

Services to Seniors Coalition – North Shore

Co-Chairs

- Trish Alsop, *North Shore Neighbourhood House, and John Braithwaite Community Centre*
- Margaret Coates, *Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society*

About the Coalition

The *Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society* is the host agency for the Services to Seniors Coalition – North Shore. The Coalition has been operating since 1992 and is the planning table for issues facing seniors and services to seniors on the North Shore. The 50+ participating organizations and individuals represent a wide spectrum of service providers. We come together as the Coalition to network, plan services and supports strategically, and set priorities and target resources for collaborative action.

Contact the Coalition

C/o Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society
1733 Lions Gate Lane
North Vancouver
Tel: 604 988-7115 ex 4001
Email: lions_view@telus.net
www.lionsviewseniorsplanning.com

Agenda

Tuesday, April 19, 2022
12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

By Zoom

- 1. Welcome: by Trish and Margaret (2 minutes)**
- 2. Acknowledgement Trish (1 minute)**
- 3. Introductions Trish (5 minutes)**
- 4. Presentations – introductions Joni**

Meet with two North Shore MLA's Bowinn Ma and Susie Chant
BC Government Budget 2022 - The conversation focused on a couple of highlights.

- **Climate Change and Preparedness-** BC has experienced extreme weather events due to Climate Change. Hundreds of people lost their lives due to the Heat Dome last summer. Many of these people lived on the North Shore.
- **Transportation** – How can we move goods/services and people, to meet climate targets? This morning, The Mayor's Council presented vision and solutions for the North Shore, includes rapid transit. Next steps – public consultation process. Go to gov.bc.ca
- **Capital Investments** – Province is investing heavily in:
Affordable Child Care spaces – 1100 new spaces
Social Housing – Plans for 1000 social housing unit
362 Beds for Students
Education infrastructure – Handsworth and Mountainside have recently completed seismic changes.
LionsGate Hospital has completed recent facility addition.
- **Health** – During the pandemic there has been a lens on Health. "It is now time to make things better".

Changes that are underway:

Hospital and Care Facility maintenance and dietary staff will be moved away from private contracts, back to VCH establishing more public accountability. Staff will only work in single sites (minimizing opportunities for transference of infection.)

There are 600 Nursing positions have been created to meet the current shortage.

- **Housing** – Increasing housing stock that will be made available for vulnerable citizens in the communities (people struggling with mental health disorders, homelessness, and addictions. Goal is to create a system that houses people in safe places. On the North Shore we have Whitely Court completion that will be offering seniors affordable housing. Kiwanis will open this fall. There will be 20% units offered by BC Housing - \$375/mo, 50% of units offered at 30% of one's gross income and 35% of the units will be tenanted by Kiwanis management. Seniors are encouraged to go back into BC housing application process to include this new housing option.

Group discussion:

- **Don Peters – CHAC (North Shore Community Housing Action Committee)**
- Question “Will the provincial Government provide support for displaced Ukrainians”?
For information on the BC Government plan: gov.bc.ca/welcoming Ukraine and at BC 211. Provincial government will fill in the gaps from Federal Gov. process. Federal Government has a system in place for fast tracking Ukrainians into Canada.
- **Veronica Traille –Hollyburn Family Services – Outreach Case Worker**
There is a current challenge housing homeless. These are the people that are currently living in shelters and require more support to be offered in long term care and assisted living facilities.
Response by Susie. There is currently a shortage of these supportive housing options because of the closure and relocation of residents from West Van Care Centre to Cross Creek Care Centre. There has also been the unexpected closure of Capilano Care Centre. Where are these people be place? Urgent need for housing stock. Underway is a Housing Needs Assessment? For more information go to Municipal websites.
- **Eirikka Brandson –District of North Vancouver- Planning Department** - North Shore Emergency Management Pocket Cards are available through planning dept.
- **Margaret Coates – Lionsview Executive Director** – 211 has information on urgent housing options.
- **Don Peters** – Housing Needs Report reveals shocking information that there is an increasing number of people that are dealing with not enough money to be able to find any home to live in!

Challenge – Bowinn - The impact of toxic housing supply: Spec homes/ money laundering and empty homes has been a priority of BC Gov.

Supply and Demand – 2021 – 100,000 new residents came to BC. Gov is working to fast-track mixed use of housing. Other housing options are being looked at: Shared housing and \$ for housing.

Niki Sharma – MLA Vancouver-Hastings, will be working with non-profits to explore funding models. Contact: 250-387-3655

email: niki.sharma.MLA@leg.bc.ca

- **Sue Carabetta – NSCR, Manager Seniors and Community Engagement.** There has been an increase numbers of calls to Seniors One Stop from people who are desperate for housing.
Sheila Malcolmson – MLS, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
 Contact: 250-952-7623
 Email: Sheila.malcolmson.MLA@leg.bc.ca
- **Joanne Franko –Vancouver City, Planner, Board Chair of Lionsview Seniors Planning**
 There is currently a lack of multi-layer funding, resulting in jobs not providing a living wage.
 Long Term publicly funded facilities are in short supply, everywhere. There is very little in plans.
 A targeted conversation is required to bring awareness to this shortage.

5. Community Updates/information sharing (15 minutes).

Due to a shortage of time available, coalition members are encouraged to send updates to Margaret. These will be attached to these meeting notes as well as sent out members if requested.

**6. Next meeting: Conversation on Gaps in Programs and Services
 Tuesday May 17th, 12-1:30pm on Zoom**

7. Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society acknowledges and honours that we live and work on the unceded territories of the Coastal Salish people, including the St'at'imc, S?wxwú7mesh (Squamish), x?m??k??y??m (Musqueam) and s?!?ilw?ta?? (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.