

A woman with long dark hair is holding a large, clear glass sphere. The sphere reflects a street scene with buildings and trees. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with trees and a building.

PUBLIC SAFETY & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

THIRD QUARTER REPORT, 2024

PUBLIC SAFETY



COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN

Public Safety Advisory Committee

The committee met twice in the third quarter.

Chilliwack Interagency Response Team (CIRT) - Situation Table

The City received a grant to train Chilliwack Situation Table members alongside Pacific Community Resources Society. Training included model diagnostics, community mobilization, and mentor development. This aims to enhance effectiveness and increase referrals to the Table.

Shop Talk and Situation Table (CIRT) Statistic

Both tables met regularly to discuss vulnerable individuals with high risks in the community and opportunities for connections to service.

A total of 42 referrals were made to Shop Talk, and 18 to the Situation Table.

Shop Talk Q3	42
Females	12
Males	30
< 20	0
20's	8
30's	12
40's	17
50's	3
70's	2
Indigenous	12
Substances	40
Mental Health	42
Cognitive	21

CIRT Q1- Q3	
Files Generated	18
Rejected	1
Dwelling	1
Family	2
Individuals	14
Females	9
Males	7
<20	6
20s	1
30s	5
40s	3
50+	1

Crime Prevention Services (Downtown Community Policing Office)

The new Business Watch Program was launched in partnership with the RCMP this quarter to support crime prevention, improved communication with and amongst merchants, increased reporting, crime prevention education, and target hardening based on a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) evaluation of participating businesses. During this quarter, seven businesses have confirmed participation, with 13 more considering the program. The first newsletter will be sent out this fall, containing information relating to cybercrime prevention.



SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



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Chilliwack Social Research Planning Council

A new micro-grant program was under development this quarter. The grants will fund local research addressing issues in Chilliwack, aligning with strategic community goals. An application guide and form will be ready for release this winter.

Housing First Task Team (HFTT)

The team met monthly this quarter to discuss housing related matters, as well as opportunities and challenges within the community as it relates to social issues and homelessness.

Opportunities:

- Reaching Home funding for peer gardening programs at RainCity Yale and Tretheway sites.
- Increased counselling services for children and youth through Chilliwack Youth Health Council.

Challenges:

- Discharge from hospital to shelter without adequate beds or health supports. Staff are continuing to follow up on reports with the hospitals and health authorities
- Emergency Weather Response (EWR): Previously located at the United Church. A working group was formed to plan additional winter beds for 2024, discussing potential sites, capacity, BC Housing (BCH) funding, security, and staffing.

Events/Meetings

Wellness Centre

Fraser Health staff toured the Wellness Centre. Discussions continued this quarter regarding a long term Wellness Centre site.

Vulnerable Populations Meeting

A meeting was held to discuss community needs with Fraser Health staff and local service providers, focusing on complex care, substance use in older adults, wound care in shelters, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Teams, trauma counseling, and low-barrier housing.

Seniors Clinic

Collaboration with the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction and Canadian Revenue Agency (CRA) took place to host a Seniors Clinic, helping seniors access CPP, ID services, tax filing, and ensure payment accuracy.

Dance in Motion Event

This event was held at the Cultural Centre in July, organized by the Community Action Team with the objective of breaking barriers and combating stigma.

Elders Panel

Hosted at Stó:lō First Nation in September to present information regarding the City's Social Development Department and the Point in Time Count.

Phoenix Society Rowat Project Tour

A tour of the complex care/supportive housing/shelter construction site took place in August. BC Housing has indicated an expected opening date of May 2025.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT



REACHING HOME

Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (HICC) is currently working on extending Chilliwack's Reaching Home (RH) contract to 2028. Approval is currently sitting with the Treasury Board and is anticipated this fall.

2024-2025 Sub-Projects:

Coordinated Community Outreach recorded 3,710 unique visits and a total of 677 referrals for participants between April 1 and September 30.

Chilliwack District Seniors' Resources Society (CDSRS) Prevention and Diversion project provided 92 seniors with food hampers and 9 seniors with housing supports between April 1 and September 30.

Wilma's Transition Society Prevention and Diversion project supported 29 individuals and families with financial assistance to ensure they remained housed.

Pacific Community Resources Society (PCRS) Case Management Services (Housing Hub) currently manages 28 housing units. There are 2 full-time and two-part time staff, supporting 45 individuals with dependents.

The total funding for these projects is \$786,088, which together with the Point in Time Count, aim to enhance service delivery that better supports individuals experiencing homelessness.

Sub-project monitors completed in September to ensure each project was following contractual obligations. Each project has been performing effectively and is on track to be fully spent by the end of March 2025.

Point in Time (PiT) count - A PiT count is designed to assess homelessness at the community level. Staff organized the 2024 federally mandated PiT count, forming a committee in the spring that met monthly to plan various activities, including:

- Opening and Closing Ceremony with an Indigenous focus to open and close the count in a good way for the staff, community and individuals experiencing homelessness;
- A full day magnet event that featured a variety of one-stop services and the opportunity to complete surveys.
- An evening enumeration conducted by outreach and front line service providers.

The PiT count aims to enhance service delivery and support for individuals experiencing homelessness. Over 75 staff from 20 agencies participated in the count. Enumeration and survey results are anticipated later this Winter.

Coordinated Access

Staff are collaborating with BC Housing (BCH) and Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (HICC) to address homelessness at both local and provincial levels.

A local working group was created to test the HIFIS (Homeless Individuals and Families Information System) to ensure it meets the needs of service providers and participants. Feedback from the testing has been provided to BCH, to inform them of improvements to the system that may be needed, ahead of implementation. Agencies that participated in the working group included Cyrus Centre, Salvation Army, Ruth and Naomi's Mission, Pacific Community Resources Society, Wilma's Transition Society, and the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

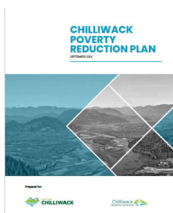
CHILLIWACK HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

Regular CHC Partner and Task Team Meetings

During the third quarter, CHC Partner meetings were held on July 23 and September 24. The CHC Coordinator remained actively engaged with various task teams and working groups, including Healthy Aging, Opening Doors, Housing First, Chilliwack Food Council, the Sexuality and Gender Equity Working Group, and the Chilliwack Child and Youth Committee. The CHC Steering Committee and the Poverty Reduction Task Team paused their meetings over the summer.

New Addition to the CHC Partnership: *Streams Foundation Canada*, a volunteer-led, non-profit organization dedicated to community building, wellness, and support for marginalized individuals; joined the collaborative table.

Poverty Reduction Plan (PRP) Finalized: The Poverty Reduction Plan has been officially completed, with key presentations delivered at the CHC Partner Meeting and the Regular City Council Meeting on September 24, 2024. The Poverty Reduction Task Team will reconvene in November to strategize their trajectory.



Sexuality and Gender Equity (SAGE)

Resource Brochure Nears Completion: The brochure has entered its final production phase, with printing and a website launch slated for the fourth quarter.

Aging Well Expo Preparations on Track:

Scheduled for October 17th, the Aging Well Expo will feature over 40 exhibitors, including 16

sponsors, offering resources and services tailored to older adults. This free event will include seven workshops, and a pancake breakfast for attendees.



Working Group Logo: The Healthy Aging Task Team was the first CHC team to adopt an autonomous logo, aimed at strengthening its brand identity, while clearly identifying the group as a dedicated working group of CHC.



Support for Seniors Newsletter: The 2024 Fall and Winter edition of the Support for Seniors in Chilliwack newsletter was released.

Website Refresh: The CHC website's resources page was updated to improve user experience and accessibility.

Free Food Programs in Chilliwack: Updates to the Free Food Programs in Chilliwack resource material is complete. Both print and digital versions will be available in early October.

Opening Doors Task Team (ODTT) Initiative: A raffle opportunity was created to encourage community participation in activities celebrating the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The CHC/CYC Weekly Mailout served as a vehicle to share this opportunity with subscribers. Prizes were donated by members of ODTT.

Truth and Reconciliation Week 2024
September 23 to 27

Information and Networking Events (INE):

Planning and theme development for the upcoming INE was solidified. The event will focus on mental wellness for service providers, emphasizing key strategies for maintaining well-being and effectiveness in their roles.

