

Safety and Security Advisory Committee Meeting to be held via Zoom

**Public attendance is prohibited at this time. If you'd like to watch or listen to the live Committee meeting, please email Committees@Penticton.ca 24-hours prior to the commencement of the meeting for the Zoom meeting participation details. You will have an opportunity to ask questions related to the agenda at the end of the meeting.*

**Monday, March 29, 2021
at 10:30 a.m.**

1. **Call Regular Committee Meeting to Order**
2. **Adoption of Agenda**
3. **Adoption of Minutes**
 - 3.1 Minutes of March 1, 2021 Safety and Security Advisory Committee 1-4

Staff Recommendation:

THAT the Safety and Security Advisory Committee adopt the minutes of the March 1, 2021 meeting as presented.
4. **New Business**
 - 4.1 "Where are We Now" Updates from Primary Service Departments Verbal
 - 4.2 River Channel Update – Rob Trousdell, Deputy Fire Chief and Kristen Dixon, General Manager of Infrastructure Verbal
 - 4.3 Supportive Housing and Shelter Placement Guidelines Workshop – Blake Laven, Director of Development Services Verbal
 - 4.4 UBCM Supporting Communities Grant – Adam Goodwin, Social Development Specialist 5-8

Staff Recommendation:

THAT the Safety and Security Advisory Committee recommend, based on Penticton City Council's direction during its March 16, 2021 meeting, that the City of Penticton apply for the Union of BC Municipalities' Strengthening Communities' Services grant for a total of \$450,000 for the activities as outlined by the Committee at its March 29, 2021 Committee meeting.
5. **Next Meeting** 9
6. **Public Question Period**
7. **Adjournment**

Safety and Security Advisory Committee Meeting

held via Zoom
Monday, March 1, 2021
at 10:30 a.m.

- Present:** Deirdre Riley, Vice Chair
Aaryn Secker
Adam Power
Cheryl Watts
Lynn Allin
Nicolette Rodriguez
Susan Brown
- Council Liaisons:** John Vassilaki, Mayor
Katie Robinson, Councillor
- Staff:** Blake Laven, Director of Development Services
Adam Goodwin, Social Development Specialist
Tina Mercier, Bylaw Supervisor
Staff-Sgt Kirsten Marshall, RCMP
Larry Watkinson, Fire Chief, Penticton Fire Department
Alysa Wardley, Legislative Assistant
- Regrets:** Matt Taylor, Chair
Daryl Clarke
- Guests:** Kenneth Scott, ASK Wellness Society
Bob Hughes, ASK Wellness Society
Sarah Desrosiers, Practicum Student
Chelsea Powrie, Castanet

1. **Call to Order**

The Safety and Security Advisory Committee was called to order by the Vice Chair at 10:31 a.m.

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Safety and Security Advisory Committee adopt the agenda as presented for the meeting held on March 1, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Adam Power, Member at Large joined the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

3. **Adoption of Minutes**

3.1 Minutes of February 1, 2021 Safety and Security Advisory Committee

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Safety and Security Advisory Committee adopt the minutes of the February 1, 2021 meeting as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **New Business**

4.1 "Where Are We Now" Updates from Primary Service Departments

The Bylaw Supervisor provided the following updates:

- Increased issues around shelters continue therefore Bylaw has been trying to maintain more presence to limit loitering and disruptive behaviours in these areas.
- It is expected that Bylaw and other Services will be staying busy with the nice weather and the increased calls this usually brings.

Staff-Sgt. Marshall provided the following updates:

- End of fiscal year is keep everyone busy.
- Summer planning has begun as RCMP (as stated by Bylaw as well) is anticipating on seeing more people out with the warmer weather.

4.2 ASK Wellness Presentation – Bob Hughes, ASK Wellness Society and Kenneth Scott, ASK Wellness Society

Mr. Hughes introduced ASK Wellness Society and the work they have been undertaking. Currently Mr. Hughes suggested there are three crises simultaneously affecting the community; COVID-19, the opioid crisis, and homelessness. As the province has chosen supportive housing as a response to tackle these problems ASK Wellness Society would like to determine what the retention rate is with supportive housing and what percentage of people have had to be released from the program due to issues relating to addictions or behavioral problems. He advised there is a cohort that are so acutely sick that the system is not an appropriate method of helping this population.

Larry Watkinson, Fire Chief joined the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Mr. Scott provided the Committee with an overview of some of the supports provided at the Burdock and Fairhaven housing properties. Mr. Scott recommended that more resources for bringing health authorities to these buildings are required for providing adequate support.

The floor was opened to the Committee for questions and comments. A Member at Large requested input from the ASK Wellness Society representatives on the main issues the Committee should be focusing on regarding Safety and Security in the community. It was proposed that the main barriers within the community are the limited access to recovery beds and receiving continued engagement from the judicial system for prolific offenders. Other Members at Large expressed a desire for a greater emphasis on accountability and expectations that there is an effort for improvement for the supportive housing residents. Mr. Scott explained

the obstacles to accountability with recovery oriented housing and low barrier supportive housing models that are currently in place.

John Vassilaki, Mayor joined the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

The ASK Wellness Society representatives expressed support of the audit proposed by Council and are hopeful that this review will help to determine how to better assist the population in need and identify what has already been effective.

Lynn Allin, Member at Large left the meeting at 11:29 a.m.

4.3 Family Reunification Funds Guidelines – Adam Goodwin, Social Development Specialist

The Social Development Specialist from the City of Penticton introduced a discussion on the Family Reunification project which was referred to Council by the Committee and carried unanimously. The goal of bringing this item back to the Committee is to establish strong guidelines that will help to define how the expenses are used within the family reunification project.

The floor was opened for questions and comments from the Committee. Councillor Robinson raised concerns that she does not believe this discussion is relevant to the Safety and Security Advisory Committee. Moving forward the Committee will not have recommendations brought forward regarding the family reunification funds, but will be kept updated on the progress of the program.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Safety and Security Advisory Committee receive into the record the report titled "Family Reunification Fund Guidelines" and dated March 1, 2021;
AND THAT the Safety and Security Advisory Committee request that staff engage service providers in helping inform the final guidelines.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.4 Primary Service "Where Are We Now" Updates – Continued

The Fire Chief provided the following updates:

- Fire management works to the Esplanade have been completed.
- Many calls are still coming through seeking first responders.

6. **Next Meeting**

The Next Safety and Security Advisory Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held on March 29, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom.

7. **Public Question Period**

8. **Adjournment**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Safety and Security Advisory Committee adjourn the meeting held on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 11:52 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Certified Correct:

Alysa Wardley
Legislative Assistant

Committee Report

pentiction.ca

Date: March 29, 2021
To: Safety and Security Advisory Committee
From: Adam Goodwin, Social Development Specialist

File No: 1855-03

Subject: UBCM Grant Opportunity

Staff Recommendation

THAT the Safety and Security Advisory Committee recommend, based on Penticton City Council's direction during its March 16, 2021 meeting, that the City of Penticton apply for the Union of BC Municipalities' Strengthening Communities' Services grant for a total of \$450,000 for the activities as outlined by the Committee at its March 29, 2021 Committee meeting.

Strategic Priority Objective

- **Community Safety:** The City of Penticton will support a safe, secure and healthy community.

Background

During its March 16, 2021 Regular Meeting, Penticton City Council passed a resolution to apply for a grant from the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) that is intended to be used to support and strengthen communities' housing and homelessness approaches. Council directed staff to work with the Safety and Security Advisory Committee to finalize the activities that would be applied for using the grant. A copy of the Council Report from the March 16, 2021 Council meeting is included in Attachment A.

Recommendation

Staff are recommending that the Committee provide guidance on the final grant activities to be included in the City of Penticton's Union of BC Municipalities' Strengthening Communities' Services grant.

Attachment A – March 16, 2021 Council report

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Goodwin

Council Report

penticton.ca

Date: March 16, 2021 File No: 1855-03
To: Donny van Dyk, Chief Administrative Officer
From: Adam Goodwin, Social Development Specialist
Subject: **UBCM Grant Opportunity: Strengthening Communities' Services**

Staff Recommendation

THAT Council direct staff to apply for the Strengthening Communities' Services grant from the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) for \$450,000 in funding for education, peer-based programs, public engagement, training, and wages for temporary staff;

AND THAT staff work with the Safety and Security Advisory Committee to finalize the application document;

AND THAT Council direct the Chief Financial Officer for the City of Penticton to sign and submit the application document on behalf of the City.

Strategic priority objective

Vision: A vibrant, innovative, healthy waterfront city focused on sustainability, community and economic opportunity.

Community Safety: The City of Penticton will support a safe, secure and healthy community.

Background

Homelessness and housing are complex issues. The causes of experiences with homelessness, housing instability, and unaffordable housing are multi-faceted. There needs to be multi-prong approaches to solutions.

The *up-stream / down-stream* analogy uses a river as an attempt to explain homelessness. *Up-stream* efforts focus on things such as preventing homelessness, reducing risk factors that an individual may experience homelessness, and educating individuals about best practices. *Down-stream* services requires resources to support individuals once they are experiencing homelessness. *Down-stream* responses that many communities have had to implement include things such as community safety officers, additional police members, use of the Emergency Room as a shelter, emergency shelters, needle clean up efforts and outreach teams.

Some of the recent dialogue in the community around housing and homelessness has focused on *down-stream* supports and services, such as shelters and emergency supports that are intended to respond to an individual's homelessness. There is a grant through the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) that may allow additional *up-stream* supports and services to be added in the community. The UBCM grant is available only to municipalities. Municipalities can work with others, such as local not-for-profit organizations and health authorities, to actually deliver the services being applied for under the grant.

Financial implication

The grant funding can contribute 100% of the cost of eligible activities. The UBCM grant guidelines suggest that a community of Penticton's size may wish to keep applications to under \$450,000 but that there is no set maximum. Eligible expenses include items such as a municipally-funded shelter, dialogue around homelessness, cross-jurisdictional working groups to improve coordination, peer-based programs, training, education, and public engagement. Should the City not be successful with this grant application, and/or should UBCM determine that not all proposed expenses are eligible, the proposed work will not proceed.

Analysis

Based on recent conversations about housing and homelessness in Penticton and the region, there may be an opportunity to temporarily enhance *up-stream* support and services. Some of the staff recommended activities that could be funded for through the grant are provided below, with the final recommendations to come from the Safety and Security Advisory Committee.

Education

- A temporary social development assistant focused on working with groups such as 100 More Homes to focus on *up-stream* initiatives around housing and homelessness, enhancing the coordination of *down-stream* services in the community, and working on understanding individuals who are high users of public systems such as police, bylaw, and fire resources. With the addition of an external housing and homelessness expert consultant and the assistant's wages, it would be a cost of approximately \$215,000.
- Educational and dialogue workshops on *up-stream* services and supports with community partners such as 100 More Homes, Community Action Team, CAT, and CAST, among other groups in the community. This would be a cost of approximately \$50,000.
- Working with the Interior Health Authority to analyze what health services are already available for individuals experiencing homelessness. This would be a cost of approximately \$20,000.
- Working with Emergency Support Services and Penticton Fire Department on fire safety plans specifically around vulnerable individuals. This would be a cost of approximately \$25,000.

Intervention

- A temporary community safety officer focused on referring individuals at risk of homelessness to community groups such as the Coordinated Access Table (CAT), Community Active Support Table (CAST), and other supports and services. This would be a cost of approximately \$90,000.

Prevention

- Working with the Community Action Team to enhance peer-based programming. This would be a cost of approximately \$30,000.
- Enhancing the City of Penticton’s participation in Neighbourhood Small Grants for neighbours to access to participate in their neighbourhood through activities such as neighbourhood safety and well-being enhancements. This would be a cost of approximately \$20,000.

The total cost of the items identified above is \$450,000. Staff are proposing adding all of the items into the grant application, based on a final recommendation from the Safety and Security Advisory Committee. Should the City be successful in receiving the grant, staff in Bylaw and Social Development will work with community partners on implementation of the initiatives.

Alternate recommendations

THAT Council direct staff to bring back additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Goodwin,
 Social Development Specialist

Concurrence

Chief Financial Officer / General Manager, Administration and Finance <i>JWB</i>	Director, Development Services <i>BL</i>	Acting Chief Administrative Officer <i>KD</i>
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2021 Safety and Security Advisory Committee Meeting Dates

Meeting commences at 10:30 a.m.

Council Chambers, City Hall, 171 Main Street (Second Level) or via Zoom

Month	Date
January	11
February	1
March	1 & 29
April	-
May	3 & 31
June	-
July	5 & 26
August	30
September	-
October	4
November	1
December	6