

Health and the Built Environment



Presented by Pam Moore: Interior Health – Health Protection

Chronic Disease

- Prolonged conditions that often do not improve and are rarely cured completely, e.g., diabetes, depression, congestive heart failure, hepatitis and asthma
- Approximately one in four British Columbians have been diagnosed with one or more chronic diseases.
- Over 25% of children are either overweight or obese. First generation that 'will not outlive their parents

Chronic Disease & Injuries in BC

Chronic Diseases:

- Cancers and cardiovascular disease (CVD) represent over 50% of the annual 30,033 deaths in BC.

Injuries:

- Unintentional injuries are the fourth leading cause of death in BC, after cancers, CVD, and cerebrovascular diseases.

Cost of Chronic Disease & Injuries in BC

- CVD, cancer and diabetes account for 10.3% of the health care budget—or about \$1.28 billion.
- The total direct cost of injuries reaches \$852 million annually.

HISTORY

- Review of land use proposals – onsite sewage and drinking water



Review of land use proposals with a population health lens

Environment
air and water quality
noise

Housing
Social wellness

Access and inclusion
mental health & disability



Healthy Child Development

Injury prevention

Physical activity
transportation
recreation

Nutrition & food security

How to support planners

- “Planners get it”
- Pressure both externally and internally in bringing the HBE message forward

Pressures

- Lack of understanding by the public and/or council
- Interdepartmental pressure
- Bill 27 and Climate Action Charter

Bill 27 & Climate Action Charter

- Targets action in five areas:
 - Land use
 - Fuel Efficient Fleets
 - Community Buildings
 - Infrastructure
 - Transportation

Land Use

- Create compact development
- Centered – amenities close by
- Complete – mixed land uses
- Connected

Tools

- Plans – OCP, RGS, transportation plan
- Policies – density bonusing, DCC, fast tracking

Transportation

- Shaping street patterns, transportation choices, and distance driven
- Link sustainable land use and transportation planning –for all modes- walking/cycling, driving, transit – neighborhood, community and regional level

Tools

- Plans – OCP, RGS, transportation plans
- Policies- anti –idle bylaw, zoning bylaw

The Questions

- How can health professionals support planners to move the healthy built environment forward?
- What mechanisms could be successful?
- What health information would be beneficial for planners?

Kelowna OCP

- IHA input on the initial 8 sustainability goals developed
- No IHA comments included in the first OCP draft – comments generic – not helpful – benefit in house communication
- IHA developed position papers for some of the 7 topics including land use language
- IHA comments for each of the OCP Chapters – now targeting linking health and land use language together

Conclusion

- You talk in ‘a foreign language’
- Planning and health language - two separate languages
- Area of commonality is in the results

GOAL

“Health outcomes are part of every
land use discussion”