

September 17, 2021

**RainCity Housing
School Road Community Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes**

**Sept. 16, 2021
4:00 – 5:00 pm**

1. Welcome and introductions

- The moderator welcomed the group and shared that they were speaking from the unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Peoples.
- The moderator led a brief round of introductions and shared the agenda.
- RainCity Housing shared that they were speaking from the unceded territory of the Squamish Peoples.

2. Review action items from previous meeting

ACTION ITEM	STATUS
Share artwork from the school	Complete
Share BC Housing tenancy agreement	Complete

3. Update on current conditions

RainCity Housing

- RainCity shared that they are continuing with their regular programming and are hosting ongoing clinics.
- RainCity will be hosting a community event in the near future in recognition of Truth and Reconciliation Day at the end of September, as well as for overdose awareness. All Indigenous cultural liaisons in RainCity on the Coast received a grant to host an event in each building.
- Applications for the housing continue to come in and RainCity shared that it's becoming very evident that more housing is needed in the area. Only one supportive housing in Gibsons is not enough, especially because the Salvation Army shelter is not yet open.

4. Roundtable Discussion

- Question from the community:

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- A member of the community asked whether there was any turnover in tenants over the summer.
- Response from RainCity:
 - We haven't had any turnover and applications should go through to BC Housing. We have a table that meets when there are vacancies. You can always send inquiries you may get to us, or BC Housing and we can deal with it appropriate.
- Comment from the community:
 - The new principal at the elementary school introduced themselves and shared they were looking forward to being involved in the community advisory committee. They also shared that there was an incident with two people trying to dispose of a bag on school property, but they couldn't confirm whether it was related to the supportive housing.
 - Response from RainCity:
 - It would be great for us to share contacts. Please reach out if you ever have any questions or need to be in touch. We have peers doing clean sweeps around so it would be good to be in contact for it anything comes up. Regarding the incident, we did contact RCMP about that and can confirm the people were not tenants of the supportive housing.
- Comment from the community:
 - A member of the community asked whether the kitchen at the supportive housing is being used and whether meals are provided to tenants.
 - Response from RainCity:
 - Every tenant has their own kitchen and we also have our industrial kitchen that we provide two meals a day from. That's been running since we opened. A few months back we allowed people to bring their own plates for about a week and we opened the dining room, but most people like to go to their rooms for meals. There are a few seniors who were dining in the common area and they were spacing themselves out. We've gone back to takeout containers and we allow two seniors to sit in the dining room if they like, just like a restaurant as per public health orders.
- Question from community:
 - A member of the community asked whether the kitchen at the supportive housing must follow the public health orders.

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- Response from RainCity:
 - We ask people to wear masks when they're lined up for food. It's never a very big line up. Since the supportive housing is a home we don't ask for vaccination passports. We encourage people to get vaccinated, but it's not mandated from us. That's standard across all our programs with active kitchens. Staff are mandated to wear masks inside, all guests wear masks and we encourage the distancing as well.

- Question from the community:
 - A member of the community asked whether RainCity was encouraging tenants to get vaccinated against COVID-19.
 - Response from RainCity:
 - We had a couple of in-house vaccination clinics which was helpful because some folks have mobility issues and barriers to the online registration. We make it as accessible as possible. We also have in-reach teams who are intensive case management teams from BC Housing who are working with us to ensure people are getting their first and second vaccines.

- Question from the community:
 - A member of the community asked whether there are any volunteer opportunities at this time.
 - Response from RainCity:
 - Unfortunately, due to the pandemic still we cannot meet any volunteer requests right now, but it's greatly appreciated. Volunteering is a wonderful part of community and there absolutely will be opportunities in the future. There might be creative ways we can do that. It would be great to help with allyship to combat some isolation and loneliness, especially in some of the seniors in the building. We can absolutely look at that in the future.

- Question from the community:
 - A member of the community asked what the threshold of communication is between the elementary school and RainCity.
 - Response from RainCity:
 - We'll have to think about that. It might be something we work out with the school. If there is a shared incident between the properties, we will

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absolutely be in contact. We will give our contact information to the principal in case anything comes up.

5. Action Items and Next Steps

- The moderator thanked everyone for the discussion and shared that typically community advisory groups will meet on a monthly basis when first established, but that often turns into meeting less frequently as the supportive housing gets settled in the community. They asked the group to think about how often they would like to meet going forward.

ACTION ITEM	RESPONSIBLE
RainCity to send contact information to new school Principal	Eli
Decide how often the group will convene going forward	All