

AGENDA
For the Special Meeting of the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee
To be held in Council Chambers
Saanich Municipal Hall, 770 Vernon Avenue
Wednesday, September 2, 2020 - 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Due to COVID-19 measures, Saanich is unable to accommodate the public for any Council, Committee of the Whole, Advisory, Board or Foundation meetings while maintaining the limits on large gatherings due to the Public Health Order.

As per the Order of the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Emergency Program Act, Ministerial Order No. M192, public attendance at the meeting is not required if it cannot be accommodated in accordance with the applicable requirements or recommendations under the Public Health Act.

To register to hear this meeting by telephone, please email council@saanich.ca or telephone 250-475-5501. You are asked to provide your name and an email address where instructions can be sent to you, along with the name and date of the advisory committee meeting you wish to hear. The registration deadline is 12:00 p.m. noon on the day of the meeting.

*** Territorial Acknowledgement ***

- 6:00 p.m. ADOPTION OF MINUTES** (attachment)
- February 5, 2020
- 6:05 p.m. CHAIR'S REMARKS**
- Memo: *Backyard farming within the UCB Area*
 - *Roadside stands economic stimulus*
- 6:30 p.m. UPDATE: FOOD STANDS / FARM GATE SALES**
- Manager of Community Planning
 - Agriculture and Food Security Planner
- 7:00 p.m. DIVISION REPORT – COMMUNITY SERVICES** (attachment)
- Senior Manager of Community Services
- 7:45 p.m. COMMITTEE ROUNDTABLE – ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**
- Committee Discussion

* Adjournment *
Next Meeting: October 7, 2020

MINUTES
HEALTHY SAANICH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room #2
February 5, 2020, 6:03 p.m.

Present: Chair: Councillor Chambers

Members: Claire Attwell, Carren Dujela, Ryan Henderson, Jasindra Jawanda, and Nadia Rajan.

Staff: Cristina Caravacas, Senior Manager, Community Services; and Jeff Keays, Committee Clerk

Regrets: Dr. Teale Phelps Bondaroff; Teri VanWell (SD 63)

Guests: Silvia Mangu Alene, President, Kulea Love Community Support Services and Kulea Culture Society; Paul Schachter, Treasurer, Kulea Culture Society; Katie Underwood, Owner, Elemental Farms

MOTION

MOVED by J. Jawandra and Seconded by C. Atwell: "That the minutes of the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee meeting held November 27, 2019 be adopted as circulated."

CARRIED

CHAIR'S REMARKS

The Chair welcomed members to the first meeting of the 2020, before providing an update on Council business. The following was noted:

- Recently appointed as the Council liaison to the Victoria Family Court Committee.
- Feels privileged to be representing Saanich in restorative justice efforts.
- Council endorsed a recommendation to seek an increase Active Transportation Plan spending by \$2,000,000.00 as part of the 2020 Financial Plan.
- Submitted two notices of motions to Council:
 - Letter of support for the Wet'suwet'en
 - Letter of support for Free Contraception
- Considering an additional motion with regard to the practice of conversion therapy.

The Chair then convened a round table of introductions.

KULEA LOVE COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES & KULEA CULTURE SOCIETY

The Chair introduced, Silvia Mangu Alene, President of Kulea Love Community Services, who provided the committee with an overview of the service. The following was noted:

Kulea Love Community Support Services

- Kulea is a Swahili word that means "caring from the heart" and encompasses the services philosophy of care.

- Kulea Love Community Support Services (KLCSS) is a social enterprise that was created to enhance community living by providing help with everyday life activities.
- KLCSS employs immigrant women in an effort to help overcome employment barriers (education/accreditation, language, adapting to new customs etc.) and achieve the financial independence they need to support their families.
- KLCSS provides non-medical support for anyone in Greater Victoria who needs it. Support is provided by vetted and bonded staff who provide flexible, customer-centered services to help people with everyday activities.

Committee discussion ensued, the following was noted:

- KLCSS currently employs three women.
- Additional employees will be hired as the service expands their client base.
- The service has not partnered with any other organizations at this point.
- The service helps new immigrants build their cultural capacity for indigenous persons with whom they often share a historic legacy of colonialism.

Kulea Culture Society

The presentation was turned over to Paul Schachter, Treasurer, Kulea Culture Society (the society) who provided committee with an overview of the society and their initiatives. The following was noted:

- The purpose of the society is to raise awareness about, and reduce instances of ethno-racial prejudice, discrimination and stereotyping by encouraging respect for diversity, inclusion and equity.
- The society is a registered non-profit society.
- The society utilizes education, information, consultations, programs, conferences, cross-cultural exchanges and research to help achieve their goals.
- Kulea Culture Society has a vision of fostering a community where diversity is embraced and appreciated in a way that every single human is valued and
- Diversity is not a trend, it is a way of living and a culture that needs to be learned.
- Coordinating a two-day *Colourful Business* conference that will focus on entrepreneurs from racialized and indigenous communities.
- The topics for workshops and lectures will be chosen by the participants.
- The conference will feature 50 racialized entrepreneurs.
- The majority of the conference will be closed to the general public; however, there will be a public showcase where the public will have an opportunity to interact and meet with entrepreneurs.

Committee discussion ensued:

- The event will be held at the Victoria Conference Center on September 26, 2020.
- The intent of the public showcase is to help break down barriers, biases and prejudices.
- The event will utilize a social media campaign.
- Currently seeking grants and contributions (monetary and in-kind) to help these racialized entrepreneurs overcome barriers to their participation.
- The event meets the criteria of the Victoria Foundation. The society will submit an application as soon as the funding window opens.
- City of Victoria is providing \$5000 in in-kind services.
- Charitable receipts will be provided.
- Healthy Saanich would appreciate an update on the event as it progresses. The Clerk will follow up prior to the summer break.

CHEF'S CHALLENGE

The Chair introduced Katie Underwood, Owner of Elemental Farms, who provided the committee with an update on 2020 Chef's Challenge event. The following was noted:

- Elemental Farms is located at Haliburton Farm.
- Haliburton Community Organic Farm is a publicly-owned farm within the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR).
- The farm was saved from development by a group of concerned citizens and the District of Saanich, who purchased the land.
- The farm has been developed as a community and educational certified organic farm.
- The farm provides a model for improving the long term economic viability of farming through cooperative and community-based organic farming.
- The farm will allow farmers entering the profession the opportunity to make a living in agriculture while learning and building skills and demonstrates the importance of financial and community support for farmers.
- Haliburton Farm is most profitable farming co-op in BC.
- Planning on resurrecting the Chef's Challenge events that were organized by, and held at Councillor Chamber's Madrona Farm.
- The event will be held at the Horticultural Centre of the Pacific, with a tentative date of September 27, 2020.
- The event will promote collaboration between wholesalers, farmers and participating chefs.
- The event will include indigenous chefs.
- This will be an alcohol free event.
- An application has been submitted to Saanich for a Community Building Grant: Special Event and will be notified in May if they have been approved.
- Outreach to community partners is ongoing.
- Would be happy to come back in the spring with a status update.

MOTION

MOVED by C. Dujela and seconded by N. Rajan that: "The Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee support the Haliburton Farms, Chef's Challenge event to be held at the Horticultural Centre of the Pacific."

COMOX VALLEY FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

The Clerk circulated the Saanich Agriculture and Food Security Plan Update, dated September 23, 2019 (previously distributed) and the Comox Valley Food Policy Council.

The Clerk advised that the

DIVISION UPDATE – COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Senior Manager, Community Services provided an overview of the community services report dated February 5, 2019.

REVIEW OF COMMITTEE PROCEDURES & DATES

The Clerk circulated the District of Saanich 2020 Advisory Committee Member Information Package, dated January 14, 2020; The Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee 2019 Member's Reference Guide; and the revised Committee Terms of Reference, dated January 28, 2020.

The Clerk provided a high-level overview of the documents, and advised that Legislative Services will be hosting a more formal orientation workshop at the end of February.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2020.

Councillor Chambers, Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are accurate.

Committee Secretary

The Corporation of the District of Saanich

Report

To: Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee

From: Cristina Caravaca, Senior Manager- Community Services Division

Date: 02 SEP 2020

Subject: Community Services Division Update

RECOMMENDATION

That the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee receive this report as information.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an overview of Community Services Division activities.

DISCUSSION

Community Arts: This summer/fall, Saanich's "HeArts Together" community art project supports isolated and vulnerable community members to come together creatively while staying safely at home – with support from collaborating long term care and community service organizations. "Creative caring kits" are being delivered to healthcare and service organizations, including Aberdeen Hospital, the Priory, Garth Homer Society, The Heights at Mount View, Victoria Cool Aid Society, Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Society, the Victoria Native Friendship Centre and the Victoria Women's Transition House. Participants are creating hearts and messages that will be assembled alongside hearts made by children and community members in outdoor displays in Saanich parks and public spaces. These collective heart displays are a legacy of our experience together that will remind us all to continue to be safe and caring for all in our community as we move forward together. For more on the project, visit <https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/parks-recreation-community/arts/hearts-together-community-art-project.html>



Across the region, artists and arts organizations have been hit hard by the closure of arts spaces for performance, exhibition, learning and art making. Small-scale, pop-up outdoor arts programming opportunities were created in Saanich to provide ways to connect the community and its artists. As we move towards fall, some arts programming resumes at Saanich facilities. As well, the exhibition program for Saanich Municipal Hall is resuming in late August, following the reopening of the Hall. The Cedar Hill galleries exhibition program continues to be on hold due to COVID-19 and facility constraints. Plans are underway to explore reinitiating it at some point in the future.

Inclusion and Accessibility: This summer has proven, with or without a global pandemic, that there is a greater need for Inclusion Leader support in our day camp programs. Despite COVID-19, Saanich has been approached by 32 families through Supported Child Development with Queen Alexandra and the Victoria Native Friendship Centre (an increase of 33% from summer 2019). While support for kids is a year-round service for this program, we see the highest activity during Spring and Summer Breaks. Because Inclusion and Accessibility Services are new to our portfolio, the future is yet to be fully developed. The level of support needed once school resumes in 2020 remains to be seen, but we will continue actively seek ways to enable kids to integrate seamlessly into Recreation programs.

Diversity & Equity: Music in the Community has been offering small unadvertised music performances in specific Saanich locations to get music into the community. There has been fifteen 1hr performances in locations where community will be out. Locations like top of Mt. Tolmie, Cadboro-Gyro Park, Beckwith Park, Gorge Waterway and Uptown. Those lucky folks who have been out in the community get a surprise performance.

Older Adult Services: Programs for older adults are returning slowly and carefully. Many older adults have been isolated and are feeling very lonely. Many have voiced their desire to get back to their activities. As such we are starting to offer small group activities where possible.

At Pearkes Recreation Centre, older adults lost their social drop in time and cannot return as the Flipside Teen Centre is now occupied by Saanich Fire. A social reserved drop in table tennis will be offered twice a week to make some social time available at that site.

Cedar Hill Social Club will start with once a week reserved social sessions. Activities will be seated and may include chair exercise, bingo, or just lively discussion on current events from an appropriate physical distance.

The NEAT (Neighbours Engaged in Activities Together) program has restarted. The first location has started at Mt Doug Court where residents can participate in bocce ball, croquet, and horseshoes.

Older adults can also register for free croquet at Burnside Lawn Bowling or to take a free Guided Walk in one of our gorgeous Parks as well.

Special Events: The **Saanich Strawberry Festival** shifted to an online celebration for the 2020 event due to the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic. Residents were encourage to visit a festival website which asked them to share their favourite memories from past events. A total of 77 entries were collected and a final video presentation was compiled using quotes from the individual entries.



that shared their stories.

All entries were eligible to win one of 3 "Day at the Beach" prize baskets. The video compilation featured music from the Commodores Big Band which has played at the event for over 30 years. The video slideshow included images from the past 4 decades and showcased a wide range of activities featured over the years. The always popular strawberries and ice cream was a common highlight for many families

The **Cadboro Bay Festival** was postponed until 2021 but local artists were given the opportunity to sculpt a sand sculpture in the theme of "community". The artists featured unique ways in which we have all come together to get through these difficult times. The sculpture was funded through community partnerships with Pepper's Foods, The Cadboro Bay Village Business Improvement Association and BCLC. The sand sculpture was created at the end of July and will remain on display in Gyro Park during the month of August.



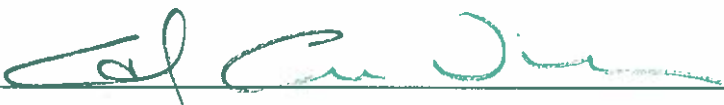
In mid-August an online contest was promoted asking residents to vote on their favourite sand sculpture from the past 13 years of the Festival. Popular themes included the Giant Octopus (2016) and the Pepper's Sandcastle (2014) but the most popular of all was the original Marine Life theme featured in 2007 which won the contest with 154 votes. A total of 336 entries were received and three prize baskets donated by the CBVBIA will be awarded to three guest who voted.

Volunteers: With the resumption of fall programming in Recreation Centres the Volunteer Program is looking to resume and provide opportunities to community members looking to share their time. Volunteers that were in existing positions prior to the Covid-19 closures will be invited to return to their roles and provided training with new Covid-19 protocols and procedures. Recruitment of new volunteers for highly specialized areas such as Aquatics, Moon Festival or the Arts Centre will be facilitated by area programmers to ensure that the operational needs of the facility will be met.

Child and Youth Services: The onset of the pandemic this spring disrupted our ability to provide youth programs and services through our normal venues and partner sites. One fantastic exception this summer has been the successful resumption of 4 weeks of our outdoor youth camp – Breakout Adventures. With full registration and waitlists each week, the need for this community based outdoor camp for 11-14yrs was heard loud and clear. Our team of amazing youth staff have not disappointed.

As we plan for the upcoming fall season, we look forward to continuing some of our valued and needed programs and services for this age group. What we are hearing is the need for safe places and spaces for youth to gather in accordance with current distancing measures is only growing in importance and is anticipated to become greater as the season shifts into fall. The loss of our Flipside Teen Centre in the Tillicum neighbourhood, while unfortunate and untimely, has meant an opportunity to branch out through purposeful partnerships and creative contingency planning. We look to continue our strong connection with local schools and anticipate hearing their plans including capacity for community partnership soon.

While youth programming has been largely on hold, our focus shifted to the reopening of our summer camp offerings for school age children (5.5-11yrs). We coordinated and implemented the sought after Saanich Neighbourhood Playground Program (SNPP), serving up to 16 families at each of our 8 park locations. In a typical year, we would only run 7 camp sites, but demand from the community was so overwhelming that we added Majestic Park in order to handle the substantial waitlists for this program. At the time of this writing, SNPP holds a 95% fill rate while still holding a waitlist of 70+ for certain locations. Also new this summer is that we held up to 4 spots per week per camp location in reserve for our low income members who qualify for the L.I.F.E program. By all accounts this has been a well prescribed offering this summer and one which we will consider expanding in summers to come.

Prepared by: 

Cristina Caravaca, Senior Manager- Community Services Division

Approved by: 

Suzanne Samborski, Director- Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department

The Corporation of the District of Saanich

Report

To: Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee

From: Cristina Caravaca, Senior Manager- Community Services

Date: 03 MAR 2020

Subject: Community Services Division Update

RECOMMENDATION

That the Healthy Saanich Advisory Committee receive this report as information.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an overview of Community Services Division activities.

DISCUSSION

Community Arts: [Family Arts Festival](#) took place February 17 at Cedar Hill Recreation and Arts Centre. The Honourable Carole James, Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier visited the event to celebrate Family Day with the community and get hands-on with creativity and culture. Attendance was steady all day with an estimated 1500-200 total visits.



ICA Youth Art Project: This is Me

Through February, Saanich hosts the Intercultural Association of Greater Victoria (ICA) [Youth Art Project, This is Me](#) in the Cedar Hill Arts Wing. This exhibit focuses on identity, race, faith and belonging through painting and collage “portraits” and words of seven newcomer youth. In its first week of display, heartfelt feedback has been received by community members including recent immigrants who were deeply moved by the expressions and experiences of the youth, resulting in new connections to upcoming ICA arts and engagement initiatives.

This month Saanich hosted two [Youth Spoken Word Open Mic Nights](#) in partnership with the Victoria Poetry Project and local high schools. Mentored by community poets and teachers, youth gain experiencing hosting events and performing amongst peers, family and community. Entrance by donation, proceeds support spoken word teams travel and participate in regional and provincial spoken word competitions.

Diversity and Equity: January 27th was our first ever [Lunar New Year Celebration](#) at Saanich Municipal Hall. Hosted in partnership with the Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese community, there was food, musical performances and concluded with a Peking Opera performance.

[Muslim Women and Girls](#) programming is going strong with three weekly fitness classes, bi-weekly weight room drop-ins at Gordon Head Recreation Centre and bi-weekly sports drop-ins at Colquitz Middle School.

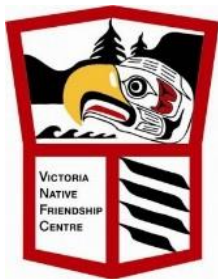
In mid-February approximately twenty Parks and Planning staff participated with a [Lekwungen Territory Tour](#). Mark Albany from the Songhees Nation led the sessions. The tour took staff to six locations to talk about the history of the location, traditional practices and impact of colonization on the locations and the region.

Inclusion and Accessibility: Since the inception of [Saanich's Leisure Assistant Pass](#) program in late July 2019, the department has issued 296 passes to date. Pass applications continue to grow as the community becomes more familiar with the new procedures to obtain passes through their municipal recreation centre. Recreation Integration Victoria will no longer provide support through their regional Leisure Assistant Pass as of March 31, 2020.

As predicted, requests from families continue to grow for [Saanich Inclusion Leaders](#). We are on the path to provide 1-on-1 support to a dozen families for Spring Break Camps (March 16-27). Inclusion Leaders supervise and assist participants with additional physical, behavioural or developmental support requirements in order to accommodate their participation in camp experiences.

Older Adult Services: The [NEAT \(Neighbours Engaging in Activities Together\)](#) program will continue into 2020 with remaining grant funding from 2019. The next site started Feb 10th at Mt Douglas Housing Society with strong interest. This not-for-profit residence recently opened their new apartment building and now houses 140 older adults on low income.

The NEAT program will be highlighted in BCRPA Snapshots at the 2020 Conference. Snapshots are short presentations on big ideas, concepts and innovative programs that are being coordinated around the province. Community Service staff members, Julie Wallace and Laura Van Dyk, will co-present this topic.



Initial dialogues have begun with the [Victoria Native Friendship Centre](#) and Saanich Community Services to build a relationship between Saanich Parks, Recreation and Community Services and VNFC Elders. Elders have expressed an interest in learning about opportunities in recreation and community but feel uncomfortable and sometimes unwelcome in recreation centres. Dialogues will be scheduled to hear more about what they are looking for and how we can work together to welcome them into our programs and centres.



Special Events: NEW Earth Day 2020 Saanich! The Saanich Cycling Festival is growing and expanding for 2020 as the district launches the new Climate Action Plan and celebrates the 50th anniversary of Earth Day.

Saanich Municipal Hall provides a unique and central destination for an Earth Day event, and having Swan Lake next to the Hall adds another nature element to the celebration. The event will focus on cycling as the primary way to get to the Hall but there will be a number of new activities added such as nature walks at Swan Lake, Climate Action presentations in the Council Chambers, Farmers Market vendors as well as a variety of food trucks.

Earth Day 2020 Saanich – Save the Date

Active Transportation | Education | Climate Action

Sunday, April 19, 2020, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm at Saanich Municipal Hall

Youth Services: As Cedar Hill Recreation Centre (CHRC) is the only Saanich Recreation Centre without a formal teen centre, Youth Services has been focusing on building capacity through joint programming, outreach and event support since the Youth Development Strategy was passed in 2015. A desire for more youth programming in the Cedar Hill neighbourhood was also identified as a priority through the recent Recreation Market Analysis.



To that end this fall we ramped up our direct programming efforts and implemented a new **Friday night social drop in for youth at CHRC**. Youth are able to drop in, enjoy some social time, and if they choose to, participants can partake in a number of special activities such as baking, racquet sports, or various art based workshops. Recognizing the needs for youth to be physically active as well as socially engaged, we've been piloting free access for youth to use the weight room at CHRC between 7-10pm. This coincides nicely with the free weight room orientations that Saanich offers to youth at all four recreation centres. Since its inception in mid-September, we've seen over 100 youth attend the drop in and we anticipate seeing those numbers increase over winter spring 2020.