitled "Community Safety Action plan." This document provides an overall Strategic Plan to address safety within the Cowichan Valley region. Four building blocks provide the structure of the Plan: Policy and Guidance, Safe and Accessible Design, Building Strong Neighborhoods and Coordinated Action. The Plan provides the framework for the CSAC Work Plan each year.

#### **Work Plan item #2: Implementation of the Cowichan Region Safety Lens**

The Community Safety Lens is a planning and development tool. As a framework document it considers safety, ensures adequate consultation and informs a range of procedures. Specifically, the lens provides planners, elected officials and developers with a tool to assess safety for proposed developments and planning in the Cowichan region. Safer Futures has begun working with Planners within the CVRD to determine how the Safety Lens can be incorporated into development and planning processes.

#### **Work Plan item #3: "Barefoot in the Park" Cowichan Region Safe Needle Disposal Initiative**

The Safe Needle Initiative is in its finalization stages with the final draft of the toolkit to be placed in the format of the Victoria model, the confirmation of disposal sites being coordinated, and printing, launch and distribution plans set for late October 2009.

#### **Work Plan Item #4: Review of Community Safety; Issues on the Table, Issues arising**

CSAC continues to bring to the table discussions related to a number of issues in the Cowichan region. The Committee brings a community safety perspective that considers social issues as root causes of crime. In providing a safety perspective, the approach and solutions recommended by the Committee take into account the lived experience of citizens, including marginalized voices into the dialogue. The issues reviewed at CSAC in the last two years have been homelessness, panhandling, graffiti, parole community release, youth violence, racism and addictions.




Safer Futures

**Next steps:**

- ☐ Continue implementation support for integration of the Cowichan Region Safety Lens into local government procedures
- ☐ Develop efficiencies in monitoring the work of community-based committees dedicated to various social issues in the Region. Ensure representation at Committees and/or develop means to bring forward a community safety perspective into the work of committees.
- ☐ Engage in a literature review and prepare a summary report of the current research related to fear of crime.
- ☐ Provide input into the Public Safety component of the Status of the Community Report being prepared by Social Planning.
- ☐ Finalize Safe Needle Disposal Initiative and support launch.
- ☐ CSAC quarterly communication with CVRD Board
- ☐ Continue linkages with the following key elements of best practices in community safety;
  - o Sustain linkages with regional, provincial, national, and international organizations
  - o Provide updates on emerging issues in neighbourhoods throughout CVRD
  - o Provide updates on emerging research and training opportunities
- ☐ Further actions as identified to support CSAC Work Plan once reviewed in fall of 2009.

**Submitted by**

Theresa Gerritsen, Safer Futures  
Executive Director, CWAV Society

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**  
Sept 2, 2009



Safer Futures

CWAV Society: providing a range of programs to promote safety for women, children and families in the Cowichan region.  
103-255 Ingram Street, Duncan BC V9L 1P3



5R3

## STAFF REPORT

### COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2009

**DATE:** September 2, 2009 **FILE NO:** 0540-20-CSAC-07  
**FROM:** Harmony Huffman, Environmental Technologist, Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD);  
Theresa Gerritsen, Executive Director, Safer Futures, Cowichan Women Against Violence (CWAV) Society  
**SUBJECT:** Barefoot in the Park - Safe Needle Disposal Initiative: Program Update

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**Recommendation:** N/A

**Purpose:** For information purposes only.

**Financial Implications:** See below.

**Interdepartmental/Agency Implications:** Primary funding for the initiative will be derived from CSAC funds committed up to two years ago (\$2000). Additional program costs (such as transportation, disposal etc.), will be covered by participating partners:

Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) - will provide collection containers (to be confirmed) and disposal under existing contracts with Stericycle;

CVRD – will provide staff and storage space for collection and bulking of needles at regional recycling depots, will also provide transport of bulked needles to hospital for disposal, can assist with printing and distribution of Safe Needle Disposal Toolkit;

Participating municipalities – public works crews already performing needle collection as needed could be incorporated into proposed regional collection/transport systems, municipalities (such as City of Duncan) may also be able to provide public disposal boxes in key areas.

**Background:** The Needle Safety Initiative in the region started with a workshop facilitated by Safer Futures in May 2007. A concern about found needles was raised by residents and brought forward by the Cairnsmore and James Alexander Working groups to Safer Futures. The workshop was very well attended and of the solutions identified, regional planning for needle disposal was included. The recommendations were brought to the CSAC Committee which formed a subcommittee to develop the initiative.

**Discussion:** CVRD Recycling and Waste Management staff have been collaborating with the Barefoot in the Park working group over the past several weeks in order to establish a collection

and transportation network for found needles. The objective for this collaboration has been two-fold: to work with municipalities to identify appropriate locations for found needle disposal boxes; and to establish a centralized transport/collection system at regional CVRD recycling drop-off depots.

Under the proposed system, found needles would be disposed of in public disposal boxes located within participating CVRD member municipalities. This public system would augment the occasional collection carried out, as needed, by municipal public works staff. Municipal staff would be responsible for emptying disposal boxes and transporting full containers to CVRD recycling depots, where needles would be bulked for transport. Members of the public (those with individual 'found' needles, as well as medical users who need to dispose of several needles) would also be able to drop off needles at CVRD recycling depots. CVRD staff would be responsible for transporting bulked needles to the hospital, where they would be collected for disposal under VIHA's existing contract with Stericycle. This public collection service could also be offered at CVRD recycling depots located in Meade Creek and Peerless Road, as well as the south-end depot proposed for construction in 2010. This service would be offered in addition to existing needle exchange programs offered by most pharmacies to their customers (which capture the bulk of medical users).

At this time, the City of Duncan is the only municipality that has confirmed participation in this program. Discussions with Brian Parnell (City of Duncan, Public Works), have indicated that four potential locations exist within the City for the siting of public disposal boxes: Duncan Train Station/Charles Hoey Park (outside), Centennial Park, McAdam Park, and Government Street 7-11. However, given potential neighbourhood sensitivities to the siting of disposal boxes, further discussions with local community groups may be warranted prior to confirming these locations. CVRD staff are also hoping to initiate discussions with the District of North Cowichan in order to establish the potential for locating additional disposal boxes within the municipality.

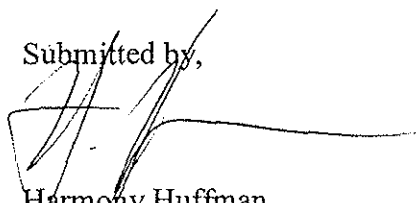
The possibility of siting public disposal boxes at CVRD Recreation Centres (Island Savings Centre, Kerry Park, Shawnigan Lake, and Lake Cowichan) has also been discussed. However, this option has been discounted for now due to the cost of tamper-proof disposal boxes and some staff concerns regarding their use. Maintenance staff at regional recreation centres already perform needle collection services as necessary, and these can easily be delivered to bulking centres at regional recycling depots.

At this time, it appears that the majority of costs associated with this program will be covered as 'soft costs' by participating partners; however, some of the \$2,000 CSAC funding may be needed to provide storage containers for needles. Depending on the level of funding provided by VIHA, CSAC may need to purchase replacements for small containers used by municipal staff doing 'front-line' collection. However, as these containers are already provided free-of-charge by VIHA (through the Margaret Moss centre), staff anticipate that VIHA will continue to provide this service. Also, depending on the level of funding committed by participating municipalities, some of the CSAC funding may also be required to purchase steel lock boxes for public disposal containers (see attached image). However, there is a strong possibility that these boxes can be constructed 'in-house' by various public works departments, thus significantly reducing their cost and increasing the likelihood that participating municipalities will be able to fund this portion of the program. The City of Duncan, for example, is able to produce these boxes in-house.

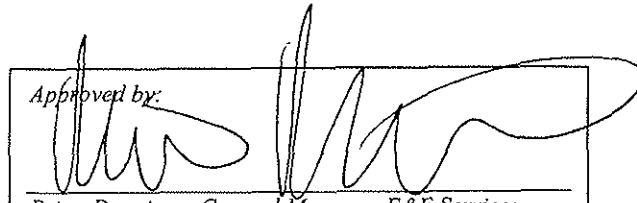
Timelines for program implementation are as follows:

Toolkit Development	• Decision to adopt Victoria's Aids Vancouver Island (AVI) model for toolkit	April 2009
	• Obtain consent, and copy of AVI text for editing	April 2009
	• Purchase software	August 2009
	• Adapt text for Cowichan Region	September 2009
	• Insert text transferred from original working copy	September 2009
	• Circulate draft copy	September 10, 2009
	• Integrate edits/changes and circulate finalized version	October 8, 2009
	• Printing	October 15, 2009
Disposal Sites	• Confirm locations	September 2009
	• Purchase and install equipment	October 2009
	• Confirm disposal protocols with staff	
Communication and Distribution	• Consult with AVI	September 10, 2009
	• Prepare communications materials, circulate and insert edits	October 15, 2009
	• Plan launch activities	October 8, 2009
	• Distribution Plan	October 8, 2009

Submitted by,

  
Harmony Huffman  
Environmental Technologist

Approved by:

  
Brian Dennison, General Manager, E&E Services

