

Report to Council



Date: January 22, 2018

File: 0615-20-02

To: City Manager

From: Co-Chairpersons, Journey Home Task Force

Subject: Journey Home Task Force Terms of Reference Amendment and Additional Appointments

Prepared by: Social Development Manager, Active Living & Culture

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives, for information, the Report from the Journey Home Task Force Co-Chairpersons dated January 22, 2018 with respect to the Journey Home Task Force;

AND THAT Council approves the amended Journey Home Task Force Terms of Reference to increase the membership from 21 to 23 members in the form attached as Appendix A to the Report from the Journey Home Task Force Co-Chairpersons dated January 22, 2018;

AND THAT Council appoint as members Westbank First Nation and Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society, through their representatives, to the Journey Home Task Force.

Purpose:

To obtain Council's approval of the amendment to the Journey Home Task Force Terms of Reference and additional recommendations for appointments to the Journey Home Task Force.

Background:

At the regular meeting on September 11, 2017, Council approved the Terms of Reference for the Journey Home Task Force and the appointment of the Task Force Members.

The current membership of the Journey Home Task Force consists of 21 members: the two Co-Chairpersons (Dr. Myrah and Mr. Bell); six organization representatives (Central Okanagan Foundation, BC Housing, Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction, Interior Health, Okanagan Nation Alliance, and RCMP); and thirteen community members appointed to represent a wide variety of sectors, experiences, skills and knowledge areas.

As the work of the Journey Home Task Force proceeds, it has come to the attention of the Task Force Co-Chairpersons that strengthening the Task Force's knowledge in relation to challenges faced by the local Indigenous population is essential. In conversation with the appointed Okanagan Nation Alliance

representative, it was noted that with Indigenous peoples making up approximately one quarter of the local population of people experiencing homelessness, additional Indigenous perspectives are vital to the work of the Task Force. As a result, the Co-Chairpersons recommend that the Journey Home Task Force Terms of Reference to be amended to expand the number of members from 21 to 23 to include two additional organizations, Westbank First Nation with representative Diane Roy and Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society with representative Tina Larouche.

Current Task Force Members:

In addition to the Co-Chairpersons, there are currently 19 appointed members on the Journey Home Task Force (* represent the six appointed organizations):

1. BC Housing – Ann Howard (Housing) *
2. Central Okanagan Foundation – Cheryl Miller (Funding) *
3. Interior Health Authority – John Yarschenko (Health) *
4. Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction (Public Systems) *
5. Okanagan Nation Alliance – Jennifer Houde/Shawna Whitney (Cultural) *
6. RCMP – Brent Mundle (Public Systems) *
7. Theresa Arsenault, QC (Private)
8. Gaelene Askeland (Housing; Social Services)
9. Tom Dyas (Private)
10. Diane Entwistle (Social Services)
11. Mike Gawliuk (Housing; Health)
12. David Krysko (Housing)
13. Scott Lanigan (Community)
14. Carrie McDonald (Community)
15. Lisa McHaffie (Public Systems)
16. Pam Moore (Community)
17. Brenda Plitt (Community)
18. Kelly Taverner (Community)
19. Shane Worman (Housing)

The Journey Home Task Force membership was selected using a skills and knowledge inventory matrix to ensure a diversity of perspectives that will strengthen the development of a collective strategy. This collaborative approach is vital to successfully integrate Kelowna's housing and homelessness services. The goal of the strategy is to assist residents in achieving housing stability and improve their well-being while ensuring the overall safety, health, and sustainability of the community. To successfully develop and implement the Journey Home Strategy, additional Indigenous representation is essential.

Internal Circulation:

J. Gabriel, Divisional Director, Active Living & Culture
K. Needham, Deputy City Clerk
L. Ruether, Communications Advisor

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements
Existing Policy
External Agency/Public Comments
Communications Comments
Alternate Recommendation
Financial/Budgetary Considerations
Personnel Implications

Submitted by:

Journey Home Task Force Co-Chairpersons

Approved for inclusion: J. Gabriel, Divisional Director, Active Living & Culture

Cc: Divisional Director, Active Living & Culture
 Divisional Director, Community Planning & Real Estate
 Divisional Director, Corporate & Protective Services

Attachments:

Appendix A: City of Kelowna, Amended Terms of Reference - Journey Home Task Force