



Meeting, February 5, 2013

**Meeting held at Chilliwack Society for Community Living,
45195 Wells Road, Chilliwack, BC**

**CYC Chairs: Susan Edgcombe
Dan Bibby**

Recorder: Karen Steegstra

Present:

Dan Bibby	MCFD	daniel.bibby@gov.bc.ca
James Challman	CCS	challmanj@comserv.bc.ca
Stewart Mclean	City of Chilliwack	mclean@chilliwack.com
Kiran Sidhu	FVDCD	ksidhu@fvcdc.org
Karen Steegstra	CYC	chwkchildand youthcoord@gmail.com
Collette Bohach	Big Brothers Big Sisters	Collette.bohach@bigbrothersbig sisters.ca
Julie Unger	CSCL	Julie.unger@cscl.org
Geri McGrath	Hospice	geri@chilliwackhospice.org
Constable Tobi Araki	RCMP	Tobi.araki@rcmp-grc.gc.ca
Sonja Mussel	Xyolhemeylh	Sonja.Mussel@Xyolhemeylh.com
Donna Dixon	CHHCF	Donna.dixon@chhcf.org
Debbie Denault	CLCS	debbied@chilliwacklearning.com
Duncan Macdonald	CYMH	Duncan.macdonald@gov.bc.ca
Stewart Mclean	City Council	mclean@chilliwack.com
Rohan Arul	SD #33	rohan_arul@sd33.bc.ca
Kirk Savage	SD #33	kirk_savage@sd33.bc.ca
Brenda Frisse	SD #33	brenda_frisse@sd33.bc.ca
Tracey Arsenault	Big Brothers Big Sisters	tracey.arsenault@bigbrothersbig sisters.ca

Katrina Bepple	CHHCF	Katrina.bepple@chhcf.org
Dave Snook	CYMH	David.snook@gov.bc.ca

Regrets:

Wayne Green	United Way	wayne@uwfv.bc.ca
Lisa Jarvos	Fraser Health	Lisa.jarvos@fraserhealth.ca
Steve Esau	CAPS	SEsau@pcrs.ca
Todd Lueck	City Life Centre	todd@citylifecentre.ca
Bobbi Jacob	Ann Davis	bobbi@anndavis.org
Susan Edgcombe	SD #33	Susan_edgcombe@sd33.bc.ca

Guest: Brenda Frisse

1. Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and introductions were led by Dan Bibby.

2. Review Of Minutes

Minutes were revised and adopted. Action: Karen will post January minutes on the website.

3. VTRA Protocol – Brenda Frisse

Brenda said the workshop in January went well and was well attended. She said there would be 2 days of Level 1 training in May, led by Theresa Campbell. This training will be open to community partners. The CYC members were told that signing the Protocol was not in any way legally binding. Instead it is an agreement of partnership. Dan explained that the CYC currently has 3 other Protocols: Suicide Prevention, Community Child Abuse and Neglect, and the CYC MOU. These Protocols should be reviewed by the appropriate sub-committees on an annual basis.

3. Sub-Committee Reports

Youth Matters – (Kelly Balasak) Collette Bohach shared in Kelly’s absence. Dan said the Youth Matters Committee should find another member to report at the CYC since Kelly will be working a lot in Abbotsford. Collette said that Challenge Day will be held in the Fall of 2013. The committee is gearing up to do 3 days; one at each of the High Schools in Chilliwack. The Committee is not sure whether Chilliwack Secondary will want to be involved, since this is a big transition year for them. Karen shared that the Youth Matters Committee was willing to make itself available to help during “Sexual Exploitation Awareness Week, March 10-16. Tobi share about the speakers. Julie highly recommended that parents attend on Tuesday night where, Merlyn Horton will be speaking on Cyber Safety.

Early Years - (Kiran Sidhu) The committee is currently forming task groups in response to the new strategic plan. The committee will partner once again with the YMCA for Healthy Kids Day. Trish Ackland has gotten permission to distribute ‘Right from the Start’ brochures in the maternity ward at CGH and is hoping that the Development Guide can also be distributed. The committee is looking for more opportunities, possibly “Ready Set Learn” fairs, to provide screening particularly on the south side of Chilliwack.

Clinical – (Duncan Macdonald) They are focusing on students who are in adolescent day treatment at Abbotsford Hospital. This is for students from Chilliwack who are unable to function in a regular school environment. There is learning, therapy and activities provided for these students. A.J. from the Suicide Task Force, is tracking trends and making sure there is education and awareness. Connect Parenting is going very well. Jan McCalpine and Sita Piers are doing an outstanding job of cooking meals and arranging caregivers. Another Connect Parenting will begin again in March, this time with an Aboriginal focus. David Snook from CYMH, was invited by Duncan to share about the Complex Care Initiative, under the direction of Chuck Geddes. Three people are being trained to work with kids who have developmental trauma and a long history of traumatic events. Neglect is a terrible disrupter. Kids who have gone from home to home have the greatest effects of trauma evident. The

focus is the care team which is all the people providing care including the foster parents. There is great collaboration with the RCMP. They are currently trying to lure those kids who have dropped out of school back in. The team has seen some dramatic changes already. Tobi shared that by involving the frontline workers will help in its effectiveness.

Middle Years – (Sheri Josephson) Rohan shared in Sheri’s absence. Rohan shared that the committee is currently reviewing the District profile in regards to the MDI data and determining how to use the data. The school reports have been sent to the schools with the question of whether the data is valuable. Also waiting to see if there is a correlation between the EDI and the MDI. The committee will then bring the common question back to HELP. At this time the committee is mainly focusing on the research around Middle Years. Rohan feels that obtaining consistency with the MDI will be a challenge. The McCreary which is being administered this year is helpful in getting support for high risk students in the district. It is helpful in developing prevention in Elementary, before students enter Middle School.

4. Healthy Kids Initiative – Donna Dixson and Katrina Beppe

Donna applauds the CYC and how this committee makes their initiative of getting information out, easier. The 4 priorities of the Chilliwack Hospital Health Care Foundation are Children and Youth, Seniors, Community Health and Hospital. Katrina is presently implementing a push 5210 message in elementary schools, both public and private. This message is in partnership with Children’s Hospital. Katrina is finding ways to engage each school according to their strengths. The foundation is currently working on a seminar series. There is misperception, especially among girls, that skinny means healthy.

Also working closely with Pacific Sport. They have had remarkable success in a short time. 13 – 17 year olds are a lost age group in regards to health and needs to be targeted. Chilliwack will be part of a pilot project. The foundation is also trying to develop an app. Will also be working with kids who are not engaged in any activity to see what small changes will make a difference towards good health.

Donna asked the CYC if there was any reason that CHHCF and CYC could sign an MOU in which CYC members would agree to promote the 5210 message, logo and info. **Action: CYC members are asked to discuss this with their agencies and bring responses to next CYC meeting.**

Debbie said the CLCS is able to help send out information. The CHHCF participated in Aboriginal Family Health Day at Central Community School. Telus is partnering with the “60 minute Kids Club” Part of this program allows kids to track their progress on a computer. It’s a great way to get kids engaged and competitive about healthy living.

5. Aboriginal Youth Project – Dan Bibby

Dan Ludeman was contracted to do a study on engaging Aboriginal Youth based on the concern of high vulnerability among Aboriginal Youth. Stolo, Xyolhemeylh, and MCFD worked together on this project. Theresa Point did an inventory and wrote a report. The results of this report will lead to the next phase as well as providing data to abdicate for Aboriginal youth needs. Surrey did a similar project and as a result of their findings put Aborginal youth centres in vulnerable areas. Still unsure of what will happen in Chilliwack; the project had funding for 1 year.

6. Eastern Fraser Valley CYC – Currently the Eastern CYC/HC meets quarterly. It has been a great opportunity to engage in conversation regarding what is happening in other communities. The committee is developing some action plans regarding care team development as well as collaborative training events.

7. Spring Consultation Update – The working groups are in place and are busy putting together a day which includes a creative exercise and celebration. Former members are being invited to attend including Sharon Gaetz.

Karen Steegstra shared the “mock” newspaper insert prepared by the Progress. All agencies are on board with participating in this anniversary insert. The cost to the CYC will be approximately \$3800 and will be featured in the paper on April 16. Agencies will be asked to provide 4-5 sentences describing the services their agency provides as well as a photo. There will also be opportunity for 4 or 5 agencies to feature a “success story”.

8. Strategic Plan – Members were given a copy of the strategic plan with updates and were encouraged to review to determine whether revisions or updates are needed. At this time the committee is trying to locate a signed copy of the MOU.

9. Coordinator's Report – Karen Steegstra

The other day, my eldest daughter overheard a work related conversation I was having on the phone. Once I hung up, Ariel said, “Whoa Mom, you sound like a professional. But seriously what language are you speaking? Sounds like code.” Yes, I’m getting the hang of it! When I started as Chilliwack’s Child and Youth Community Coordinator in September , I knew that at some point I would love my job. Five months later, I can say I love what I do! I feel very blessed to wake up each morning and be excited to embrace whatever the day will entail. Interesting people, important subject matter and so much learning!

January took off like a race horse. I sit on a number of committees and in my position find ways to support them through networking, promoting and gathering the information and support they require. In January I attended 2 regional meetings; the Council of Partners and the Eastern Fraser Valley CYC/HC. These meetings have proved very helpful in gathering ideas, opinions and knowledge of programs , as well as networking and bragging...I mean sharing, what we are accomplishing in Chilliwack. It is very valuable to discover what initiatives have been successful in other communities and to evaluate how they can be applied in our community. The communities in the Fraser Valley are looking for ways to work together whether in training, workshops or initiatives.

I am very involved in the working group for the Spring Consultation. I am very excited with the direction the group is taking and feel it is going to be a unique and satisfying experience for all who attend. As part of the promotions for this event, the CYC is supporting a FORCE initiative, T2P, Transition to Parenthood. This is part of the FORCE’s Youth Legacy Project. In support the CYC will be setting up a “wall” in Cottonwood Mall with the phrase, ‘As a parent I want _____’ Members of our community are invited to complete the phrase, whether they have children or not. The CYC has permission to use this display to promote our website and our Spring Consultation. We are grateful to Ace Signs and Awnings for their willingness to create and produce what is needed on short notice for a very discounted price. Thank you also to Cottonwood Mall for providing us the space to display. We are very grateful to the team at City Life Centre who have done an amazing job of creating the promotion posters for our Spring Consultation event. They have also agreed to create the design for a free standing banner that can be used as display at events. Once again, Ace Signs and Awnings have agreed to produce this at a reasonable price.

The VTRA workshop in January was a huge success. Over 50 people attended. Brenda Frisse and the VTRA Team did a fantastic job of presenting a lot of information in a limited space of time. What I thought was really great was that not only CYC members attended, but also a variety of representation from other community members; UFV students, Youth Pastors, Independent School Staff, Restorative Justice reps. Many of the people who attended are interested in the CYC and have visited and subscribed to our website.

Childandyouth.com. The hits to our website have gone up over 70%. Please keep in mind that we are working towards adding the research component to the website; any articles that you can forward will add to the relevance our website. Please check out your agency's information and make sure it is current and if it has not been added let me know asap!

One of the interesting meetings I had this month was with the PAC President from Sardis Secondary. She showed me the "Green Card" Sardis Secondary has created as a tool for students who may need the supports available in Chilliwack. She was hoping that I could somehow get the word out to make this a District initiative. As she was explaining the card to me, who happened to walk into the coffee shop but Brenda Frisse from Student Services at the School District. Brenda was very impressed and took the card to bring back to the School District office. The PAC President looked at me and said, "Wow". I casually tilted my head and replied that that was exactly what the CYC was about...results.

The other challenging task I had this month was to present a Success By 6 presentation for Vancity Credit Union. I was nervous, in that I didn't want to give them an overload of information they had already heard. It ended up being a huge success. As it turned out the staff was completely unaware of the long term effects of early years vulnerability, and the statistics in regards to Chilliwack. Because my position covers the Early Years and Youth, the presentation naturally lends itself to promoting childandyouth.com .

I am very impassioned to promote the CYC and the agencies represented. Please keep me up to date with what your agency is doing and what your agency requires to accomplish its goals. I am in contact with businesses and individuals who are looking for ways to volunteer, contribute or promote. Even if I have already met with you and your

agency, I do see value in meeting on a regular basis so I can stay apprised of your agency's strategic plan.

I look forward to hearing your agency updates. Please note, if we run out of time at our CYC meeting for updates, you are encouraged to email me a written report which I will gladly forward to our CYC members.

10. Agency Updates

CLSC – Debbie Denault

Debbie passed out cards promoting the City Wide Literacy Challenge. She said the event is building and there is good participation.

CYMH – Duncan MacDonald

Duncan shared how they are always looking for different ways to help troubled youth. They meet with Youth Workers on a regular basis to help them manage their clients while they are waiting for treatment.

Hospice – Geri McGrath

Geri talked about a Teen Bereavement pilot project which was very successful. As a result there are 6 youth volunteers at the school and they will also volunteer at the Horse Whisperer Grief Camp. Hospice also now offers a 10 week Suicide Bereavement course as well as Pregnancy Loss, both of which are well attended.

Hospice has been strategically reaching out to empower the community and the Transforming Trauma workshop in January is an example of that. March 8 will be Geri's last day working in Chilliwack as she has taken on a position at Vancouver Hospice. The CYC members are sad to see her go, but congratulated her on the new challenge and opportunity.

CHHCF – Donna Dixon

Donna shared how the foundation is presently doing an environmental scan of services for children and youth. In the Spring they will launch a corporate challenge for healthy living following the 5210 model.

Xyolhemeylh – Sonja Mussel

Sonja talked about the upcoming Aboriginal Family Conference happening at the downtown Promontory Church facilities. Presently they are gearing up for the summer camps which focus on culture, youth and family.

RCMP – Tobi Araki

Presently Grant Wilson is sitting in as acting superintendent until a replacement is found for retired Superintendent Keith Robinson. The RCMP are currently running three programs for youth. They are measuring the amount of negative police contacts 5 youth in particular have with the RCMP. The goal is to reduce criminality with positive police intervention. 17 Chilliwack youth will be attending the Youth Academy at Stillwood, two of them are identified as high risk. The RCMP are continuing to work on the lockdown procedures at schools and ensuring that everyone is on the same page.

MCFD – Dan Bibby

There continues to be a lot of creative work from staff. They have experienced much success from the co-location of some services. The staff do feel the pressure around budgets and staff reduction. At this time, they are not able to fill vacancies.

CDC – Kiran Sidhu

CDC is excited to be offering two workshops; one in February with Kim Bartel and Diane Melbourne in March.

CCS – James Challman

As part of their strategic plan, will be putting a rep. at the Middle Years table. James announced that Darby is on an extended maternity leave and they are presently trying to determine how to best fill her position until she returns. An area of concern for them is the closing of beds at the youth emergency shelter.

CSCL – Julie Unger

Julie let everyone know about the resource information day they are holding on February 16, 10 – 1. The purpose is to let parents know who are the service providers who are able to help kids with disabilities. Julie gave the example of Pacific Eye Doctors who will do an eye exam in a vehicle if the child is more comfortable. They also assist parents in applying for passes etc. The first girl who was on the work experience program has gotten a paid position. Julie shared that the #1 indicator of disabled adults being employed is whether they had a job as a youth.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – Collette Bohach

**Their organization is excited to be celebrating 100 years. They will
excellent participation at their bowling party launch.**

11. New Business

No new business.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting March 5, 9:00 am – 11:00 am

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