

Chilliwack Child and Youth Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 11th, 2011

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

CYC Co-Chairs: Julia Mc Caffery and John Stellingwerff

Recorder: Julie Unger

Those Present:

Julia McCaffery – Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Service Society
John Stellingwerff – Chilliwack Community Services
Julie Unger – Chilliwack Society for Community Living
Joy Nolette – Chilliwack Early Years Coordinator
Kiran Sidhu – FV Child Development Centre
Debbie Denault – Chilliwack Learning Community Society
Susan Edgecombe – School District # 33
Carolyn Glover – Adult Mental Health
Bobby Jacob – Ann Davis Transition Society
Duncan MacDonald – MCFD, Child & Youth Mental Health
Dan Bibby - MCFD

Regrets:

Diane Janzen – City Council
Scott Street – Youth Pastor, Chilliwack Ministerial
Tim Bohr – Chilliwack Community Services

Guests:

Christy Friess – YMCA (Youth Services Director)
Sheri Josephson –YMCA (General Manager)
Bruce Trites – Chilliwack MCFD Team Leader
Megan Wallace – Vancouver YMCA

- 1. Welcome & Introductions:** John Stellingwerff welcomed all members to the meeting. Happy New Year to all. Special Welcome to our guests, who will be introduced at the start of their presentation. Focus for today's meeting is in regards to the Middle Years. Welcome to Megan Wallace, Sheri Josephson, and Bruce Trites – guests in regards to this topic.
- 2. Presentation & Discussion:** Sheri introduced Megan Wallace – Sr. Manager of Child Services with YMCA of Vancouver.
Megan provided a hand-out of some slides she put together regarding "Middle Childhood".
Presentation & Discussion on Middle Years: (see Slides dated 1/10/2011).
Other Documentation Referenced:
"Middle Childhood Inside and Out: The psychological and Social World of Children 9-12"
"Addressing the After School Hours: An environmental Scan of After-School Programming Outside of Licensed Childcare for Children aged 6 to 12 in BC" (BC Recreation and Parks Association)
MDI – Executive Summary (Middle Years Development Instrument):

United Way is hoping to “roll out” the MDI tool province-wide. The YMCA will use the MDI information to access grants and plan for resources and services for this age group. YMCA is focused on the health of children – looking at different services and ways they can work in the community – not just the traditional licensed care and recreation programs – looking at what kids want and how they can provide beneficial services. Bobbi reported that the United Way of the Fraser Valley is currently focused on the early years (0-6 years). This is different than the United Way of the Lower Mainland (that Megan is referencing).

“Boy Smarts” – Barry MacDonald – lot of research around boys of this middle years age group – great book that speaks to programming directed for boys.

John asked where this takes us as a CYC – in the middle of 2009 – this demographic came onto our radar and we asked what are we doing to address the needs in this area? John talked about the proposal that was initiated by CCS and CYC. This was referred to the Interagency Parenting Committee of the CYC to see if there was a way to address this. It was also presented to the Chilliwack Social Research and Planning Council – they came back with a proposal that indicated they could do some research but it was going to cost about \$25,000. There was not enough funding available to carry this forward. John stated this is where it was left. John added that one of things the council was going to look at was “What is happening in Chilliwack?”. The YMCA alone probably provides services to a couple of thousand children after school. There is a list of agencies that provide services to kids after school. Where do we go from here? John referenced the other documents provided via email.

Bruce Trites spoke to the report of June 2009 provided by the Youth Forensic Psychiatric Services “An Examination of Mental Health Needs Among Youth in British Columbia Youth Custody Services Centres”. Alcohol and Drug use is high in this age group (12 – 18 years) – the age when they report they started using alcohol (m-4; f – 8); drugs (m-5;). Many of the females have been physically or sexually abused; many of the males also sexually and physically abused; a high ratio of youth that were neglected as children. Where these kids are coming from? A high percentage of youth are coming from homes where they are unsupported – major family instability, unsupportive family – family violence and parental mental illness. School attendance: highest grade completed grade 8. The report indicates that as young as grade 4 that the boys have stopped going to school. Bruce added that the vast majority of these youth – these families that children come through are not the families that generally are out searching for the things to get their kids involved in – they are isolated – they are not seeking out activities. They are not in those “second day” type of activities. Whatever plan we come up with we need to focus on reaching out to those kids knocking on doors, ensuring their participation. These are the incarcerated kids that are referenced in the report – 140 males, 165 females – in the youth custody centres.

Carolyn Glover reported on a program currently in place in five communities in BC (i.e. Langley, Vernon, Kelowna) – funded by municipalities, and comes through RCMP – sort of a diversion program. They are initiating counseling services and intervention for these kids at this point (i.e. first shop lifting offense). Rate of reoffending is less than 10%.

Duncan put in a plug for Rob Lee’s idea of creating a group that focuses on “prevention” in our community. In terms of planning for the future this would be a good idea to follow up. Bobbi asked if Rob’s already doing something in this age group – Duncan clarified not this age group specifically but prevention in general. Joy asked if there are people who are mentally unwell, or

unaware of services, or working families – it would seem to me that any of those groups wouldn't be able to take their kids to programs – the programs would have to be done at the school.

Kiran is wondering if there would be an appetite for the clinical sub-committee to take on the middle years in their terms of reference.

Dan – as we look at the ECD age range of that group – many communities are moving it up a bit ie. Prenatal to 9 years old – catching some of those kids. The whole concept of learning – the school is the environment – becoming the social centre – bring the services to the school; one of the keys that we need to support these concepts.

Before we move it to the Clinical, ensure that the Chilliwack InterAgency Parenting Committee is not already working on it. Khiran stated that the CIPC wants to focus more on the parenting issues – they have other priorities. The Clinical Sub-committee meets this afternoon – John Suggested that the committee could talk about it at this point. Is there direction from the Strategic Committee for the CYC? They will add the item to the agenda – and then report back to the CYC at the February Meeting and the Clinical Sub-committee's ability to take this forward.

John thanked Megan for her presentation – the information and ideas presented – reinforces the need and highlights that this is a critical demographic. Dan added through the United Way and the YMCA there was the development of Middle Years Committee all over the Lower Mainland. There was a Part Time funded coordinator, and some pilot money to implement some programming and ideas. Debbie added that it is important that we look at building family capacity and parenting capacity, and that it shouldn't be just a service provider committee that we create – connect with existing groups? PAC's, involving parents in the committee?

3. Review Agenda:

4. Additions to the Agenda:

- Care Team Training – Dan Bibby
- Building Bridges – Bobbi Jacobs
- Update on Violence against Women Provincial Policy – Dan Bibby

5. Funding Requests – MCFD; Dan indicated that there was approval for the funding for the Website development for the Chilliwack Child & Youth Committee. \$5,000.00 has been granted – and it needs to flow through an agency. Bobbi stated that the company identified to do this work is currently in a state of flux, and an alternate company would need to be found. Bobbi offered to have the money flow through Ann Davis for the website development.

Action:

- ***Ann Davis will hold/allow funds to flow through their agency for the website development.***

6. Care Team – ICM Funds : Dan reported that MCFD has an account of \$5,000.00 for annualized training . Dan stated they were talking to Mark Littlefield last week about Care Team Training – he has prepared packages for training – and will provide an outline as to the level 2 training (we've had the basic training a couple of times). Dan wants to know if the CYC would sponsor the event (funded by MCFD) and have about 15 trainees that would come together and get the more intensive Care Team Training. Duncan will take it back to the Clinical Sub Committee and see what they've

been doing with this – Brenda has been talking with Mark about the advanced training. Dan is willing to let this go to the Clinical Committee if they have been working on it. Dan wants to ensure we are maximizing our capacities.

Action:

- ***Duncan will bring this to the Clinical Sub-Committee for follow up. Report back to Dan and CYC in regards to the Strategic Plan for Integrated Case Management and Care Team training.***

7. Building Bridges: Bobby Jacobs talked about the follow up on “Building Bridges” , funded by Fraser Health and for the Aboriginal Community. A group met to look at the feedback and prepare a report for the CYC. Conclusions from the evaluation feedback are as follows:

- *Evaluations spoke to a desire to have the event happen again;*
- *Value in service providers having opportunity to network*
- *A working committee should be formed to plan the event*
- *Funds would be required to hold another event*
- *Change messaging –“ to learn the mandate, referral process and program list of those agencies who have a mandate to serve aboriginal families in Chilliwack”; the part referencing agencies who are mandated to serve seemed a bit confusing (i.e. everyone at the CYC tables serves Aboriginal Clients, some of the service providers are limited to serving Aboriginal Clients only).*
- *Questions around who should and who can/will undertake or champion the organization of another Building Bridges event.*

CYC Discussion: Partnership engagement – discussion with aboriginal partners; this was really spearheaded by Dan Ludeman and Karin Rempel. How do we keep up with this level of engagement – take it to the next step? Is the impetus there from the aboriginal community? It will need to come from the aboriginal service providers. Dan asked Julia if there was much talk about this level of engagement at Xyolhemeylh. Julia stated that there is a lot of change within the organization; so while there is value in this activity, the question will be who has the energy or time to take this forward? Dan reported that a new manager has been hired in the region for “Aboriginal Service Change” ...her mandate is to have a framework in place for the next year.

Action:

- ***Julia will take this back to the committee of Central Supervisors for information and see if there is anyone who can take this forward.***
- ***Dan Invite Virge Silviera (Regional manager for Aboriginal Service Change) to a CYC meeting to provide information regarding her role and the direction for services in the Province.***
- ***Dan Suggest that Virge may want to host a gathering/forum to solicit feedback for “Building Bridges” and working together with aboriginal service providers.***

8. Review Minutes of December 7th, 2010

- a. Application to Chilliwack Foundation - Application was denied
- b. Youth Integrated Plan (YIP)

9. Next Meeting –

- a. **CYC – February 1st, 2011** (Report from EY Sub-Committee)
Update on Violence against Women Provincial Policy – Dan Bibby (deferred to February from this meeting)

- b. **January 20th, 2011** – ABC Conference Oversight Committee.