

SUPPORTING SOCIAL PLANNING and ACTION in REVELSTOKE

Social Development Committee Meeting Minutes April 1, 2009

PRESENT: Anne Cooper, Cathy Girling, Tony Scarcella, Steve Bailey, Brian Sumner, Melodie Kindret, Mary Kline, John Yakielashek, Antoinette Halberstadt, Jane McNab, and Nelli Richardson.

STAFF: Jill Zacharias, Alan Mason and Debra Wozniak

REGRETS: Linda Chell, Elmer Shoji, Melissa Klages & Lory Borges

1. **Call to order** – Chair Nelli Richardson called the meeting to order at 8.35 am

2. **Agenda** – revised to include RCMP & Victim Services under new business.

Motion

Moved by Anne Cooper and seconded by Antoinette Halberstadt that the revised agenda be approved. **Carried**

3. **Minutes of February 25, 2009**

Motion

Moved by Anne Cooper and seconded by Melodie Kindret that the Minutes of February 25, 2009 be approved. **Carried**

Business arising from the Minutes:

- Website: photo of Anne cropped to Anne only as we do not have waivers for the children. Will use waivers for photos published on the website in the future. Will have an archive tab for old information to be posted to.

- Committee Terms of Reference - draft revisions attached to the meeting agenda were reviewed and the following revisions were determined:

Core Members:

- 8 social sector service providers, broadly representing the social sector, will be recommended by the Revelstoke Community Social Development Committee.
- Two City Councillors, one of whom has the portfolio for Social Issues.

Filling vacancies – second sentence to be deleted.

2nd revision of terms of reference attached.

A sub committee consisting of Nelli Richardson, Mary Kline and Melodie Kindret will meet to make recommendations for filling term members expiring in April 2009.

- Taxi letter: Jill drafted a second letter but was advised to put on hold to give the government more time to respond to the first letter.

Motion

Moved by Tony Scarcella and seconded by Anne Cooper that a request be submitted to City Council to send a second letter as a follow up on the first letter. **Carried**

- CBT Community Initiatives application will go to City Council for approval in mid April.
- North Columbia Environmental Society responded to the questions re-the community garden initiative. Email attached to the minutes. Noted that for future meetings

correspondence will be dealt with as a separate agenda item and attached to the meeting package.

- Prime Minister's ECD Award nomination – Jill advised that a group of people (the ECD committee) would not be eligible as a nominee.
- Employment Insurance and Income Assistance – Antionette advised that the following motion was carried at the March 10, 2009 City Council meeting:
Moved by Councillor Halberstadt, seconded by Councillor Welock that Revelstoke City Council request the Federal Minister responsible for Employment Insurance, with copy to the Member of Parliament, to broaden the eligibility requirements for Employment Insurance and improve access to Employment Insurance services including the establishment of a Service Canada office in Revelstoke and in the interim, hire more staff to answer phones and to process claims.

4. Coordinators Report

Jill Zacharias reviewed the Coordinators report:

- Enterprising Non Profits workshop held in Revelstoke on March 24 was excellent and very informative about business development planning for social enterprises. The BC Rural Network AGM and workshops held on March 25 & 26 were a valuable professional development and networking opportunity.
- Seniors Planning survey results were reviewed. Suggested that the survey results be displayed as bar charts for visual data representation. Jill will speak at the April 9 Senior's Association general meeting about the survey results and how they will be used, as well as the OCP public process. Jill to email the survey report to the social committee members and post on the website.
- Substance Abuse workshop provided an excellent framework for a substance use strategy, but an action plan needs to be developed. Jill has set a goal to complete the action plan in 2009. A grant from the District Health Foundation was used to sponsor the workshop. Committee members who attended gave feedback on the event.
- The BC Healthy Communities grant application was successful and will be used to host a social planning event at the Hillcrest. Unfortunately May 26 is already booked for another event at the Hillcrest so Jill will be contacting key representatives to set a new date. Jill will revise her workplan following this session (current plan expires in July).
- The Social Services Directory was updated, posted on the website and circulated by email.
- To date, nearly \$25,000 in grant monies has been obtained from various sources to support projects.

5. New Business:

- Role of the Press/Media: Anne questioned if meetings are open to the press. Alan advised that technically, all City committee meetings are open to the public. Discussion followed and agreed that a closed section of the agenda be established for 'in camera' items.
- Anne Cooper and Cathy Girling left the meeting at 9:45 am.
- BC Ombudsman's Report on IA – tabled for discussion at the next meeting.
- Basic Dental Care & UBCM resolution. Jill circulated two handouts: BC Healthy Kids Program and Dollars for Dental Treatment. Jill updated the committee on what the local practitioners are doing about providing services to low income families. The gap in

service is for the working poor families who cannot afford dental & eye care. The UBCM motion was included for reference in the agenda package.

- Welcome to Revelstoke Guide – Jill to ensure the Social Service Directory is referenced in the guide. Alan and Jill to follow up with Karolyn Kempton who has volunteered to work on the guide.
- Future meeting date confirmed for April 22, 2009.
- RCMP & Victim Services – Antionette suggested that these monthly reports presented to City Council be emailed to the committee for their reference. Committee members can then ask Jill to include items from these reports on meeting agendas for discussion.

6. Roundtable

- Tony – has information on gas tax for community gardens. Jill will forward this information on to Community Connections and the North Columbia Environmental Society.
- Mary – Okanagan College will be conducting a survey of immigrants as part of the Welcoming and Inclusive Communities Program. Jill will email to committee members for circulation to known immigrants to complete.
- Nelli – Community Response Network has produced a pamphlet on elder abuse which has also been translated into Italian. Debra will post on the website. Elder Abuse Awareness day is June 15.

7. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 am

Nelli Richardson, Chair