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*From the Office of the Medical Health Officer*

May 14, 2015

District of Squamish

Sarah McJannet  
Planner  
District of Squamish  
PO Box 310, 37955 Second Avenue  
Squamish, BC  
V8B 0A3

MAY 20 2015

RECEIVED

Dear Ms. McJannet,

**Re: VCH and District of Squamish Healthy Communities Collaboration Agreement 2015-2017**

Attached please find a fully executed Collaboration Agreement between Vancouver Coastal Health and the District of Squamish.

We look forward to working with the District of Squamish to collaboratively promote the health and wellness of the community through this partnership. The process of identifying priority areas and projects for the mutual benefit of both parties will commence in the coming weeks.

Thank you for your commitment to support individual and community health and well-being for the District of Squamish.

Yours truly,






Paul Martiquet, M.D.,C.M.,CCFP.,M.H.Sc.,FRCP(C)  
Medical Health Officer

Attach.

## VCH Healthy Communities Collaboration Agreement 2015-2017

<p><b>Background &amp; Rationale</b></p>	<p>According to a 2009 report from the Canadian Senate, some 10% of population health outcomes can be attributable to our physical or built environment with an additional 50% being related to social and economic determinants, many of which are deeply interconnected with environments.</p> <p>Evidence has also shown that local governments currently provide much of the essential social and physical infrastructure necessary to support individual and community health and well-being.</p> <p>With the growing levels of <b>preventable</b> chronic illness such as diabetes and obesity, both our health care system and our local governments have an interest in reducing these preventable diseases to improve the quality of life for residents and stop the rise in health care costs.</p> <p>In 2011, the Ministry of Health launched Healthy Families BC Communities<sup>1</sup> to promote partnerships between the health authorities and the communities within their regions to improve population health.</p>
<p><b>Common Purpose</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the partnership agreement is to promote the health and wellness of the community through:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Formalizing a collaborative relationship between VCH and the District of Squamish that achieves mutual objectives and builds on existing collaborations.</li> <li>b. To identify priority areas and projects and work together to address mutual benefits.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Potential Priority Areas for</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Healthy Built Environments (HBE)</b> – land use, neighbourhood design, housing, food systems, natural environment, and safe and active transportation, accessible facilities</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Food Security/Healthy Eating</b> - community gardens, community kitchens, urban agriculture, farmers markets, food banks, food</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> And Plan H <http://planh.ca/>

<p><b>Collaboration</b></p>	<p>policy, healthy eating guidelines in community facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Physical Activity &amp; Health Programming</b> - development of community based exercise programs, access to recreation opportunities and facilities, active transportation, opportunities for shared resources and incorporation of HBE guidelines</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Targeted Populations</b> - including but not limited to: seniors (eg Keep Fit Program, Men in Motion), individuals living with special needs, families with young children, new immigrants, youth)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Tobacco Reduction</b>- smoke free by-laws that include: parks, playgrounds, beaches, market and non-market housing, and e-cigarettes: public education pieces.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Means of Communication Priority Setting &amp; Reporting</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Engagement &amp; Frequency of meetings: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Project-specific meetings as required;</li> <li>b. Regular (quarterly) joint meetings between VCH and District of Squamish key contacts within Development Services (Planning, Environment, Transportation) &amp; Recreation Services</li> <li>c. Annual Special Meeting on Health – annual reporting and direction setting.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Other forms of communication: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. External Communication: The partners agree to provide press releases and other communications materials (e.g. press releases, website articles, publications, etc.) to one another prior to release.</li> <li>b. Internal Communication: Communication between VCH and DOS shall be directed through the designated contact persons.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<p><b>Staff Contacts</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>VCH:</b> Medical Health Officer: Dr. Paul Martiquet Chief Operating Officer (Coastal Community of Care): Mike Nader</li> <li>• <b>Local Government (District of Squamish):</b> Development Services (Sarah McJannet); Recreation (Tim Hoskin) Chief Administrative Officer: Ms. Corien Becker</li> </ul>
<p><b>Next Steps</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Squamish Learning Lab 2014/15 – Applying OCP Health Lens for next OCP Update;</li> <li>• Developing a 2 year work plan; schedule for annual special meetings on health, participant/contact list etc</li> </ul>
	<p>Signed this _____ day of _____ 2015;</p> <p> _____</p> <p>(VCH Chief Operating Officer)</p> <p> _____</p> <p>(Medical Health Officer)</p> <p> _____</p> <p>District of Squamish CAO</p>