

310 Division Street Community Liaison Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: September 2, 2025

Time: 5pm- 7pm

Location: 600 William St Cobourg, Boardroom

Attendees:

Facilitators:

- Chloe Craig, CLC Co-chair
- Beth Bellaire, CLC Chair

Community Members:

- Sheri Syer
- Liz Greaves
- Rob James
- Daniel Gaito
- Erisa Katono

County Representatives:

- Rebecca Carman

Delegates:

- Ike Nwibe, Executive Director, Transition House (virtual)
- Kim Wilkinson, Community Paramedics
- Chris Challenger, Town of Cobourg (virtual)

Regrets:

- Kim Gay
- Bill Smith, County Representative
- Cathy White
- Carolyn Rutherford, Community Health Centres of Northumberland
- Jennifer Bogart, DBIA
- Janice MacDonald, Cobourg Police Services
- Shawn Senecal, Northumberland Hills Hospital Community Mental Health

Guest:

- Blythe Elliot

Meeting called to Order

- Chair welcomed all and called the meeting to order

Land Acknowledgement

- Chloe Craig provided the land acknowledgment

Acceptance of CLC member resignations and Selection of new Secretary

- Member resignations to date: Bob LeDrew, Brenda Whitehead, Kendra Simmons, Hillary Allen, and Kim Gay
- Sheri Syer will take on the role of secretary

Meeting Objectives & Agenda Overview

- Previous minutes from August 5, 2025 were approved
- Agenda was reviewed and approved

Guest

- Blythe Elliot, the ECE By-law Compliance Coordinator, introduced herself and gave an overview of her role.

Shelter Updates

- 31 in shelter as of today
- 7 employed since last meeting
- 1 in training
- 2 in treatment
- 1 ID secured
- 1 housed
- 1 established on income supports
- Credit is posing a problem when accessing housing - credit score being required
- UFCW and Transition House have reached an agreement

County Updates

Shelter Model Updates

- The County is undergoing restructuring. Bill is taking on an expanded role as Manager of Homelessness and Housing, and Lisa Martin has been promoted to a supervisory role.
- Recruiting for two new contact positions for outreach workers
- New Service Model: The County is implementing a new model for 310 focused on low-to-moderate acuity individuals. A new, non-medical intake process will use a detailed checklist for eligibility and safety assessments.
- A significant decrease in ECE calls related to 310 was noted since the service model changed in July.
- The ECE license renewal is due by November 8th. The county and Transition House are working to submit their applications by the end of the month.
- Shelter occupancy is at 80-90%. There is a strong consensus that capacity will be exceeded soon due to colder weather and the lack of a warming hub, creating an urgent need for an overflow plan.
- Fourth Floor Housing: Moving more people into the fourth-floor transitional units is on hold pending the new service model rollout and finalization of an updated fire safety plan. Presently, there are around five occupants

- o Still looking for a warming space outside of Cobourg (Will need the space and transportation to and from)
- o CLC new member applications still in progress (5 businesses applied, 10 residents)
- o New Community Paramedicine outreach program started today (will initially operate 12:30-4:30 Tuesdays and Fridays).

Council Updates

- No updates

Community Feedback & Group Education

- No new emails to report on

- **Discussion Points:**

- Delegation to Social Services Committee planned for October 1; oral presentation with possible PowerPoint. Beth and Chloe will present.
- Beth will investigate possibility of having a presentation from Public Health and PARN on the topic of street drugs in Northumberland; Cobourg police will be asked to provide any relevant police stats
- CLC Role, Effectiveness, and Administration
 - o A critical review of the CLC's purpose was undertaken, clarifying its role as a conduit to the 310 Division facility. Beth and Chloe thanked Ike for his work and will arrange a time to meet with him before he leaves on the 19th.
 - o Members acknowledged the difficult, reactive environment and expressed a desire to ensure the CLC provides real value.
 - o With direct complaints about 310 having quieted, the committee sees an opportunity for more proactive and positive community engagement.
 - o At the October meeting, the committee will review its official Terms of Reference to ensure its work aligns with its mandate.
- New Community Concern - Sex Trade: A member raised a concern about a visible increase in street-level sex trade activity, noting its connection to drug use and the need for targeted intervention.

Subcommittee Updates:

- o **Subcommittee – Communications**
A meeting to be set up with Kate (County Communications), Erisa, Rob, Chloe and Beth to develop a communications plan for the CLC (including newsletter and Facebook page protocols).
- o **Subcommittee – Education and Awareness**
Poverty Simulation Event planning continues. The committee is planning a "poverty simulation" or "day-in-the-life" event, inspired by a Peterborough project, to be held at a public venue like the farmer's market. The goal is to "bust myths" and build public empathy

regarding homelessness, connecting it back to supporting 310. Carolyn will be asked to forward Education and Awareness Subcommittee notes to all members of the CLC

o **Subcommittee – Safety**

Need to finalize and distribute the "Working Together for a Safe Community" document; it needs to be made more positive and clear and it needs to be reviewed in light of recent changes to the model

Unfinished Business

● **Forward Member Bios:**

- If you haven't already, locate and forward your one-sentence member bio to Chloe or Beth for collation and posting/distribution before next meeting.

Final Discussion & Next Steps

Chris Challenger announced his new role and noted there would be a new CLC representative. Chris was thanked for his contributions to the CLC

Closing Remarks & Adjournment

- Acknowledgement and thanks to everyone
- Next meeting October 7, 2025