



**Temporary Modular Housing | tə cecəw  
Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Notes**

**March 9, 2020, 5:30 to 6:15 pm | VPL Terry Salman Branch**

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

- The Facilitator welcomed CAC members and noted that the group last met in October 2019.
- The Facilitator led a round of introductions.

**2. Review of Action Items from Previous Meeting**

<b>Action Items</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Status</b>
Circulate City of Vancouver contact document	City of Vancouver / Facilitator	<p>Done. The City of Vancouver representative distributed the Contacts for Community Services document to CAC members at the meeting.</p> <p>The City explained that this document lists community and social services that can be contacted to address a variety of questions and concerns. The City representative stated that this document is also being distributed in the community.</p>
Circulate BC Housing outcomes report	BC Housing	<p>Research documents with information on the early outcomes for residents of temporary modular supportive housing across the province can be found on the BC Housing website at:  <a href="https://www.bchousing.org/research-centre/library/transition-from-homelessness/modular-supportive-housing-resident-outcomes">https://www.bchousing.org/research-centre/library/transition-from-homelessness/modular-supportive-housing-resident-outcomes</a></p> <p>It was suggested that this link be sent to CACs of all Temporary Modular Housing sites in Vancouver as an FYI. [<b>Action Item #1</b>]</p>

### 3. Updates and Discussion

#### a) City of Vancouver

- The City of Vancouver representative made the request to give their update first.
- The City of Vancouver reported that:
  - In November 2019, the City of Vancouver, the Vancouver Police Department (VPD), Coast Mental Health and BC Housing received a letter written by a neighbour of tē cecəw and signed by a number of neighbours living within a three-block radius of the site.
    - The purpose of the letter was to express concerns about tē cecəw and its tenants and request additional police presence in the neighbourhood between the hours of 11:00 pm and 5:00 am.
    - The author of the letter met with the VPD in December to further discuss the concerns.
    - The City of Vancouver, the VPD, Coast Mental Health and BC Housing met with the same neighbours in February to hear concerns. The partners then investigated the nature of the neighbours' concerns and took the following actions:
      - Coast Mental Health discouraged tē cecəw tenants from loitering and encouraged good neighbour practices.
      - The City sent the neighbour information about the tē cecəw CAC and links to CAC meeting notes.
      - The City emailed the neighbour the [Contacts for Community Services](#) document.
        - The neighbour requested that the document be translated into Chinese and a South Asian language.
          - A Chinese translation of the document was created and sent to the neighbour via email.
          - The City asked neighbours which specific South Asian language was preferred for the translation and they responded that this translation was no longer needed.
- The City committed to following up with the Park Board about needle cleanup in Queen Elizabeth Park.

- In response to a request for access to an electronic copy of the Contacts for Community Services document for community members to distribute to site neighbours, the City of Vancouver stated that:
  - The City will email links to temporary modular housing CAC meeting notes to all CACs representing temporary modular housing sites across the City of Vancouver. The City will also include the Contacts for Community Services document as an attachment to this email. [**Action Item #2**]
    - Community members may copy the City of Vancouver CAC representative for to cecaw on emails that they forward to neighbours of the site containing links and community information.
    - It was recommended that the City provide a link to the Contacts for Community Services document on their website to ensure this information is easy for community members to distribute to their networks.
- Community members expressed the desire to be alerted and contribute as appropriate when neighbourhood issues arise regarding to cecaw. It was agreed that this is a good point to bring back to project partners for consideration. [**Action Item #3**]

#### **b) Coast Mental Health**

- The Coast Mental Health CAC representative reported that:
  - After the February meeting between partners and signees of the aforementioned letter (see the City of Vancouver update above for more details), Coast Mental Health followed up with the author of the letter. Coast Mental Health then conducted a two-hour walkabout with neighbours so that locations with discarded needles and drug paraphernalia could be identified. An additional walkabout in those lanes was conducted to ensure the safe removal of needles and paraphernalia.
  - A specific tenant was identified as the cause of noise disruptions and has now moved on from the program.
    - In response to an inquiry about the conditions under which a tenant would be requested to move out of the building, Coast Mental Health replied that they would typically try to work with the tenant first to address the issue. If the issue becomes an ongoing problem, Coast Mental Health would take additional measures to minimize the issue. If the issue persists after these measures have been taken, Coast Mental Health would move the tenant along and end the program agreement.
    - In response to a question about whether the use of illicit drugs by tenants or any other actions would trigger eviction, Coast Mental Health replied that there is a harm reduction program in the building that allows for the safer consumption of drugs. Coast Mental Health added that their focus is on

addressing the safety and behaviour of tenants as opposed to the use of specific substances.

**c) BC Housing**

- The BC Housing CAC representative did not have any updates to report.

**d) Vancouver Coastal Health**

- The Vancouver Coastal Health representative was absent.

**e) Vancouver Police Department (VPD)**

- The VPD CAC representative reported that:
  - There were sixteen calls for service to the building in February, thirteen in January and five in December. On average, there were eleven calls for service per month in 2019.
    - The VPD representative added that after the December meeting between the VPD and the author of the aforementioned letter (see the City of Vancouver update above for more details), the VPD asked the author to call in complaints in order to capture data, as the author had not done so prior to the December meeting. The VPD stated that this may be why the number of calls for service has been increasing.
    - In response to a question about whether the calls for service were being made from inside the building, the VPD representative stated that some calls were made from inside the building and some were made by neighbours. The VPD representative added that the majority of calls were made to report disturbances.

**f) Community Members**

- A community member reported concerns about a person entering into the back of the building with a ladder. The community member asked what could be done to prevent the entry of unwanted guests into the building and protect the safety of tenants, staff and neighbours.
  - The City of Vancouver recommended this issue be addressed internally between the community member, Coast Mental Health and BC Housing.

- The VPD representative stated that the VPD can provide advice about coverage for surveillance cameras and offer safety audits.
- A community member requested that the CAC be informed if any future issues arise that are similar in nature to the letter. The community member added that they appreciate the Contacts for Community Services document and have no immediate issues regarding the building.

**g) School PACs and VSB**

- The PAC/VSB CAC representatives were absent.

**h) Holborn Holdings Ltd.**

- The Holborn Holdings Ltd. representative reported that they received a development permit for an eight storey building on Main Street near 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue that will offer non-market housing on the second to eighth floors. Holborn is in the process of applying for a building permit and construction is projected to begin this summer.

In response to a question about whether an operator has been selected for the building, it was stated that the operator has not been selected yet. A request for proposals will be issued closer to the completion of construction and the building operator will be selected by BC Housing and the City of Vancouver based on responses to the RFP.

**4. Action Items and Next Steps**

- The Facilitator concluded the meeting and noted this CAC meets every four months. It was decided that the next meeting would be scheduled for the end of June. **[Action Item #4]**

Action item	Responsible
<p><b>Action Item #1:</b> Send links to BC Housing research reports to CACs of all Temporary Modular Housing sites in Vancouver as an FYI.</p> <p><b>Answer:</b> Modular Tenants Outcome reports are available here: <a href="https://www.bchousing.org/research-centre/library/transition-from-homelessness/modular-supportive-housing-resident-outcomes">https://www.bchousing.org/research-centre/library/transition-from-homelessness/modular-supportive-housing-resident-outcomes</a></p>	BC Housing
<p><b>Action Item #2:</b> Email links to temporary modular housing CAC meeting notes to CACs of all Temporary Modular Housing sites in Vancouver.</p>	City of Vancouver

<p><b>Answer:</b> Links to TMH CAC meeting notes can be found by selecting the specific TMH site, then expanding the Community Advisory Committee link: <a href="http://www.vancouver.ca/temporarymodularhousing">www.vancouver.ca/temporarymodularhousing</a></p> <p>Include the Contacts for Community Services document as an attachment to this email and consider uploading an online version of this document that can be shared with a link.</p> <p>Bottom right corner of this page has different pages for different neighbourhoods: <a href="https://vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/carnegie-centre-outreach-programs.aspx">https://vancouver.ca/parks-recreation-culture/carnegie-centre-outreach-programs.aspx</a></p> <p>For this site it would be this document: <a href="https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/homelessness-contacts-poster-general.pdf">https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/homelessness-contacts-poster-general.pdf</a></p>	
<p><b>Action Item #3:</b> Consider alerting CAC members when neighbourhood issues rise regarding tæ cecaw and inviting them to contribute as appropriate.</p>	All partners
<p><b>Action Item #4:</b> Convene the next meeting at the end of June.</p>	City of Vancouver