Text, whiteboard

Description automatically generated

**MINUTES**

**Seniors, Elders & Advocates Committee (SEA)**

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 3:15pm through Zoom

**Present:** Anne C, Daniel, Deborah, Kya, Anne P, Vera, Annie Dan, Norreen, Farren, Lora, Myra, Sandra, Cylia Cynthia, Ben

**Opening Prayer and Land Acknowledgment:** Anne Prince

**COVID Assessment Project –** Cynthia (Emily and Ben)

* A Britannia COVID-19 response program evaluation to assess the impact of the community in the months following the initial outbreak
* Connections made with the SEA committee to collect relevant data needed, not only through an advocates lense but through an Indigenous one as well
* Asking for any other recommendations as an Elder, Senior and community member for crisis response plans grounded in community resilience
* Project End Goal – from now until April 2021 – Community participation of stories, sharing and visual components. A report of data, stats and those sharings will be sent to the COV along with recommendations of what the City should be able to provide in the future
* SEA members to contact Cynthia, Ben or Emily if interested in participating in discussions, interviews, and focus groups;
  + Project Supervisor [cynthia.low@vancouver.ca](mailto:cynthia.low@vancouver.ca) 604-831-6815
  + Practicum Researcher [blicks07@student.ubc.ca](mailto:blicks07@student.ubc.ca) 1-301-512-4121
  + Community Researcher [emilyirenelomax@gmail.com](mailto:emilyirenelomax@gmail.com)

**Programs and Updates;**

* WOCT
  + Drum Circle switched from in person to solely virtual for remainder of the year due to Provincial Guidelines
  + Online Change of Seasons Gathering/Winter Celebration being brainstormed
  + Other virtual classes and drop-ins still very active and running well
* HATTA
  + Zoom link is being switched from Arts + Health link to an open WOCT link. Still on Thursday afternoons
  + This set is returning participants, next set will be opened again to majority new participants
  + Last Class date for holidays is Dec 17 then picking up again Jan 7-28
  + In works with A+H Gathering for Dancing our Hats to Life with past sets who were not able to have a Showcase Gala due to shut down. Hoping for the New Year based on restrictions then
  + Request to collaborate with Todd on Graduation Hats for past participants
* Kith & Kin
  + Started the pilot Nov 17 with participants and staff - Vera as cultural support, Daniel as technical support, Noreen and Emily as librarians, Susanne and Min from Archives Canada
  + Vera and Ariel have invited Sabian, Todd and Myra to participate and share their work/crafts for a presentation
* WebEx Training
  + COV is requiring all Online Programming be moved from Zoom to WebEx
  + WebEx is a higher security program and is being integrated with current COV programs such as ActvieNet and Outlook
  + Friday Zoom Hang-outs will now be WebEx Training sessions with Elders, Seniors, and 55+ Staff who are interested in getting a head start
  + Feedback is highly recommended to put in a possible report to send to the COV in regards to Elders and Seniors being forced to switch platforms
  + Britannia will wait to implement WebEx regularly until a reliable user friendly version is up, running, and available
* Centre Closures
  + All in person programs are put on hold or have been cancelled until Nov 23 due to Provincial Orders
  + Will update on any and all changes once available
* Poppy Fundraising
  + Craft Collective fundraising for supplies and Indigenous Veterans with felt and beaded poppies
  + Final total will be tallied and divided accordingly between Craft Collective and Indigenous Veterans
  + A Vancity Bank Branch Head put in $500 order – are expected to order again for other Branches next year
  + Connections have been made with Veterans Canada
* Quirk-e
  + Zoom meetings once a week – will continue to meet throughout the holidays due to COVID restrictions and feelings on isolation
  + Due to meet Dec 22 11-1pm – to combine this with SEA committee members to share in what each group has been doing during this time in a Holiday Gathering

**Additions;**

* Craft Collective
  + Projects created to help fundraise for Non-profits or supplies for future projects
  + Craft Fair Dec 5th with Britannia Arts and Culture table request – access needed for sellable crafts that used to be in the AML (now are in Info Centre)
  + Table request for a shared table or for an individual artist? Concerns of possible “Burn-out”
  + A table can still be set up by 55+ staff and Arts and Culture to advertise current 55+ projects and programs in lieu of a selling table.
  + A Poll will be placed on Weaving Our Community Together Facebook page to ask on a hard Yes or No of selling table. Will be closed by Friday Nov 20
  + Second Poll on WOCT FB Page for Day/Time change of monthly Craft Collective Meetings
* Open slot in agenda will always be made available for Deborah Cook, in terms of sitting in our meetings/programs to bring back to her territory as reference. Any and all feedback is appreciated in this great connection.

**Next SEA Meeting:** December 16th 2020 3:15pm via Zoom

BRITANNIA COVID-19 RESPONSE

***A research project carried out on the unceded x*ʷ*m*ə*θk*ʷə*y*̓ə*m (Musqueam), s*ə*l’ilw*ə*ta*ʔɬ *(Tsleil-Waututh) and Skwxwu*́*m7mesh (Squamish) territories.***

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This Britannia COVID-19 Response Program evaluation aims to assess the impact of the grassroots and mutual aid facilitated through the community centre in the six months following the outbreak of COVID-19 in Vancouver. Our study holds up the experiences of program volunteers, community centre staff, and recipients of program services **to understand what community resilience can become in the face of mounting crises.** In doing so, we aim to identify what makes the Britannia community particularly resilient and how these foundations can inform city-wide emergency preparedness going forward.

We are curious about both the numbers and the stories behind them. A quantitative analysis will give us a comprehensive understanding of what Britannia’s response program was able to provide for the community during the city-wide shutdown. In our final report, we’ll present these statistics to the community and to the city, demonstrating the importance of what was done and recommending steps towards a crisis response plan grounded in community resilience.

The qualitative inquiry will consist of conversations with people who helped out on both sides of the program – staff and volunteers who helped provide essential services and the recipients of those services. Community voices shared in these conversations will guide our writing of the final report.

**RESEARCH TEAM**

Ben Lickerman

*Practicum Researcher*

*+1 (301) 512-4121*

[*blicks97@student.ubc.ca*](mailto:blicks97@student.ubc.ca)

Emily Lomax

*Community Researcher* [*emilyirenelomax@gmail.com*](mailto:emilyirenelomax@gmail.com)

Cynthia Low

*Project Supervisor*

*+1 (604) 831-6815*

[*cynthia.low@vancouver.ca*](mailto:cynthia.low@vancouver.ca)

*If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to chat, don’t hesitate to call!*

**PROJECT TIMELINE**

**PROJECT TIMELINE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **November 2020** | * **Introduction to the SEA committee** * **Emily begins quantitative data collection** |
| **December 2020** | * **Ben completes a review of relevant literature** * **Interviews and focus groups are scheduled** |
| **January 2021** | **- Ben hosts interviews and focus group discussions** |
| **February 2021** | * **Ben continues interviews and focus group discussions** * **Emily and Ben compile quantitative & qualitative reports** |
| **March 2021** | **- Draft reports given back to project participants for approval and**  **feedback** |
| **April 2021** | * **Community-facing and City-facing reports are completed.** * **Research is presented at UBC and to the Britannia community** |

**IMPACT TODAY**

For each of us, these past eight months have been challenging in our personal and communal lives. Too rare are those moments where we’re invited to pause, to breathe, to reflect and share our experience of these rapid changes. Among its many ties to Britannia and UBC, **we hope that this research project holds space first and foremost for community members to share what it is they want to us to carry forward from this tumultuous time.**

**IMPACT TOMORROW**

The renewed safety protocols rolled out last week remind us that this crisis is far from over, that we’ll be living its effects many generations from now. We take seriously our responsibility to ensure that our children are better prepared for the next emergency than we were for this one.

**When we listen well to the wisdom of our lived experience, together, we become a more resilient community.**

**COMPASS CONSIDERATIONS**

**Throughout the research process, we hold ourselves accountable to your guidance and leadership.** We are drafting a set of questions that we’ll be returning to from now until April that will keep us on the right track. These will be typed up and sent to SEA committee members following our initial introductions.