

Chilliwack Child and Youth Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, December 4, 2012



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

Meeting held at Chilliwack Community Services 45938 Wellington Ave.
CYC Chairs: Susan Edgcombe Recorder: Karen Steegstra
Dan Bibby

Present:

Susan Edgcombe	SD #33	susan_edgcombe@sd33.bc.ca
Dan Bibby	MCFD	daniel.bibby@gov.bc.ca
James Challman	CCS	challmanj@comserv.bc.ca
Todd Lueck	City Life Centre	todd@citylifecentre.ca
Kiran Sidhu	FVDC	ksidhu@fvcdc.org
Karen Steegstra	CYC	chwkchildandyouthcoord@gmail.com
Collette Bohach	Big Brothers Big Sisters	Collette.bohach@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca
Sonja Mussell	Xyolhemeylh	Sonja.Mussell@Xyolhemeylh
Julie Unger	CSCL	Julie.unger@cscl.org
Bobbi Jacob	Ann Davis	bobbi@annandavis.org
Sheri Josephson	YMCA	Sheri.josephson@vanymca.org
Lisa Jarvos	Fraser Health	Lisa.jarvos@fraserhealth.ca
Constable Tobi Araki	RCMP	Tobi.araki@rcmp-grc.gc.ca
Len Vannieuwenhuizen	RCMP	len.vannieuwenhuizen@rcmp-grc.gc.ca
Steve Esau	CAPS	Sesau@pcrs.ca
Debbie Denault	CLCS	debbied@chilliwacklearning.com
Duncan Macdonald	CYMH	Duncan.macdonald@gov.bc.ca

Regrets:

Wayne Green	United Way	wayne@uwfv.bc.ca
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Shannon Carmichael	Central Gateway	ccecass@gmail.com

Guests: Brenda Frisse – VTRA

Kristy Dykshoorn – Youth as Gatekeepers

Rob Lees

1. Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were led by Dan Bibby. During intros, Todd Lueck requested assistance for an upcoming “Text Support Day” to help those in need. If you know of anyone to help with the event or someone who could benefit please contact Todd at City Life Centre.

2. Review Of Minutes

Minutes were adopted. Action: Karen will post November minutes on the website.

3. Sub-Committee Reports

Youth Matters – Collette Bohach presented in the absence of Kelly. The sub-committee is gearing up for “Challenge Day”. At this time trying to set a date and looking for donations to fund the event. Todd suggested circulating a donation sheet so agencies could determine how they could best contribute.

Early Years - Kiran Sidhu. Kiran told the CYC that Kim Pelling had recently spoke to the Early Years sub-committee regarding Triple P parenting groups. As a follow-up, Dan is requesting that service providers who are trained in Triple P meet together to see what can be offered in Chilliwack. Raise a Village was happy with the strategic plan and the committee is moving ahead with outcomes.

James asked if more training for Triple P would be taking place. Dan explained the process that trainers would have to come from Australia and that the training was very costly. A parenting mentorship partnership that Trish Auckland initiated was introduced. Big Brothers and Big Sisters will match mentors to teen moms as a trial. This is a

much needed service in Chilliwack and the committee is hoping that this program will be successful.

Clinical – Duncan Macdonald. Duncan shared about an upcoming four day training session through The Maples, for those interested in leading the Connect Parenting course. The course focuses on building relationships and attachment between teens and parents. It has been difficult to keep a trained team in Chilliwack as people change jobs. In January a program will run out of AD Rundell; 10 people are needed to commit to the program in order for it to run. Duncan said they would like to train more people, and once these people are trained to have a 2 year commitment from them. Collette, who is trained, said the program is very valuable. Duncan asked if she would be willing to be part of the group. Collette said she would. Tobi was glad to hear of a program like this that she can refer parents to.

Kiran has rejoined the clinical committee as has Dr.Pleido-Pierce. He is a pediatrician with an interest in socio-emotional development. The Suicide Prevention Task force is doing some planning around protocol and how to connect with agencies. There was talk of amalgamating some of the task forces, not sure how to do this at this time. Dan warned that committee members need to be cautious when sharing information; that some information sharing is restricted and info needs to be respected. Len requested that if the task forces could not be amalgamated, could they at least be stream-lined.

Dan and Kiran will put together an MOU in regards to collaborative practice and will identify the collaborative practices of agencies in Chilliwack and in this way bring services together.

Middle Years – Sheri Josephson. The Middle Years committee met for the first time last week. Jim Edgcombe shared with the committee the results of the MDI in which over 700 kids in Chilliwack participated. The first task the committee will undertake is to create an inventory of services within the boundaries of the MDI. In this way will be able to determine whether there is a correlation between stronger and weaker results and identify the gaps in services. There was discussion of who should be invited to the committee. Jim and Sheri will be co-chairing. Dan said the CYC now covers all the age groups and remarked how meeting the needs of the middle years was very important. Don

Plowright asked Sheri if the committee would look at ways to decreasing screen time and increasing activity. He also made note of Chilliwack's official community plan and how we have the opportunity to give input on how neighbourhoods are built.

4. Guest Speaker – Brenda Frisse from SD#33 spoke to the CYC about VTRA. (Violent Threat Risk Assessment) A community protocol has been signed – off. **Action: Brenda will send the revised protocol to Dan for circulation so that agencies can be aware of the protocol. Another 3 day training will be coming up after Spring Break and will be open to community partners. On January 24 there will be a meeting at CDC as an overview of violent risk assessment. **Action: Dan will let everyone know the time of this meeting.****

Brenda described the 3 levels of VTRA. Level 1 is information and overview for school staff and agencies. Level 2 training is training in the VTRA process. At level 2 principal and teachers are made aware that a student is engaging in high risk behaviour. Trained people meet and collect data in order to provide a suitable response. The team then determines whether intervention is necessary or mere support. Level 3 VTRA is intervention with a long term treatment plan.

This protocol came out as a result of the shootings in Columbine and Tabor. Len pointed out that when an agency is requested to provide information, it is needed immediately as there is a real threat.

Duncan suggested that once at Level 3 VTRA, it should be viewed as collaborative practice care team including care workers closest to the student. Brenda said that care teams are tapped into right away and VTRA joins with existing teams. The VTRA team is for those kids who do not have a “care team” or any previous records. Len pointed out that students making threats are often making a cry for help. It is hoped that by bringing threat concerns to light sooner, supports can be provided sooner.

5. CYC Logo

Some discussion on how to tweak the new design. Overall well-received.

6. CYC Website – Debbie Denault. Debbie shared how the website has been running since last Spring. The goal is that all agencies will

subscribe to the website and thereby lessen the need for group emails. At the last steering committee meeting Myrna from 2-1-1 attended to discuss a possible link between their website and ours. The ongoing challenge of the CYC website is how to keep building it and how to add pieces. Google analytics has enabled the steering committee to determine website usage. The next phase is the collection and the posting of current and relevant research and that way providing a source of information for presentations. At this point MCFD is funding the cost of the website. It is estimated that it costs approximately \$2000 a year to run and maintain. This includes the contract with Annette Williams who is the site administrator. Karen will be trained by Annette on how to do postings.

7. Aboriginal Partnership Document - Karen Steegstra

In accordance with the Chilliwack Child and Youth Strategic Plan, goal 1.2, “Building Aboriginal Partnerships”, beginning May 2012, the CYC engaged in an exercise to identify Aboriginal services and partnerships in the Chilliwack area. With the information collected, Karen put together a document. She has asked agencies to keep her updated as to new programs or changes. **Action: This document will be reviewed yearly by the CYC.**

8. Coordinator’s Report – Karen Steegstra

Since beginning her position in September, Karen has had the opportunity to meet with most of the agencies represented at the CYC. This has been an eye-opener and most helpful in assisting her in getting a handle of her position. She hopes to visit a number of programs in the New Year, in order to gain a better understanding of the clients the various agencies serve. Sitting on the various committees has been most helpful and has allowed her to make connections with community stakeholders who are not directly part of the CYC.

As the Success By 6 Representative for Chilliwack she has been meeting with the various Credit Union Managers to introduce herself and to secure their ongoing support of the Early years programs. At

this time I she in the process of updating the Success by 6 brochure. For the first time, Chilliwack will be permitted to include all of its Early Year programs on the inside page, rather than it being only regional information.

National Child Day was a success and Karen is grateful for the agencies who donated items for our goodie bags and the cake, and the representatives who came to help and show support on the day of the event. Approximately 40 children attended and they thoroughly enjoyed the story time with the Mayor and the musical talent of John Maleska. And what kid doesn't enjoy leaving a party with a helium balloon and a goodie bag! Afterwards Karen had the opportunity to speak to the mayor and council. She is grateful that our CYC website got some good publicity. In preparation for National Child Day, she learned a lot about the Convention of the Rights and Freedoms of Children and what Canada has agreed to as a result of ratifying this document. Other than our event at City Hall she heard no other mention of National Child Day on a provincial or federal level. Karen thought it interesting that the Child Poverty Report came out on November 21, the day after National Child Day. Neither Canada nor B.C. has a strategic plan on how to eliminate poverty. Karen would like to make a point of connecting with our local provincial and federal representatives and to make sure they are aware of the challenges facing children, youth and families in our city.

In November she met with the editors of our local papers to introduce herself and to find cost efficient ways to promote our agencies and our website. The Times has indicated that they would be interested in any human interest stories, especially a success story.

Karen has been contacted by the head researcher for the Chilliwack Social Research and Planning Council on Middle/High School student engagement and completion rates asking if I could be

a reference source in assisting with their research and have been able to offer her some assistance.

She has also been contacted by Holly Jajcaj from Community Service about working together to create an updated “Parent Guide”. Hopefully this will be a project that can be tackled in the New Year.

Since September Karen attended a forum on Trauma Informed Practice which she found very fascinating and a Human Early Learning Project Research Expo at UBC. This also was interesting as it focused on the EDI and MDI screenings and pilot project results. I have completed a HELP training seminar and am now a qualified Community Trainer for EDI.

At this time she is attempting to read through the latest report, put out in November of this year by the Royal Society of Canada and the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Expert Panel, on Early Childhood Development and will update you with any new or interesting findings.

9. CYC Conference Update – Rob Lees

The date, April 26 and the venue, City Life Church has been confirmed for our Spring Conference. The general theme will be on engagement. We have 2 Key Note speakers, Kelly Henderson from FORCE and our former Lieutenant Governor, Steven Point. In the middle of the day we will have a networking and education piece with a “Care Pathways” event. Since this is the 20th anniversary, the conference will also include a celebration and recognition of founding members. Chairs have been appointed to most of the areas of work.

Kiran suggested that with some of the guests share about where we started as a CYC and where are we now. Julie said it would be nice to see some of the highlights of the past 20 years and a plan for the next 20. James commented that it should be decided whether the Spring event is a conference or a consultation. Duncan said that networking

is important. **Action: Dan invited everyone to attend the next working group meeting on January 15, 7:30 am at the Pantry Restaurant.**

10. Guest – Kristy Dyksoorn – “Youth as Gatekeepers”

Rob Lees began with some background. It was determined that the the best way for a community to respond to the needs of youth was to talk sooner and send kids to talk to kids. Youth as Gatekeepers has been running in Chilliwack for 3 years now. Three years ago contracted with FORCE and combined an idea being used by Canadian Mental Health Association, where university students went into High Schools to talk to students. Youth as Gatekeepers is a school-based program based on prevention where the providers are young people. Kristy Dykshoorn, who is heading this program, has nearly completed her Masters at Trinity Western University. The school-based facilitators develop a mental health literacy presentation focusing on depression (including suicide), anxiety, substance misuse, eating disorders and early psychosis. The facilitators engage with students and find which students are the most interested. They then recruit from this group. The ultimate goal of the group is to design a presentation that they can present to other students, while being mentored by university students. The groups in Chilliwack have names themselves; Sardis – Alive; Chilliwack Senior – Sessions; GW Graham – Pulse. The Alive groups was made up mainly of “smoke pit” kids. Participating in the program, changed their view of themselves. Anyone who wants to participate is able. A side benefit has been the creation of community that has been built as a result of students working together. Julie suggested providing links on the CYC website, to these presentations. While the program is somewhat standardized, it is recognized that each school has its own culture. Part of the vision is the have students present to adults. It was suggested to have a group come and present at a CYC meeting. Collette suggested the facilitators do a presentation for the Big Brothers Big Sisters teen mentors. Sheri said at the YMCA there are about 90 students who are not part of school based

activities. She sees value in have the facilitators present to this group as well.

11. New Business

Tobi Araki made the group aware on ongoing grants provided through the RCMP. A grant from the proceeds of crime, that some agencies may want to take advantage of closes on Dec.12.

<http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/crimeprevention/grants/index.htm>

Meeting adjourned. James was thanked for hosting.

Next meeting January 8, 9:00 am – 11:00 am

**Chilliwack Society for Community Living, 45195 Wells Road,
Chilliwack, BC**