

# NORTH SHORE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUBSTANCE USE

## MISSION STATEMENT

*The North Shore Standing Committee on Substance Use will support community organizations to reduce the impact and incidence of substance abuse on the North Shore through advocacy, collaboration and leadership.*

## MINUTES

**Wednesday, July 10, 2024 5:00 pm**

**Hybrid (In Person and MS Teams)**

### Members:

Cllr James Hanson, Councillor, DNV  
Cllr Christine Cassidy, Councillor, DWV  
Cllr Alison Morse, Councillor, Bowen Island  
Cllr Jaime Cunliffe, Lions Bay  
George Tsiakos, School Trustee, NV School District  
Dave Stevenson, School Trustee, WV School District  
Dr. Alexandra Choi, VCH North Shore Medical Health Officer

### Guests:

Dr. Michelle Brousson  
Meagan Coman, VCH  
Tribesty Nguyen, VCH  
Cllr Catherine Pope

### Regrets:

Chief Jen Thomas, Tsleil-Waututh Nation  
Khelsilem, Council Chairperson, Squamish Nation  
Sgt. Chris Bigland, West Vancouver Police Department  
Inspector Vaz Kassam, North Vancouver RCMP  
Heather Evans, CNV Staff Liaison

### Staff:

Eirikka Brandson, DNV Staff Liaison  
Bernadette Smyth, DWV Staff Liaison  
Mary Jukich, Committee Clerk

### 1. Welcome & Introductions

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

### 2. Adoption of agenda and February 7, 2024 Minutes

Cllr Hanson moved and Trustee Stevenson seconded:  
To adopt the agenda and minutes.

**CARRIED**

### 3. Financial Report

The financial report was presented to the committee for review. The committee has two accounts which the City of North Vancouver manages: an implementation account and a project account. As of January 1, 2023, the implementation account has a balance of \$6,761.11 and the project account has a balance of \$14,445.81.

#### **4. Vancouver Coastal Health Updates**

##### **4.1 Continued discussion from Feb 7 on alcohol slides and opioids**

Dr. Alexander Choi, VCH North Shore Medical Health Officer provided an update on the health impacts and rates of alcohol consumption on the North Shore. Dr. Choi also provided some recommendations that could be taken forward to reduce consumption.

##### **4.2 North Shore Congress Update**

This item was not addressed.

##### **4.3 [Review of Prescribed Safer Supply Programs Across BC](#)**

##### **4.4 North Shore Junction**

Meagan Coman, Director of Complex Care, Vancouver Coastal Health provided a presentation on the Junction Community Centre North Shore service model. The Junction is supported by Vancouver Coastal Health and operated by Lookout.

The goal of the recovery community centre is as follows:

- Community-based recovery supports beyond the clinical setting that helps people achieve sustained recovery by building and successfully mobilizing personal, social and community resources (recovery capital).
- Offers a variety of supportive recovery services and programs such as: peer support, health and wellness activities, and system navigation
- Offers a different model than a residential facility or treatment center, a sober-living environment, a 12 Step clubhouse or a drop-in center.

The Junction core programming is as follows:

- All Pathways – 12-step alternative mutual support group that is focused on recovery and wellness topics.
- Building Back Coffee & Chat – In person social drop-in led by peers and staff. Opportunity to learn about the Junction and meet the team.
- Navigating Recovery – Psycho-educational group for participants who are interested in learning more about navigating recovery and the various pathways available.
- 1:1 Navigation & Peer Support – Discuss wellness and recovery goals and opportunity to connect with a person with lived/living experience.

#### **5. SD44/SD45 Programming and Services for Children and Youth re: drugs and alcohol in the school districts**

Trustee Dave Stevenson provided an update on some substance use education/preventative initiatives from the West Vancouver School District as follows:

West Vancouver school district staff training:

- Annual Naloxone training with St. John Ambulance
- New VCH partnership focusing on health promotion, child & youth mental health and wellbeing and substance use

Three administrative procedures which outline processes to be used related to education, prevention, and harm reduction.

- AP162: Use of tobacco, vape and cannabis
- AP213: Health promotion in schools
- AP350: Student code of conduct and discipline

#### Tier 1 Programs

- Open Parachute
- McECC physical health education
- Second Step
- Safe Bodies-Strong Kids

#### Tier 2 Programs

- QUASH with VCH (cessation)
- Boys Club (SE)
- Peer Counselling (RO)
- Connect (WVSS, SE, RO)

#### Tier 3 Programs

- Take-a-Hike (Inglewood)
- RISE (Inglewood)
- VCH-EPI (Early Psychosis Intervention)

#### Partnerships

- Foundry North Shore
- VCH health promotion team
- West Vancouver Police Department (WVPD)
- Hollyburn Family Services
- Family Services North Shore
- DWV Youth Outreach Workers
- Lions Gate Hospital and the WCH Carlile Youth Concurrent Disorders Center
- Plea Community Services Organization - Children of the Street

#### WVSD External Committee Work

- NS-CAT (community action team)
- SEL BC
- Provincial Mental Health Leads
- Youth Friendly North Shore
- Foundry BC Leadership Council
- Lower Mainland Safe Schools Committee

WVSD-DPAC parent learning community partnerships/events

- Hailey Watson (April 11, 2023)
- Diana Divecha (upcoming DPAC community learning event-March 7, 2024)

Trustee George Tsiakos provided an update on some substance use education/preventative initiatives from the North Vancouver School District. At the elementary school level, there is more of a school-based approach and there is counselling and outside resources provided when necessary. One school host annual speaker for grade 6 and grade 7 students who also do an annual project on substance use issues. The school district has met with Foundry earlier this year in terms of getting a more coordinated effort and support between Foundry and schools particularly with younger students and there will be a pilot program called “Stomp” which will be focussed on smoking and vaping cessation. At the high school level, particularly grades 8 to 10 there is more consistency in addressing things through physical health education courses, ie., three lessons were provided for each grade that focus on specific substance use issues such as tobacco and nicotine use, cannabis use and alcohol use. For grades 11 and 12, most secondary schools host speakers from ICBC or MADD and there is also a goal that families set up satellite sessions in schools to get additional help and assistance when necessary.

## **6. Education and Awareness Campaign**

A brief update was provided on the status of the education and awareness campaign. A motion was previously brought to the North Vancouver District Council and support was indicated; however, no progress has been made. The District of North Vancouver Communications Department reached out to the Communications Departments of the committee members and the feedback was there was not an interest or willingness to move forward. In terms of next steps, an informal subcommittee composed of Cllr Hanson, Cllr Pope and Dr. Choi, was struck to develop/brainstorm ideas.

Staff reported that there was a communication from the Squamish Nation wherein they were hoping to give information about their public safety task force and presenting to the committee.

Committee members were requested to review, and endorse, a motion from Cllr Back with respect to facilitating a naloxone program in the District of North Vancouver. The motion was going before Council on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

MOVED BY Cllr Hanson and seconded by Cllr Pope

That the North Shore Standing Committee on Substance Use endorse  
Cllr Back’s motion as presented.

**CARRIED**

## **7. [Health Canada: Statement from Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health](#)**

The link was shared by Cllr Morse for Information.

**8. Discussion Topics for Next Meeting**

- Presentation from Squamish Nation
- Update on the education and awareness campaign

**9. Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, September 25, 2024.

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.