

SUPPORTING SOCIAL PLANNING and ACTION in REVELSTOKE

Social Development Committee Meeting Minutes 8:30 a.m. Wednesday September 23, 2009

Present: Nelli Richardson, Anne Cooper, Tony Scarcella, Melodie Kindret, Mary Kline, Linda Chell, Melissa Klages, Cathy Girling, Lory Borges, Antoinette Halberstadt, Jane McNab and Cathie Thacker
Staff: Jill Zacharias and Debra Wozniak
Regrets: John Yakielashek, Brian Sumner, Steve Bailey, Susan Knight and Alan Mason

1. **Call to order** – Chair Nelli Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:35 am.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion

Moved by Antoinette Halberstadt and seconded by Jane McNab that the Agenda be approved. **Carried**

3. **Approval of September 2, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

Motion

Moved by Anne Cooper and seconded by Lory Borges that the Minutes of September 2, 2009 be approved. **Carried**

Business Arising from the Minutes:

- i) Health Care Advisory Committee – Nelli reported that only 3 applications have been received and City will be re-advertising for volunteer members to fill the 6 positions. Jill will call Teresa LeRose to enquire if the posting can be placed in The Current and on the radio.
- ii) Sexual Assault Protocol – Nelli will be organizing a committee to develop the protocol.
- iii) Domestic Violence – Antoinette reported that service agencies are noting a rise in domestic violence, however the RCMP reports indicate a decrease. Nelli and Cathy G. advised that many clients choose not to report to the RCMP.

4. **Coordinator's Report** – Jill Zacharias reviewed the Coordinator's report.

5. **New Business:**

- Provincial Funding Cuts – Jill noted that many community organizations are expressing concern over anticipated gaming funding cutbacks. BC Gaming has issued an advisory about their grant priorities as follows:
 - support for low income & disabled British Columbians
 - food, shelter and support for at risk individuals
 - community health services
 - nutrition in schools for underprivileged children
 - public safety programs
 - community education programs such as daycares and preschools
 - public community facilities
 - youth and disabled sports and non-sport youth groupsExamples of sectors that will *not* receive additional funding are environmental organizations, adult sports groups, alumni associations, a number of arts & culture organizations, as well as major capital project grants and playground grants.

Jill will forward copy of advisory to committee members for their reference. In early March 2010 Jill to contact service providers to assess impacts of funding cutbacks.

Committee members expressed concern that gaming and gambling addiction in the community is increasing. The weekly limit for online gambling has just been raised from \$150 per week to \$10,000 per week.

- Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 28, 2009 at 8:30 am.

6. Round table

Linda Chell – BC 150 Volunteer grant received for \$1600 from Homecoming application. Funds will be directed to the Beruschi Park project.

- Early Childhood Committee hosting an Epilepsy Workshop October 8 at 7 pm and CPR will be hosting an adult workshop during the day.

Anne Cooper – Happy to report that work has commenced in preparation for the new schools with redirecting the community energy pipe system along Vernon Ave.

- Overall school enrolment is 10 to 15 students above projected numbers. More students registered in Columbia Park, requiring the hiring of an additional teacher, which reduced class sizes in that school.

- All schools have increased their educational assistant complement.

Tony Scarcella – attending Union of BC Municipalities conference next week and encouraged committee members to email any concerns they may have that councillors can take with them for discussion during the event.

Cathie Thacker – Employment Centre getting busier and numbers are up significantly as some businesses are closing/laying off.

Antoinette Halberstadt – Transportation Open House was held last night and there is an on-line transportation survey for residents to complete at www.cityofrevelstoke.com

Cathy Girling – Filling in for Patti Larsen as she has a broken leg and is expected to be off for some time. Noted that Patti has the most incredible group of volunteers helping out at the Food Bank.

- There has been a small decrease in funding for women and children counselling services however Community Connections has been able to maintain the service.

- A new website is under construction and should be up next week with the same address.

Melody Kindret – Revelstoke Credit Union has helped about 40 families with financial planning due to impacts of lay offs and still continuing to provide this service to members.

- Noting an increase in seniors' credit card debt leading to bankruptcies.

- Staff was pleased to provide school backpacks for disadvantaged children and Steven Hui at Pharmasave contributed school supplies at a reduced cost.

Lory Borges – advised that she is now back in her office at the high school.

Mary Kline - reported that Janet Lemieux has been hired as the trades program coordinator to conduct the trades construction project in Revelstoke this year.

7. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am.

Nelli Richardson, Chair

Revelstoke Community Social Development Committee Coordinator's Report – Sept 23rd, 2009

1. Communication, support and coordination

- **Directory of Social Services** – next update in October
- **Regional** – CFDC Conference Oct 5th – 6th (Volunteer)
 - Age-Friendly Planning event in Kamloops October 7th
- **Contacts:**
- Sept 3rd – Seniors' Planning Committee
- Sept 9th – Bertha Stone
- Sept 11th – Alan Chell (Transit)
- Sept 11th – Innamarie Opperman
- Sept 15th – CFDC
- Sept 16th – Seniors' Planning Committee
- Sept 17th – Steven Hui
- Sept 17th – Planning & Building Advisory Committee
- Sept 18th – Anne Cooper
- Sept 21st – Substance Use Steering Committee
- Sept 22nd – Transportation Plan Stakeholder meeting

2. Supporting our Seniors

- The Seniors' Resource Guide will hopefully be off to the printers' by the end of this week (!) – an exciting project that we've taken time to ensure is accurate & thorough. I have reserved a table at the Seniors' Health Fair, which is Tuesday October 27th from 9 am to 3 pm, and we should be able to launch the booklet at that time.
- The next speaker at the Seniors' Centre will be Hans Mohr, Pharmacist, on Wed Oct 21 at 3:15 pm, on pharmaceutical misuse - what to do if you are unsure about mixing medications, what NOT to do, signs & symptoms of misuse (ie family members), what to do if you have concerns about yourself or others, what medications can be more addictive than others, proper disposal of medications, etc – in keeping with the Substance Use Strategy.

3. Transportation

- The transit committee will be meeting with Steve Harvard, the new regional rep for BC Transit, on Oct 9th to look at alternatives to our current public transportation system. I have looked at a number of other communities close to our size & there are some potentially interesting solutions that could better meet the needs of all public transit users, disabled or otherwise. One goal is to make the entire system more user-friendly & to encourage increased ridership. This is in keeping with the OCP goal to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

4. Substance Use Strategy

- We have embarked on the community consultation phase. September – AA/NA focus group (Sept 29th), launch web-based stakeholder survey; October – SD#19 staff & school-aged youth focus groups, youth drug use survey, public sessions: pharmaceutical misuse – seniors on October 21st, community Wed October 28th 7 pm.

5. LIRN BC

- Mark your calendars! The LIRN BC event has been scheduled for Tuesday October 20th and will be a morning session from 8 am to 12 noon. Although the workshop agenda *has not been finalized* we decided to narrow the scope to 2 parts: a discussion of the social determinants of health within the context of resort communities, followed by an initial discussion of key indicators within the Social Determinants of Health that can assist us in determining the overall health of our community. The idea is to make the second part a working session with the goal of coming up with some draft recommendations that would feed into the planning department's community indicator project.