

Revelstoke Community Social Development Committee
Supporting Social Planning and Action in Revelstoke

Social Development Coordinator Activities & Projects 2008-Present

Supporting the Social Sector

- ❖ Coordinate regular meetings, provide staff support and report to the City of Revelstoke Social Development Committee; recruit and meet with new & prospective committee members.
- ❖ Distribute information relevant to the social sector on a daily basis via email list.
- ❖ Meet with a variety of social sector representatives on a regular basis to track & respond to social sector opportunities and challenges; provide support for new social sector groups.
- ❖ Maintain and update www.revelstokesocialdevelopment.org
- ❖ Maintain and update www.welcometorevelstoke.org
- ❖ Regularly update & distribute the Directory of Social Services for Revelstoke & Area.
- ❖ Coordinate learning events & training for the social sector both independently & in conjunction with regional and/or provincial bodies.
- ❖ Provide social development updates to City Council and other community groups; sit on a number of social sector committees including, but not limited to:
 1. Early Childhood Development Committee
 2. Early Years Centre Steering Committee
 3. Revelstoke Literacy Action Committee
 4. Financial Literacy Subcommittee
 5. Seniors' Volunteer Coordinator Steering Committee
 6. Health Care Advisory Committee
 7. Youth Advisory Committee & Youth Initiative Group
 8. Child & Youth Mental Health & Substance Use Collaborative Local Action Team
 9. Youth Access Fund subcommittee
 10. Transit Committee
 11. Screen Smart Committee
 12. Welcoming Communities Committee
 13. Welcome Week Planning Committee
 14. Safe Spaces Society
 15. Poverty Reduction Working Group
- ❖ Share information regionally & provincially on a variety of social planning topics:
 - Respond to enquiries from the provincial government and other communities on social planning activities in Revelstoke;
 - Act as key contact for external agencies who have a mandate provide local service;
- ❖ Support planning and action on community-wide social priorities (see below).

Levering City resources

- ❖ **\$385,300** in external funding acquired to date. This has supported 33 different projects, including social planning, new program and project development, capital upgrades to facilities, and the creation of 2 new key social sector positions.

Social Planning

- ❖ Completed two updates of Social and Integrating Goals (2009 & 2011) of the Community Development Action Plan, as well as:
 - Age-Friendly Plan (2009)
 - Substance Use Strategy (2010)
 - Poverty Reduction Strategy (2012)
 - Revelstoke Youth Drug Survey Final Report (2014)
 - Healthy Community Action Plan (2014)
- ❖ Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (2013) – provided materials & input to social goals, priorities, indicators, and recommended actions; Completed update of Social Goals (2016).

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Taking action on Community Priorities

Supporting our Seniors

- ❖ An Age-Friendly Plan for Revelstoke and Area (2009).
- ❖ Revelstoke Seniors Resource Guide (2010); Update (2016).
- ❖ Initiated ongoing speaker series at the Seniors Centre (now delivered by the Seniors Association).
- ❖ Seniors Centre Volunteer Coordinator position and program development & ongoing support.
- ❖ Grant-writing support for the Seniors Assoc., and others on Age-Friendly community projects.
- ❖ Grit Box Pilot Project.
- ❖ BC Seniors Directorate contact:
 - Toolkit for other municipalities – coordinated (Revelstoke) video segment & written components.
 - Provincial evaluation team for Ministry of Health's Age-Friendly Communities program (2012/13).
- ❖ Age-Friendly Achievement Award (2012) – one of first nine communities in BC.
 - Age-Friendly Community Action Summary (2013)– one of first three communities in BC to have posted on seniorsbc.ca website.
- ❖ Attended 'International Invited Symposium on Age-Friendly Rural & Remote Communities' in Winnipeg as one of 3 delegates from BC (Oct 2012).
- ❖ Reviewed Alzheimer's Society of BC draft 'Dementia-Friendly Communities Municipal Toolkit' / coordinating dementia-friendly training (April 2016).

Mental Health & Substance Use

- ❖ Revelstoke Community Substance Use Strategy (2010).
- ❖ Harm Reduction project – secure sharps containers in city-owned public washrooms.
- ❖ Coordinate ongoing training for service providers on Mental Health & Addictions.
- ❖ Smoking Cessation program coordination – delivered by CMHA (Oct/Nov 2012).
- ❖ Revelstoke Youth Initiative (see below) & Youth Mental Health & Substance Use Subcommittee (to 2015).
- ❖ Partnered with CMHA to deliver 'Knowledge is Power' series (2013-15) to promote awareness of mental health issues and access to resources.
- ❖ Revelstoke Youth Drug Survey (2009 & 2013) – including sharing results with SD#19 staff, and parents; Youth Drug Survey Final Report (2014)
- ❖ Working with the provincial Shared Care initiative & Impact BC to establish CYMHSU Collaborative Local Action Team – 2015 to present.
- ❖ Support for CYMHSU LAT on a number of mental health awareness events & training – ongoing; including SAFETEEN training for SD19 staff and community service providers (Sept 2016)

Youth Initiative

- ❖ Established Revelstoke Youth Initiative Committee (in partnership with OC) – A coalition of youth & over 20 key stakeholders in the community with the goal of building community capacity for youth.
 - Coordinated Youth Engagement Workshop.
 - Support & guidance for Youth Action Plan (July 2011, Update March 2014)
- ❖ Secured CBT Community Directed Youth Funds (\$25,000/yr for 4 years).
- ❖ Established Youth Liaison position – continue to provide guidance and mentorship.
- ❖ Youth Survival Guide (2012) – in partnership with OC and Youth Liaison.
- ❖ Youth Advisory Committee – Assisted with the creation of a new committee of City Council to direct the work plan of the Youth Liaison/provide staff support for this committee.
 - Co-Established and participate on Youth Mental Health & Substance Use Subcommittee – Provides support and increased capacity to School District #19 (now CYMHSU LAT)
- ❖ Acquired seed funding and assisted with development of program guidelines for Youth Access Fund to remove barriers for access to sports, recreation, and cultural events and programs.

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Poverty Reduction

- ❖ Revelstoke Community Poverty Reduction Strategy (June 2012) & Action Plan (2014).
- ❖ Established Poverty Reduction Working Group (Sept 2013) – ongoing coordination support.
- ❖ Secured funding to deliver a two-year financial literacy project (in partnership with CBAL, 2014-2016).
- ❖ Developed national Poverty Reduction Charter (with a national ‘community of practice’ led by Vibrant Communities Canada) & continue to participate in related teleconferences & learning events; endorsed by City of Revelstoke in March 2015.
- ❖ Participated in a national ‘Municipal Monitor on Poverty Reduction’ – led by the Caledon Institute of Social Policy, based in Ottawa (2014).
- ❖ Shared Revelstoke’s experience (developing a strategy) at Nelson’s poverty reduction ‘kick off’ event and acted as a resource for the day-long workshop (April 2014).
- ❖ Raising awareness of poverty-related issues & initiatives: presentations to Rotary & Chamber of Commerce (May 2014); series of articles in Revelstoke Times Review (Sept-Nov 2014); presentations to City Council; Revy Vibes video production (March 2015).
- ❖ Localized (Kootenay Boundary Division of Family Practice) Poverty Intervention Tool & subsequent distribution & presentation to QVH Medical Advisory Team (Nov 2014).
- ❖ Facilitated establishment of Youth Access Fund (managed by City of Revelstoke Youth Liaison).
- ❖ Living Wage calculation update (in partnership with the Revelstoke Credit Union); A Living Wage for Revelstoke & Area Report (Jan 2015); coordinating living wage research project in partnership with UBCO - ongoing.
- ❖ Participation at the national Poverty Reduction Summit in Ottawa, including workshop presentation on rural issues (May 2015).
- ❖ Successful advocacy for CBT to support regional Vibrant Communities Canada membership for all communities in the basin working on poverty reduction (since 2014). Dialogue with the Columbia Basin Trust and communities working on poverty reduction in the region – ongoing.
- ❖ Co-facilitated regional CED forum “Understanding the Economics of Poverty Reduction” (May 2016) hosted by Revelstoke Community Futures.

Welcoming Communities

- ❖ Funded by Welcome BC through Okanagan College – worked in partnership to produce “Revelstoke Newcomer’s Guide” (updated 2016) and www.welcometorevelstoke.org
- ❖ Established & coordinate Welcome Week – Connecting Newcomers & the Community (since 2012).
 - Secured ongoing funding for this annual event.
- ❖ Provision of support for Safe Spaces Society, including coordinating LGBTQ training for service providers, facilitating planning, priority setting, funding acquisition and transition to a non-profit society.
- ❖ ‘Community response to hate-based incidents’ project – acquired funding/project oversight (Dec 2015).

Healthy Communities

- ❖ Completed ‘The Revelstoke Healthy Community Project’ (2014), including photography exhibit.

For more information contact:

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Or visit www.revelstokesocialdevelopment.org

OR

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