


AGENDA INFORMATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Meeting	Date: July 18, 2022
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Date: _____

 Dept. Manager	_____ GM/ Director	_____ CAO
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The District of North Vancouver REPORT TO COUNCIL

June 27, 2022
File: 10.5040.30/004.000

AUTHOR: Shannon Lambie, Community Planner

SUBJECT: North Shore Homelessness Action Initiative Final Report

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the report entitled *North Shore Homelessness Action Initiative Final Report*, dated June 27, 2022, is received for information.

REASON FOR REPORT:

This is a report to inform Council that the North Shore Homelessness Action Initiative (NSHAI) Final Report (Attachment 1) was completed by the NSHAI Steering Committee on June 15, 2022 and to provide a copy of the report.

SUMMARY:

The NSHAI, a cross-jurisdictional Steering Committee, was appointed in 2020 to explore issues related to homelessness and identify actions to prevent and create pathways out of homelessness on the North Shore. Mayor Mike Little represented the District on the Steering Committee, which met five times between March 2021 and June 2022. The NSHAI Final Report details the NSHAI's key achievements, including 12 priority actions for partners, a review of multiple housing support models, and a recommendation to adopt a *single point of entry* and *housing first* as housing support models to pursue moving forward.

BACKGROUND:

In 2020, a homelessness count revealed 121 homeless individuals on the North Shore. In 2021, the Lookout Housing and Health Society connected with 580 homeless individuals on the North Shore (an average of 48 homeless individuals per month), supporting their primary needs, providing shelter and medical referrals. The North Shore needs additional emergency shelter provision, transition housing, supportive recovery housing, and permanent affordable housing. In the summer of 2020, the North Shore municipal Councils directed staff to create a cross-jurisdictional steering committee and working group to develop actions to prevent homelessness, to serve the people who are currently homeless, and to create pathways out of homelessness. The District of North Vancouver's Council provided this direction in response to [a report on July 20, 2020](#).

EXISTING POLICY AND INITIATIVES:

- The District's Official Community Plan recognises the importance of regional efforts to eliminate and prevent homelessness on the North Shore (7.4.6).
- The OCP Action Plan (2021) Social Equity Implementation lens is intended to guide decision making and implementation of actions outlined in the OCP Action Plan.
- The Rental, Social and Affordable Housing Strategy (2016) seeks to address the housing needs of vulnerable populations at risk of being homeless.
- The Strengthening Communities Service Grant, a joint initiative between the District of North Vancouver, the City of North Vancouver, the District of West Vancouver, Squamish Nation, and Tsleil-Waututh Nation, provides services to improve the health and safety of unsheltered homeless people on the North Shore.

DISCUSSION:

A key objective of the NSHAI was to identify leadership and staff priority actions to prevent and alleviate homelessness on the North Shore. Twelve priority actions are identified in the NSHAI Final Report. Leadership priority actions include emergency shelter, transitional housing, supportive recovery housing, and permanent affordable housing advocacy and provision, as well as the implementation of *a single point of entry* and *housing first model*.

Staff priority actions include strategies to collect better data and increase awareness of community needs, opportunities to develop policy, objectives for enhanced collaboration across jurisdictions, strengthened advocacy efforts and communication strategies, and more public awareness and dialogue.

CONCLUSION

The Steering Committee has now completed its' mandate and the Working Group (with staff representatives from the First Nations and North Shore municipalities) will continue to advance the priority actions to address homelessness.

Respectfully submitted,



Shannon Lambie, Community Planner

Attachment 1: North Shore Homelessness Action Initiative Report 2022

REVIEWED WITH:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Planning	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Clerk's Office	_____	External Agencies:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Development Planning	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Library Board	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Development Engineering	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Finance	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> NS Health	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Services	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> RCMP	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering Operations	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> ITS	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> NVRC	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Parks	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Solicitor	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum & Arch.	_____
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