

THE CORPORATION OF THE
CITY OF WHITE ROCK
CORPORATE REPORT



DATE: May 31, 2021

TO: Governance and Legislation Committee

FROM: Eric Stepura, Director Recreation and Culture

SUBJECT: Draft Terms of Reference for the At Risk and Vulnerable Population Task Force

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the Governance and Legislation Committee endorse the draft Terms of Reference for the At Risk and Vulnerable Population Task Force to be forwarded to Council for their approval or amendment.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Following a presentation by Cheryl Lightowlers and Kathy Booth of Peace Portal Alliance Church at the Regular Council meeting on February 22, 2021, asking Council to consider providing a warming shelter for people who are homeless, Council made a motion directing staff to provide a corporate report regarding information on a daytime warming shelter to accommodate approximately 25-30 people.

In response to this referral, staff conducted research on the extent of homelessness in White Rock and provided several options for Council to consider for providing an emergency daytime warming shelter for those experiencing homelessness in the Peninsula. After deliberation, Council decided not to pursue providing a daytime warming shelter at that time.

In addition, staff recommended that Council direct staff to participate in an At-Risk and Vulnerable Populations Task Force (Task Force) with representatives of the City of Surrey and other stakeholders mandated to address the needs of at-risk and vulnerable people living in White Rock and South Surrey, including those who are food insecure and homeless. Council approved this recommendation, and staff were directed to develop a Terms of Reference for the Task Force.

Staff at the City of White Rock and the City of Surrey have worked together to develop a draft Terms of Reference for the Task Force. The attached draft Terms of Reference is intended for the review and endorsement by the Governance and Legislation Committee and Council.

It is expected that this Task Force would conduct its meetings electronically via Microsoft Teams or Zoom or another similar platform.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

The motion to direct staff to participate in an At Risk and Vulnerable Population Task Force was approved by Council at their Regular Council Meeting held March 8, 2021.

Motion # & Meeting Date	Motion Details
Motion # 2021-110 March 8, 2021	Direct staff to participate in an At-Risk and Vulnerable Populations Task Force with representatives of the City of Surrey and other stakeholders mandated to address the needs of at-risk and vulnerable people living in White Rock and South Surrey, including those who are food insecure and homeless.

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

The At Risk and Vulnerable Population Task Force will be comprised of government, faith and non-profit representatives. It will be mandated with advising response efforts related to at-risk and vulnerable populations in White Rock and South Surrey.

At-risk and vulnerable populations include but are not limited to families, individuals and households in the White Rock and South Surrey area who are dealing with homelessness, and precarious or unstable living arrangements.

The Task Force will be responsible for identifying short, medium, and longer term actions to ensure that the needs of at-risk and vulnerable populations in White Rock and South Surrey are being addressed.

Appointments will be made by the Mayor of the City of White Rock for a term until when the work plan/designated task(s) are completed. Subsequent appointments by the Mayor to the Task Force will be done to address the replacement of members who resign mid-term.

The Task Force will consist of up to six (6) voting members which will bring expertise /experience around the mandate of the Task Force. These members would be in addition to the Mayor of the City of White Rock, and three (3) Councillors (one from the City of White Rock and two from the City of Surrey). One of the City of Surrey Councillors will be named as Co-Chairperson. The two (2) remaining Councillors will serve as alternates for the Co-Chairpersons in their absence. All Council members on the Task Force will be non-voting.

The following agencies will have representatives on the Task Force (voting):

- Peace Portal Alliance Church
- Options Community Services
- Sources Community Resource Centres
- BC Housing
- Peninsula Homeless to Housing
- Fraser Health

City Staff Liaisons (non-voting):

- City of White Rock Director of Recreation and Culture
- City of Surrey Social Planner
- White Rock RCMP
- Surrey RCMP Police Mental Health and Outreach Team
- The assigned Committee Clerk (to be discussed to possibly share with the City of Surrey)

The Task Force will meet bi-weekly. It is hoped that the first meeting will be held in early June 2021, so that a warming shelter for people living in White Rock and South Surrey that are experiencing homelessness is available by the Fall 2021.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is anticipated that the Task Force would be supported within the existing budget using existing staff resources. Any recommendations made by the Task Force with financial implications would require Council approval.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS

The City's Recreation and Culture, and Corporate Services Department will provide support to this Task Force. The White Rock RCMP will also participate as a liaison to this Task Force.

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct environmental or climate action effects related to this Task Force's Terms of Reference.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The work of this Task Force aligns with the following Strategic Priority: "Partner with service agencies and other community partners to provide social support for those most impacted by COVID-19."

CONCLUSION

Attached as Appendix A is the draft Terms of Reference for an At Risk and Vulnerable Population Task Force, for consideration by the Governance and Legislation Committee and Council. Staff recommend that the Governance and Legislation Committee either approve the Terms of Reference as presented, or amend the Terms of Reference and endorse a revised version, in order to allow the work of the Task Force to begin as soon as possible.

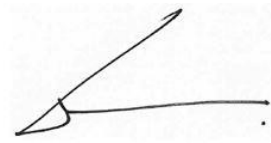
Respectfully submitted,



Eric Stepura
Director, Recreation and Culture

Comments from the Chief Administrative Officer

I concur with the recommendations of this corporate report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'G' followed by a horizontal line and a small dot at the end.

Guillermo Ferrero
Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix A: Draft Terms of Reference for the At Risk and Vulnerable Population Task Force