



## City of Revelstoke Social Development Coordinator

### 2017-18 Year End Report

Submitted by: Jill Zacharias

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#### Alignment with Council Goals and Objectives

2017 Council Mission (excerpt): We are committed to fostering a strong sense of community in Revelstoke, and we will be responsive and adaptive to changing social...conditions.

2017 Council Objectives: 1. Quality of life: The City of Revelstoke will emphasize quality of life issues including social, active living, cultural experiences and recreation opportunities, etc.

### Taking action on community priorities

#### Poverty Reduction

##### Local

- Coordinated all working group meetings, including preparing minutes and resources. Continue to engage new members and re-visit priority actions on a regular basis.
- Acquired \$147,000 funding from the Vancouver Foundation to support work over 3 years, including:
  - Coordination & facilitation time, research & policy development, and local capacity-building.
  - Support for the Early Childhood Development Committee, Local Food Initiative, and Community Literacy Table – included assisting with development of partnership agreements & work plans.
- Co-produced “State of Poverty in Revelstoke” report in partnership with the Rural Development Institute.
- Updated of Revelstoke’s Living Wage calculation (April 2018) as a cost of living guideline.
- Spoke to QVH Medical Advisory team on Poverty Intervention Tool for medical practitioners.
- Coordinated series of CRA tax benefits presentations for RSS Students (x2), Families, & Seniors (April).
- Coordinated series of coaching sessions for Poverty Reduction Working Group members with Paul Born, founder of Vibrant Communities Canada – focus on Collective Impact.
- Researched options for implementation of a low income transit pass in Revelstoke as part of the City’s Core Program.

##### Regional - Columbia Basin Poverty Reduction Working Group

- Sept 21<sup>st</sup> 2017 - participated in a group plenary at the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation annual convention on “Why community-based poverty reduction makes good sense”.
- Nov 8<sup>th</sup> - group presentation via Tamarak (national webinar) on “Measuring up to poverty reduction in Rural BC” – partnership with reps from Trail, Nelson, Cranbrook and New Denver.
- Provided input to CBT on the benefits of Vibrant Communities Canada membership – CBT continues to pay for membership for all communities in the basin working on Poverty Reduction (\$1000 value).
- Coordinated 2 regional meetings (one teleconference; one face-to-face).

##### Provincial

- Co-Chair of Tamarak’s BC-wide ‘Community of Practice’ on poverty reduction. Call topics included:
  - Patient Medical Home Model
  - Updates on new provincial initiatives & provincial consultation process
  - Community Volunteer Income Tax Program and CRA Tax Credits & Benefits
  - Development of PR strategies around the province
  - Vancouver Foundation PR funding priorities
  - Financial Empowerment.
- Assisted Tamarak to pilot ‘peer to peer input process’ where peers brainstorm & offer solutions to issues faced by member organizations.
- Facilitated local key stakeholder input and submitted report for BC Government consultation on the development of a Provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy (March 2018)
- Attended Tamarak’s Western Cities Summit in Vancouver (June 2018) & supported Nicole Cherlet (Chair, Local Food Initiative; President Chamber of Commerce) to attend as well. Presented as part of a panel on

the Living Wage at the summit. Wrote & presented report on the summit for Social Development Committee and Poverty Reduction Working Group members.

- Attended meeting of Vancouver Foundation Poverty Reduction funding recipients (while at Western Cities Summit in Vancouver).
- Wrote 'blog' for Tamarak on 'Making progress on poverty reduction in BC'.

## Housing

- Extreme Weather Response Program – Worked closely with BC Housing and community partners to find a way to deliver a homeless shelter program in Revelstoke last winter, including:
  - Coordinating application process and developing/ submitting draft plan & budget.
  - Meeting individually with key stakeholders as well as hosting group sessions.
  - Meeting with EWR coordinators from Nelson & Salmon Arm + obtaining examples and resources from other communities.
  - Obtaining a commitment from BC Housing to fully fund operational costs (approx. \$60,000)
  - Obtaining commitment from the Revelstoke Community Foundation & a private donor to fund start-up costs; creating a list & beginning to price out costs.
  - Re-convening the Emergency Shelter Steering Committee to provide advice and project oversight.
  - Developing draft Policies & Procedures.
  - Facilitating partnership with QVH re: providing & laundering linens.

The challenge is to find a good location and proponent to oversee operation of the shelter, and I explored a number of different possibilities. Initially, we had both a location and proponent, however both of these options have fallen through. CURRENT STATUS: re-convene key stakeholders and continue to explore creative solutions.

- RCHS project – Completed 'needs assessment'/analysis of need/community impact assessment portion of the Housing Society's application to the CBT/BC Housing RFP to build 21 affordable rental housing units.
- Housing Needs Assessment – provided input to consultants and reviewed/provided input to draft report.
- DCC Bylaw update – provided input to consultants and planning department.
- Attended – CBT / BC Housing Affordable Rental Housing Webinar (Jan 22) and workshop (June 7).
- Attended Housing Society AGM; supported application to CBT for admin support (unsuccessful).

## Mental Health & Substance Use

- Continued to support the Revelstoke Child & Youth Mental Health & Substance Use Collaborative Local Action Team (CYMHSU LAT), as Co-Chair. Included direct one-on-one support for Project Lead, providing input and assistance with work plan objectives, budget and project deliverables. I also sit on a number of sub-committees to support this group & supported Stacie Byrne to present to City Council.
- Acquired \$70,000 in funding to support transition from 'Shared Care BC' funding and support staff coordination, training & capacity building for 2 years – January 2018 – 2020. School District 19 sponsored the application. This included development of a 2 year work plan.
- Co-presented to School Board (February 21<sup>st</sup>) on CYMHSU LAT initiative, with Project Lead.
- Administered Revelstoke Youth Drug Survey for the third time (2009, 2014, 2017) – and co-created a series of 'infographics' to support information and education. Presented results to: SD19 administrators, CYMHSU LAT substance use working group (Feb 28) & RSS PAC (May).
- Reviewed and provided input on Municipal Alcohol Policy.
- Co-developed [www.revelstokelife.ca](http://www.revelstokelife.ca) - Revelstoke's new Health & Social Services Directory – in partnership with CYMHSU LAT & Rural & Remote Division of Family Practice. This will replace the *Directory of Social Services for Revelstoke & Area, the Newcomer's Guide, Seniors Guide & Youth Survival Guide*.
- Reviewed proposed City Zoning Amendment re: Cannabis legalization; provided planning department with key stakeholder list for upcoming consultations.
- Assisted BC Housing to deliver free local Mental Health First Aid training (May 14-15<sup>th</sup>).

## Diverse, inclusive, welcoming community

- Coordinated 6<sup>th</sup> annual 'Welcome Week – Connecting Newcomers & the Community' and annual Volunteer Fair / Community dinner, including acquiring funding & submitting reports to funders.
- Assisted Aboriginal Friendship Society to update their strategic plan.
- Attended Reconciliation Canada webinar.

## Supporting communication, collaboration and capacity-building to better address social issues

- Met with Nicole Fricot, past CED Director, on a regular basis.
- Attended and prepared meeting packages for all Social Development Committee meetings; prepared backgrounders for all memos to support committee recommendations to City Council.
- Online network – 80 email contacts - continuous information sharing relevant to the sector.
- Face to face – attended or coordinated over 90 one-to-one or group meetings; continue to maintain downtown office location.
- Participated in strategic planning sessions for social sector organizations including: Community Futures, Literacy Action Committee, Early Childhood Development Committee, Screen Smart, Sexual Assault Protocol and Aboriginal Friendship Society.
- Completed update of the *Directory of Social Services for Revelstoke & Area (Nov 2017)*
- Attended 8 community-wide events.
- Coordinated 7 training sessions specific to the sector.
- Continued to maintain and update [www.revelstokesocialdevelopment.org](http://www.revelstokesocialdevelopment.org) (2017 to Aug '18 – 1238 new users) and [www.welcometorevelstoke.org](http://www.welcometorevelstoke.org) (2017 to Aug '18 – 1080 new users)
- Supported Seniors Association with funding applications to support the Volunteer Medical Transportation Program contingency fund as well as the Volunteer Coordinator position (successful).
- Represented the City of Revelstoke in Langley to assist with the 'kick off' for their Social Sustainability Strategy, including a public panel on social sustainability, a presentation to senior city staff, and presentation to the Langley Healthier Community Partnership Table (March 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>).
- Supported selection of Early Childhood Development Committee's Family Friendly Business & Workplace awards.
- Provided input on Transit and Handydart services as part of comprehensive review.
- Provided 'healthy community' updates to Health Care Advisory Committee.
- Reviewed & provided input on social aspects of RMR Master Plan update to consultants hired to review.
- Attended Conflict Resolution workshop (May 15<sup>th</sup>).
- Met with new CBT Social Initiatives Manager, Hannah Holden.

## Social Priorities

- Community capacity to manage growth
  - Housing
  - Affordability + poverty reduction
  - Mental health + substance use
  - Diversity & inclusion
  - Food security
  - Children, youth + families
  - Seniors
- Housing Strategy  
→ Updating the OCP  
→ Proactive Social Policy

Welcome Stay  
Play Enjoy  
Revelstoke  
Comfort  
Support  
Belong  
Home  
Work  
Live  
BC  
Friendship  
Brings us together...  
Contribute  
Familiar faces  
Sense of place  
Excitement  
Community  
Connection  
Grow  
Fun  
Neighbours  
Work