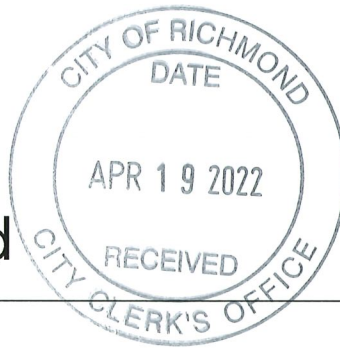




City of Richmond



TO: MAYOR & EACH COUNCILLOR FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Memorandum Planning and Development Division Community Social Development

To: Mayor and Councillors Date: April 13, 2022
From: Kim Somerville Director, Community Social Development File: 08-4057-11-01/2022-Vol 01
Re: 2021/2022 Warming Centre Update

The purpose of this memo is to update City Council regarding the South Arm Warming Centre, which provided support to Richmond residents experiencing homelessness during the 2021/2022 winter season.

Warming Centre

Between December 2021 and March 31, 2022, the City supported the operation of Richmond's first warming centre, which was operated by The Salvation Army and located at the South Arm Outdoor Pool building. The warming centre provided basic accommodation and ensured people experiencing homelessness could access a warm space during the winter season. The warming centre operated between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. during periods of extreme cold weather.

The warming centre provided an important resource that supported some of Richmond's most vulnerable residents. It operated for a total of 30 nights and supported 171 clients between December 2021 and March 31, 2022. The highest number of clients per night was 13 people. 87% of shelter clients were men and 13% were women.

Related Initiatives

The City continues to work in partnership to increase services for people experiencing homelessness. For example:

- The City is working in partnership with BC Housing to support the Bridgeport Supportive Housing development, which will provide 40 homes for Richmond residents and is scheduled to open in summer 2022; and
The City continues to support the operation of the Richmond House Shelter. BC Housing recently increased its operational funding for the facility to enable an increase in shelter capacity from 30 to 45 year-round shelter spaces from April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.

City staff are completing initial planning activities for winter shelter services for the 2022/2023 winter season. More information will be provided to City Council when available. For more information regarding City initiatives related to homelessness, please contact Valerie Watson, Program Lead, Homelessness at 604-276-4243 or the undersigned.

Kim Somerville
Director, Community Social Development
(604-247-4671)

pc: SMT
Valerie Watson, Program Lead, Homelessness

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APR 19 2022

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