



Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee 2018 Annual Report

2018 Membership

Seemah Aaron, Yasmin Ali, Paul Cassidy, Peter Chan, Yvonne Chan, Sandra Gebhardt, Hans Havas (Chair), Joan Haws, Rachel King, Narcisa Llano, Shams Jilani, Jackie Shell, Becky Wong (Vice-chair)

City of Richmond Liaisons:

Councillor Ken Johnston – Council Liaison (January to October 2018)
Councillor Carol Day – Council Liaison (November to December 2018)
Debbie Hertha, Seniors Coordinator – Staff Liaison

Purpose:

The role of the Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee (RSAC) is to act as a resource and provide advice to City Council regarding senior's issues such as health, transportation and housing as they arise or are referred by City Council. The RSAC members help to identify concerns of seniors and work with various community organizations and agencies, including City staff, to obtain an understanding of the issues. Information, options and recommendations are then prepared and submitted to City Council for their consideration.

Membership:

The Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee consists of 15 members. A majority of members belong to one or more groups or organizations, and attend numerous forums and workshops throughout the year. Members also bring to the RSAC table additional information on a broad range of topics relevant to seniors, as illustrated in the attached report and work program.

Meetings:

The Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee meets 10 times a year on the second Wednesday of the month. All meetings are open to the public. Monthly guest speakers are primarily from non-profit organizations, local health service providers, City departments and representatives from programs and services serving seniors. Guest speakers provide committee members with insight into senior's issues as well as resources available to seniors and their families in the community. In turn, guest speakers are provided with information about the Seniors Advisory

Committee. Committee members would like to thank all guest presenters that took the time to provide us with a wealth of information about their organizations.

Membership with Committees and Groups

Members from the committee represented RSAC on various committees and groups by speaking on behalf of seniors issues and reporting back to the committee on what has been discussed within the other groups. Members were able to raise many issues affecting seniors in our community to these groups and some were successful in having their concerns addressed with initiatives and improvements to programs and services for seniors.

The transportation sub-committee, for example, worked closely with the City's Transportation Department to support the needs of seniors in Richmond. In 2018, issues with transportation services affecting seniors were forwarded to TransLink including crosswalks, traffic signals, street lighting, bus shelters and ramps. TransLink has since implemented a study group on HandyDART and bus routes as well as to alterations to existing bus routes making it easier for seniors to move around Richmond.

External Committees included: Community Health Advisory, Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of B.C. (COSCO), Dementia-Friendly Stakeholder, Falls Prevention Network (VCH) and Minoru Seniors Society

RSAC Sub-Committees included: Multicultural Issues, Promotions and Transportation.

Council Appointed Advisory Committees included: Richmond Community Services Advisory (RCSAC) and Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee (RIAC).

Issues addressed within the committees above included:

- Housing: Temporary Modular Housing for individuals experiencing homelessness in Richmond and affordable housing options for vulnerable and at risk seniors in Richmond.
- Health: Dementia-Friendly Community Action Plan for Richmond, Richmond Hospital upgrades, residential care upgrades and new Community Health Access Centre for Seniors, Canadian Universal PharmaCare program and integrated home care.
- Transportation: Bike share program, street lighting, bus stop signage, placement of crosswalks, traffic lights, HandyDART and bus routes.
- Income Support: Bill C-27 Pension Reform and poverty reduction.
- B.C. Seniors Advocate Issues: Housing, home supports, transportation, income supports, health care and elder abuse.
- General: Public Health and Social Policy, Civic Elections – services for at risk, vulnerable seniors, the City's role in cannabis regulation, food security and Food Asset mapping and non-profit organization space needs.

The City's Coordinator, Seniors Services, attends the monthly meetings keeping members informed on programs and services offered at Minoru Place Activity Centre as well as sharing information on issues and concerns of seniors in the community.

The Manager, Seniors Community Support Services from Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives is also in attendance at RSAC meetings bringing a perspective from seniors who volunteer in the community and those utilizing programs and services geared to at risk and vulnerable residents.

Guest Speakers for 2018

- Heather Cowie, Provincial Coordinator, Dementia-Friendly Communities, Advocacy and Education Department, Alzheimer Society of BC
- Hajira Hussain, Executive Director, Richmond Food Bank
- Monica Bennington, Affordable Housing Planner (City)
- Brian MacLeod, Community Relations Officer, Richmond Fire-Rescue
- Sheila Rooney and Kathleen Holmes, Advisory Committee Members, Diffusing Ageism through Education & Volunteerism (RCRG)
- Bernie Woods, Team Leader, BC Association of Community Response Networks (BCCRN)
- Dorothy Jo, Inclusion Coordinator, Community Social Development (City)
- Kim Somerville, Manager, Community Social Development (City)

RSAC Member Participation in Forums, Conferences and Special Events:

- TransLink Public Engagement Sessions – HandyDART services (1 member attended)
- SFU's 27th Annual John K. Friesen Gerontology Conference, "From Social Isolation to Inclusion" (3 members attended)
- Jennifer McKenzie CEO, Vancouver Coastal Health, Richmond, provided an update on current health initiatives and issues related to Richmond seniors (1 member attended)
- Advance Care Planning Workshop, Vancouver Coastal Health (1 member attended)
- Keeping Seniors Well Community Forum, Vancouver Coastal Health—new services in Richmond for Seniors (1 member attended)
- 16th Richmond Chinese Community Society (RCSS) Annual Luncheon (4 members attended)
- Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP) – 4th Annual Share Seniors Festival (2 members attended)
- Annual City of Richmond Diversity Symposium (1 member attended)
- Minoru Seniors Society Annual General Meeting (3 members attended)
- Annual Steveston Seniors Christmas Dinner, Steveston Rotary (5 members attended)

The Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee would like to extend thanks to Mayor Malcolm Brodie and City Councillors for their continued support of the Seniors Advisory Committee. The committee would also like to thank Council Liaison, Ken Johnston for keeping committee members updated on seniors issues arising at City Council.

Report submitted by:



Hans Havas, Chair
Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee



Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee 2019 Work Program

The purpose of the Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee (RSAC) is to consider and evaluate issues referred to it by City Council, City staff and members of the community and to review matters deemed to be of concern to seniors and submit information and recommendations to City Council as necessary and when requested.

This work program supports the Social Development Strategy 2013–2022, Seniors Services Plan 2015–2020 and Age Friendly Assessment and Action Plan 2015–2020 by setting actions that will inform RSAC members on current and ongoing issues facing seniors in Richmond allowing them to advise and make recommendations to Council as necessary. The needs of seniors in Richmond are considered making Richmond more age-friendly.

2018 Budget:

Meeting Expenses	\$1,000
Memberships and website	\$ 450
Events, conferences and workshops	\$ 900
<u>Misc. Expenses (e.g. name badges)</u>	<u>\$ 150</u>
Total	\$2,500

Topics monitored or addressed by the RSAC are outlined in the following table.

Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee (RSAC) 2019 Proposed Work Program

Initiative	Actions	Outcome
<p>Act as a resource to the City and general public for issues affecting seniors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in consultation on City plans, updates, strategies, grants, projects, and new policies affecting seniors. • Engage in events and activities to connect with seniors in Richmond with an emphasis on reaching seniors who are less connected with others. • RSAC will respond to Council requests and will provide advice on issues that affect seniors in the community. 	<p>Members will be able to identify issues raised by all seniors in the community and advise Council as needed.</p>
<p>Monitor and keep informed of existing and emerging seniors issues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest speakers will be scheduled each month to present on relevant topics related to seniors. • RSAC will attend conferences, forums and workshops on activities and issues affecting seniors. • RSAC members will circulate and share information about programs and services for seniors. 	<p>RSAC members will be well informed about issues affecting seniors as well as programs and services available to seniors in Richmond.</p> <p>RSAC members will be able to confidently speak to the public about seniors issues.</p>
<p>Increase RSAC's awareness and knowledge of affordable housing options for seniors, especially those vulnerable and at risk.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep informed about the range of affordable housing options in Richmond through contact with the City's Program Manager, Affordable Housing and member sharing of research, media and resource materials. • Explore opportunities for members to participate on community groups addressing affordable housing options for seniors. • Schedule guest speakers on topics/issues affecting vulnerable and at risk seniors. 	<p>RSAC knowledgeable and informed of the range of affordable housing options for seniors in Richmond and is able to inform the public as needed.</p> <p>RSAC informed of affordable housing issues affecting vulnerable and at risk seniors and will advise Council as necessary.</p>

Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee (RSAC) 2019 Proposed Work Program

Initiative	Actions	Outcome
<p>Participate on external committees, other Council appointed advisory committees and RSAC sub-committees addressing issues affecting seniors.</p>	<p>RSAC members will continue to participate on the following external committees/boards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Health Advisory • Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of BC (COSCO) • Dementia-Friendly Stakeholder • Minoru Seniors Society <p>Sub-Committees of RSAC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elections • Promotions • Transportation <p>Other Council appointed Advisory Committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richmond Community Services Advisory Committee (RCSAC) • Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee (RIAC) 	<p>Groups are aware of the role of RSAC and the committee's availability for on-going consultation.</p> <p>Issues affecting seniors raised by RSAC will be shared with outside committees and groups.</p> <p>Members are informed of other committee/group activities and are able to report back to RSAC.</p>
<p>Partner and collaborate with groups to monitor health care issues affecting seniors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule guest speakers to increase knowledge on health care topics including programs and services available for those living in the community (adult day care options and home support). • Liaise with community groups and organizations providing health care programs and services. 	<p>RSAC informed of and consulted about health programs and services available for seniors.</p> <p>Concerns about health care for seniors in Richmond are shared.</p>
<p>Participate in any activities related to implementation of the Dementia-Friendly Community Action Plan in Richmond.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the distribution and promotion of the Dementia-Friendly Community Action Plan report to key community partners and organizations in Richmond. 	<p>RSAC informed of and consulted about issues affecting those living with Dementia and their families in Richmond.</p>

Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee (RSAC) 2019 Proposed Work Program

Initiative	Actions	Outcome
Collaborate with groups to monitor, identify and address issues and concerns regarding transportation services for seniors in Richmond.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue communication with the City’s Transportation Department regarding transportation service issues affecting seniors. • Continue to attend and be available for consultations regarding transportation services for seniors (HandyDART and TransLink). 	<p>RSAC aware of and consulted about issues regarding transportation for seniors in Richmond and will advise Council as necessary.</p> <p>Transportation programs and services in Richmond are more age-friendly.</p>