



# City of Kamloops news release

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May 16, 2007

## **City of Kamloops begins public consultations to develop Social Plan**

Kamloops, BC – Like every community, Kamloops needs to address social issues and build local, provincial and national support for the social well-being of Kamloops residents.

With the goal of prioritizing what needs to be done and when, the City of Kamloops engaged the Social Planning & Research Council of BC to develop a social plan, a process which is currently underway.

“All levels of government and many community agencies share the responsibility for addressing the social challenges we face,” says Ron McColl, the City’s manager responsible for social planning. “The goal of this process is to identify the social needs of the community and a means to address them,” adds McColl.

Over the next few weeks, the City is hosting a series of public workshops to discuss the nature and scope of the challenges facing Kamloops. These workshops will focus on twenty-one social service elements which were identified as priority issues at a workshop held earlier this year.

### **Housing & Homelessness**

**May 23, 2007. 6:30 – 9:30 pm.**

Henry Grube Education Centre, Room 1A  
245 Kitchener Crescent

- Supportive Housing – not emergency shelters
- Affordable housing – market housing, social housing, seniors, people with difficulties/barriers
- Emergency shelter beds – youths, adults, women fleeing abuse

### **Safe Places, Alternative Transportation & Environmental Health**

**May 24, 2007. 6:30 – 9:30 pm.**

Henry Grube Education Centre, Room 1A  
245 Kitchener Crescent

- Safe public spaces through neighbourhood revitalization, parks, buildings & streets
- Alternative transportation options
- Environmental health

### **Youth Issues**

**May 28, 2007. 6:30 – 9:30 pm.**

Sports Action Lounge, Interior Savings Centre  
300 Lorne Street

- Youth crime prevention
- Life skills training for youths and youth employment programs
- Outreach services for youths

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**Building Social Agencies & Community Capacity**

**May 29, 2007. 6:30 – 9:30 pm.**

Sports Action Lounge, Interior Savings Centre  
300 Lorne Street

- Communication and cooperation between the multiple agencies delivering local services
- Building social enterprises and social agency capacity
- Food security – emergency food & food production capacity

**Children & Families**

**June 4, 2007. 6:30 – 9:30 pm.**

Henry Grube Education Centre, Room 1A  
245 Kitchener Crescent

- Working with parents with addictions to keep children out of care, and supporting children in care
- Access to child care
- Initiatives to improve social services for children under 6
- Programs and strategies to reduce family violence

**Health & Addictions**

**June 5, 2007. 6:30 – 9:30 pm.**

Henry Grube Education Centre, Room 1A  
245 Kitchener Crescent

- Initiatives to deal with drugs & drug related crime
- Treatment beds & supportive services for people transitioning out of treatment
- Increased mental health outreach workers and health support for people with mental illnesses/disabilities
- Programs & strategies to address the sex trade and related issues

Residents of Kamloops are invited to participate in these workshops, and no pre-registration is required.

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