

**MINUTES**

**RURAL COMMUNITY OF FUNDY SHORES**

**COMMUNITY CENTER, MALCOLM MEEHAN ROAD, MUSQUISH, NB**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY – MAY 31, 2023, AT 6:00 PM**

**CO-CHAIRS: DEANNA BENT & TBD**

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1. Welcome - Call to Order
2. Roll Call
  - Present:** Deanna Bent, Deanna Vlug, Tina Dealy, Linda Ellis Thompson, Mike Gerrits, Jack Hester, Roxanne Oliver
  - Absent:** Lorrienne Reichelt, Jeannie Kryviak, Heather Saulnier, Laverne Mitchell, Courtney Gillis, Marion St. Pierre
  - Guests:** Heather Chase
3. Disclosure Conflict of Interest - None
4. Agenda and Minutes Approval - No issue
5. Correspondence - N/A
6. Presentations - CHNA (Community Health Needs Assessment) – Heather Chase
  - Community Health Needs Assessment is an opportunity for community representatives and residents from several neighboring municipalities to come together to look at data, share knowledge, learn from each other, and assess the health and wellbeing of local population groups. As a group we felt that we would definitely like to be part of the CHNA being conducted in region 10. It would aid us in prioritizing our efforts were they are most required, and it would give us hard statistical data to use when applying for grants in the future.
7. Business
  - Discussed some of the priorities as defined by the RSC Community Relations Committee on May 13, 2023.
    - Make investments through a new social finance fund to increase the capacity and

sustainability of social enterprises within non-profit organizations in New Brunswick (CINable Community Inclusion Networks).

A **social enterprise** is an organization that applies commercial strategies to maximize improvements in financial, social and environmental well-being. This may include maximizing social impact alongside profits for co-owners.

We briefly discussed that we need to review what is in the community to see what could be available.

- Improve access and reducing wait times for mental health and addictions services (CINable). We felt that is a concern in our community. We felt that we should educate the community on what services are currently available before tackling new ones.
  - a. Virtual and in-person services that are currently available:
    - i. If a person presents at one of our rural hospitals in mental distress, the staff can connect to a mental health care profession from the Regional Hospital.
    - ii. By phone, Talk Suicide Canada – for people thinking about or affected by suicide, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week: 1-833-456-4566 | or text 45645 from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m.
    - iii. One-at-a-time therapy, also known as single session therapy, is now offered at all community addictions and mental health clinics. The services are offered to walk-in clients or by appointment, either virtually or in person for people 16 and older. In the appointment, which may last an hour, a specific, client-focused, strength-based approach is used to deal with the issue the individual wants to address. The new service is not designed for emergencies or for people who are experiencing a mental health crisis. She said community mental health clinics continue to offer more intensive services for those who need them.
    - iv. eVisitNB for all medical health issues. Video, phone or messaging consultation for common illnesses, injuries and mental health concerns. Registration is open from 8 am to 8 pm, 7 days a week. This service is covered with a valid NB Medicare card.
    - v. Patient Connect is used to determine the requirements of a municipality. Residents are encouraged to register.

**ACTION:** Deanna to work with Heather Chase to get some quick reference material together for the community for people in need.

- Develop or expand existing school food programs at all schools in the region. Currently our community has one school with a food program supported by a number of local stakeholders. It is an important service and should be periodically monitored for effectiveness to retain it effectiveness and adapt to changing requirements.
- Economic Security & Employment – we held a short discussion on what is

presently in the community.

- Transportation – develop and implement regional transportation plans to increase accessibility, affordability and availability of transportation services. We felt that this is one of the priorities/challenges experienced in our community and one we should focus on. We briefly discussed ride shares, buses, and purchasing cars for borrowing.
  - Discussed the difficulty getting information to and feedback from the community in relation to the clinic survey. We require all to relay the information and gather feedback to the committee because there does not appear to be any one way to reach all demographics.
  - A list of possible initiatives was discussed:
    - Distribute low dose aspirin in small vials with the name Fundy Shores on it to start our rebranding and ensure our residents have the health benefit for themselves or others.
    - Complete a directory of all services to post on our website and make available in hard copy for community members who do not access internet.
    - Have magnetic envelopes made for residents' refrigerators to contain important health information for first responders and family members should they become unresponsive.
    - Regular Community meal. Possibly join with local groups.
    - Reactivate our food bank and communicate its location and hours for residents. Many residents were unaware that there was one in the community.
    - Have a sturdy, attractive bulletin board constructed to hold information from residents, groups, businesses to be located in our community hub when it is established.
  - Next meeting, we will establish a list of initiatives for our long-term goals.
8. Adjournment
9. Future Meeting:
- Tuesday, June 20, 2023 (pending availability of community center)