



**Rivers Reach, ʔi cən tecəl ʔə tə stələw
Community Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes – May 8th, 2025

Location: 11695 Fraser Street - 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Representatives in attendance: President, Multicultural Society of Maple Ridge; Strata President, Sierra Ridge 11703 Fraser Street; Coordinated Access & Assessment Manager/Lower Mainland Supportive Housing, BC Housing; MRFD Assistant Chief-Fire Rescue; Superintendent, Officer in Charge, Ridge Meadows RCMP; Rev., Diocese of New Westminster (Community Member)

Katzie First Nations Elder

Coast representatives: Director, Supported Housing Programs; Senior Manager, Maple Ridge

Regrets: Manager, Bylaw, Licensing & Community Safety, City of Maple Ridge; Housing Manager, FRIS (Fraser River Indigenous Society)

Chair & Minutes: Coast Mental Health

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Follow-up</u>
5:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions • Welcome to site of Elder, who discussed imagery of the meeting room murals • Welcome Blessing Song inspired by image of canoe on meeting room murals, recognition of the symbols 	

	<p>embedded within the murals that speak to the heart of Truth & Reconciliation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departure of Elder, who had another engagement to attend 	
6:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dinner served • Conversation regarding purpose, goals and objectives of the committee and feedback process for constituent concerns brought to committee members attention 	Reiterate contact information available to be sent to Coast Mental Health Committee Members
6:25pm	<p>Coast Member: discussion of concerns brought forward regarding noise of people in tent; concern over safety (pipe found on adjacent property)</p> <p>Committee Member: mentions of how prior to RR site development Fraser Street was not a through road and individuals would gather in trees/shrubs; brought forward concern about empty fenced lot across from RR</p> <p>Committee Member: RCMP launch of bicycle patrols (to mitigate/prevent unauthorized access to RR. Reviewed tier approach to calls of concern, i.e. individuals loitering to Bylaws, any act or threat of violence to person or property to call 911.</p> <p>Coast Member: Messaging to tenants about impact of noise at night, mindfulness of sound travelling; mentioned that front flaps had been put down at OPS tent and when questioned why tenants stated that they did not want any kids to see them using</p> <p>Coast Member: Reviewed enhanced security measures, deactivation of FOBs requiring staff only granted access to tenants at 10pm; review of guest policy; and that only tenants are permitted to use within the tent that is provided on site. This facility doesn't provide a community-run OPS.</p> <p>Committee Member: Commented that it was unexpected to hear that tenants did not want children to see substance use.</p>	Coast to connect with Bylaws on tiered approach to share out with members.

	<p>Questioned if the intention was to move the OPS tent to the rear of the building.</p> <p>Coast Member: We are working with BC Housing on the scope to move tent to the rear, which will require electrical for lighting and camera, and confirmed that there is a camera within the current OPS tent.</p> <p>Coast Member: Reviewed harm reduction approach in the provision of supplies as an opportunity to review safer use, and mentioned that we currently house three individuals on site who are not active in any substance use.</p> <p>Coast Member: Reviewed programming to date. Celebrated Mental Health Week. Facilitated a Fire Safety presentation by Assistant Chief-Fire Rescue at Staff Meeting who will be presenting Fire Safety in-service to Rivers Reach tenants at an upcoming tenant meeting; we also want to demonstrate to our neighbours that as part of the community we will be implementing a Street Clean Team for Fraser Street, tenants will go up and down Fraser Street to pick up any garbage or drug paraphernalia. We are being mindful that this may be associated with guest behaviour and/or individuals trying to access the site and not the actions of tenants. We are also planning to launch a gardening, cooking skills program and in discussions with our Peer Support Specialist also looking for ways that tenants can contribute to the community – which may be volunteering to prep and serve a meal at the Salvation Army as one potential example, something we had done at another site in Maple Ridge. All frontline staff at RR are tasked with facilitating a PSR (psycho social rehabilitation) program to support life skills development, in addition to leisure activities.</p>	
--	--	--

7:00pm	Copies of Terms of Reference were provided, no questions regarding TOR. Offer made to reach out should any questions and/or complaints arise. Frequency of meetings will be quarterly.	
Next meeting	Thursday, Sept. 4th 5pm-7pm	