

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY DRUG STRATEGY FOR THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2025

TIME: 2:30 TO 4:00 P.M.

FORMAT: *IN-PERSON*: PUBLIC HEALTH SUDBURY & DISTRICTS RAMSEY ROOM (MAIN FLOOR), 1300 PARIS STREET

Co-Chairs: Heidi Eisenhauer, Executive Director, Réseau Access Network
Mustafa Hirji, Acting Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer, Public Health Sudbury & Districts

Present: **Canadian Mental Health Association Sudbury/Manitoulin:**

Patty MacDonald, Chief Executive Officer

City of Greater Sudbury:

Brendan Adair, Acting General Manager, Community Development

Health Sciences North:

David McNeil, Chief Executive Officer

Greater Sudbury Police Service (GSPS):

Sara Cunningham, Chief of Police

Réseau Access Network

Amber Fritz, Manager of Outreach & Education

Heidi Eisenhauer, Executive Director

Person with Lived and Living Experience

Nick Yawney

Public Health Sudbury & Districts (PHSD):

Mustafa Hirji, Acting Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

Alexandra Sirois, Interim Program Manager, Community Drug Strategy, Toxic Drug Crisis and Mental Health Promotion

Stacey Gilbeau, Director, Health Promotion and Vaccine Preventable Diseases

Regrets: Nicole Nicholas-Bayer, Principal of Indigenous Engagement, Rainbow District School Board
Dr. Emily Groot, Associate Medical Officer of Health, Public Health Sudbury & Districts

Recorder: Anna Ranger, Administrative Assistant, Public Health Sudbury & Districts

#	Item	Description of Outcome	Individual Responsible for Further Action and Deadline
1.0	Call TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. by Dr. Hirji.	
2.0	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	Attendees were welcomed, and introductions were made. A moment of silence was observed to honor and reflect on those lost within our community.	
3.0	TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	A. Sirois acknowledged the ancestral Indigenous territory on which the meeting was held.	
4.0	REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA	The agenda was reviewed and approved as presented.	

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5.0	REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 3, 2024	The minutes from the previous meetings were shared for reference and approved as circulated.	
6.0	DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST	No conflicts of interest were identified.	
7.0	SUCSESSES AND LESSONS LEARNED	<p>A Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hub was approved for Sudbury, and statistics have remained stable over the past year. The Federal Government has allocated funding to the City of Greater Sudbury to address adult and youth homelessness.</p> <p>P. MacDonald will send the quarterly Rapid Mobilization Table (RMT) report to M. Tessier, who will then share it with the committee members.</p>	P. MacDonald M. Tessier
8.0	BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES		
8.1	Terms of Reference – <i>Executive Committee</i>	Due to recent membership growth, the Terms of Reference were reviewed and approved during the meeting.	
8.2	Committee Membership	<p>People With Lived/Living Experience (PWLLE) and Indigenous representatives now actively contribute to the committee, with N. Yawney and N. Nicholas-Bayer joining the team.</p> <p>A question was raised regarding the decision to limit Executive Committee membership to 12 individuals and to have a single seat for Indigenous representation. It was highlighted that the Terms of Reference were developed with the goal of maintaining a smaller, more focused membership to enhance effectiveness. It was also noted that the composition of the membership can be revisited at the next meeting, should it be deemed necessary.</p>	
8.3	CDS EC HART Hub letter of support	A letter of support was prepared by Public Health Sudbury & Districts on behalf of the Community Drug Strategy to advocate for the establishment of a HART Hub. The primary location is on Lorraine Street (Notre Dame and Lasalle) with construction expected to be completed in March. Additional funding will support a downtown location yet to be determined.	

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9.0	NEW BUSINESS		
9.1	Engagement and effectiveness of the CDS streams	<p>Several CDS streams have struggled with engagement and effectiveness, particularly the wrap-around supports stream, which currently lacks a co-chair.</p> <p>Despite recruitment efforts, no replacement has been found. Given the critical role of wrap-around supports and housing, committee members are encouraged to identify potential candidates from relevant organizations. A written request for interest will be circulated.</p> <p>It was suggested that the committee focus on one or two key priorities from the Summit to enhance impact.</p>	
9.2	Evaluation of the new CDS structure	The annual evaluation of the CDS, as outlined in the Terms of Reference, is recommended to be postponed until participation and attendance in CDS streams improve.	
9.3	Funding for CDS projects	Stream co-chairs have enquired about funding mechanisms for CDS-related initiatives. While the CDS itself does not have dedicated funding, organizations across all levels of the CDS network may collaborate to support initiatives that align with shared priorities. To facilitate this, a standardized template for submitting requests and project briefs will be shared, encouraging streams to bring forward proposals for consideration by the Steering Committee.	
9.4	Winter months/encampments support	The number of encampments has decreased from 49 in the summer to just over 20, with nearly 200 individuals currently residing in them. Concerns were raised regarding garbage and recycling removal at the encampment sites due to public health risks. Members also discussed challenges faced by individuals transitioning from emcampments into housing.	
10.0	STANDING ITEMS		
10.1	CDS Steering Committee Report	The steering committee met on December 17 and identified ongoing recruitment needs.	

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		<p>The health promotion stream has two co-chairs, though one is serving in an interim capacity. Three working groups are actively addressing priorities.</p> <p>The wrap-around supports stream has struggled due to the absence of a co-chair.</p> <p>The substance use care stream has established three working groups and is developing a statement on evidence-informed services and treatment impacts.</p> <p>Updates were made to the drug surveillance dashboard to reflect broader drug toxicity data since 2018.</p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for mid-March.</p>	
10.1	CONSENT AGENDA		
10.1	Drug Warnings/Alerts	A meeting of northern harm reduction organizations focused on improving drug alert response coordination. PHSD will work with partners to enhance efficiencies in this process.	
11.0	ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES	<p>Outreach workers continue to receive and respond to drug alerts at encampments.</p> <p>A network of contacts supports data collection, leading to timely alert issuance.</p> <p>Réseau Access Network distributes drug test kits, and the Community Safety and Wellbeing Advisory is now under Mayor P. Lefebvre's oversight to streamline community efforts.</p>	
12.0	NEXT MEETING	A call out for the next meeting date will be sent by M. Tessier.	M. Tessier
13.0	ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned at 3:42 p.m.	