



Meeting, January 8, 2013

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

**CYC Chairs: Susan Edgcombe
Dan Bibby**

Recorder: Karen Steegstra

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	FVDCDC	ksidhu@fvcdc.org
Karen Steegstra	CYC	chwkchildandyouthcoord@gmail.com
Collette Bohach	Big Brothers Big Sisters	Collette.bohach@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca
Julie Unger	CSCL	Julie.unger@cscl.org
Bobbi Jacob	Ann Davis	bobbi@anndavis.org
Constable Tobi Araki	RCMP	Tobi.araki@rcmp-grc.gc.ca
Steve Esau	CAPS	Sesau@pcrs.ca
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
Tracey Arsenault	Big Brothers Big Sisters	tracey.arsenault@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca
Kelly Balasak	MCFD	Kelly.Balasak@gov.bc.ca

Regrets:

Wayne Green	United Way	wayne@uwfv.bc.ca
Lisa Jarvos	Fraser Health	Lisa.jarvos@fraserhealth.ca

Guests: Rohan Arul-Pragasm, Assistant Superintendent School District #33

1. Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and introductions were led by Susan. Julie was thanked for the use of the facilities at CSCL

2. Review Of Minutes

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

3. Sub-Committee Reports

Youth Matters – (Kell Balasak) Kelly shared how Youth Matters was continuing to work on Challenge Day however the committee has discovered the cost is double than what was anticipated. The committee is unsure if there will be time to raise money for this year. To run Challenge Day for 2 days the cost will be \$6400 and with travel and accommodations \$9500. Waiting to hear back from Kiwanis on what they are willing to contribute. It is unfortunate that the teacher who led the planning last year is unable to assist. It does not work to partner up with Aggasiz in April.

Action: Youth Matters Committee will confirm dates so the CYC can get on board with support.

Early Years - (Kiran Sidhu) The Early Years Committee is beginning plans for Healthy Kids Day an event where they partner with the YMCA. Anywhere from 800-1000 families attend this event where there

is screening, free lunch, entertainment and activities. The Early Years committee will be sure to secure a more visible location for screening this year. A huge focus for the committee this year is providing parenting supports.

Clinical – (Duncan Macdonald) At Clinical's December meeting there was some discussion around youth led programming. The committee is looking into integrating systems. Dr. Pleido-Pierce would like to see a more synchronized referral system. The Connect Parenting will be taking place. The parenting group focuses on attachment in the teen years. There is strict adherence to a model which has had huge success. Duncan said to keep referrals to Connect Parenting coming as they would like to be able to offer it continuously.

Middle Years – (Sheri Josephson) Dan Bibby shared in Sheri's absence. He said the newly formed committee is co-chaired by Jim Edgcombe and Sheri Josephson. It will focus on ages 6-11 where there seems to have been a void in programming. The next meeting will be January 9 at Central Elementary.

4. Agency Updates

RCMP – Tobi Araki – She shared how 3 programs started up in September.

1. For the first time there are 4 youth officers who are able to go into the schools to offer programs. Tobi works with the Southside schools. The RCMP are doing a Youth At Risk pilot project where they find ways to get involved with the lives of high risk youth. There has been a lot of focus in the downtown area, especially in regards to property crimes. The RCMP have been focussing on 2 youth in particular, 2 girls, one connected to a school and one not. The RCMP will be in contact with agencies to ensure there is a continuity of care after hours. There seems to be a group of about 48 high risk youth that the youth officers are hoping to make contact with.

2. Youth Academy – The application process for the academy is in process. Twenty Chilliwack youth will be participating, two of them high risk. Fund raising is still taking place for this event.

3. Constable Nash is working on updating the Safe Schools project which began in 2007/08. The RCMP go through each school and create a full inventory of gas shut-offs, exits etc., as part of a response plan in case of an event. Developed Response Plans will go on the screens of RCMP cruisers. IAR is response training for uniformed members, teaching them how to clear out a school. Private schools have also been included in this.

School District – Kirk Savage

Community Schools will be launching an after schools sports initiative geared for 6 – 12 year olds. It is a free program which includes 1 hour physical literacy and 1 hour of activity. It is a 12 week program that will hopefully be running by Spring break. Some schools will be partnering with the YMCA.

Chilliwack Community Services – James Challman

James shared how in the Christmas sharing program the need for toy hampers was down to 470 compared to 520 the previous year. There has been no lack of support and CCS has extras that will be used for next year. 895 children received gifts, 360 were between the ages of 4-9. Susan wondered whether there were any stats on who is providing hampers in Chilliwack. This is the first year there seems to be a decline in need. Todd suggested that the Salvation Army would have the strongest pulse in regards to the distribution of food hampers. At Bernard Elementary, the teachers fund raise to create hampers. There is strong community support for this.

FVCDC – Kiran Sidhu

The CDC is excited about two upcoming guest speakers; Diane Melbourne who specializes in FAS and Kim Bartel whose expertise is Sensory Regulation. Kiran shared how as part of her Master's program, she is developing a self-regulation curriculum using the research of Stuart Shanker and others. CDC will be running a pilot project with CCS using this curriculum.

CSCL – Julie Unger

Julie shared about youth transitioning to adulthood and how with a grant through MCFD developed the Bridge Program. For youth

receiving support, once they reach 19 all supports are removed. This can put a lot of strain on families especially in some instances it means parents having to quit a job. CSCL has put \$40,000 towards a pilot project they are doing in 2012/13 to do intensive Bridge for 18 – 22 year olds. They have handpicked youth to prepare them for employment readiness. Some parents find it difficult to give their children independence. In order for youth to participate in this program, parents are required to provide their child with a phone and wallet. Youth are taught how to use public transit. At this 7 kids are participating in an 8 week work experience which could translate into full time employment. Employers who have been part of this program say it is a boost for staff morale and benefits public relations. Some students are in their second work experience. CSCL is working on collecting concrete data so that they can go back to agencies and say that a 19 year old cut-off is arbitrary and supports should continue past if necessary.

CAPS – Steve Esau

All positions are finally filled. Youth Counsellors in the schools and all support groups are running. January is a busy month as many people struggle over Christmas. Steve got some great ideas at the Youth Talks forum and hopes to have guest speakers from the different agencies speak to his staff.

CYMH – Duncan MacDonald

Mental Health workers are down by 10%. CYMH received many referrals following the Amanda Todd incident. Behavioural Therapy programs, Anxious and Depressed Kids, Wellness Group Psychiatry, Preventative programs all continue to run. There have been a lot of referrals from the hospital. They are working collaboratively with partners and sharing skills. They continue to find different ways to work with and support the number of people on the wait list.

CLCS – Debbie Denault

The CLCS has had collaboration with 70 organizations that have participated with literacy in 2011/12. The Red lady Bug – “Read While You Wait” has been running for 10 years now. This programme started from the Early Years Committee. There are lots of businesses and

booksellers involved. The video was very beneficial for promoting. More volunteers are needed. \$10,000 came into the community for family literacy and this year they will receive \$7000. ‘Stress Free Math Homework for Parents’ has been a successful initiative and has been offered at Cultus and Central Elem. It teaches parents basic math concepts so that can confidently assist their children. National Family Literacy Day is January 27 with a Literacy Challenge at the Chief’s game. February 1-21 is the City Wide Literacy Challenge; read for 20 minutes for 21 days.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – Collette Bohach

This year the organization celebrates 100 years! February 7 will be the launch date with a celebration at Chili Bowl Lanes; “Bowl for Kids”. The Chilliwack Chiefs participate in this event bowling with wait list and other children. It is always a highlight for the children who participate. The Young Parents program is moving forward with 2 interviews in process. Have had many inquiries of people who would like to participate as mentors. Currently the organization is in need of more male mentors. In school mentors can be grade 10 or higher, out of school mentors, 19 years or older with a valid driver’s license. Tracey shared that Big Brothers and Big Sisters is currently running programs in 5 elementary schools and 2 middle schools, and that the after school programs are having great success. Vedder is interested in introducing a program for next year. There is currently a need for more teen mentors. Members suggested to Tracey that she go to Revolutions or MMA, the Youth Academy to enlist potential mentors. It was suggested that Challenge Day would be a good opportunity to encourage mentorship.

City Life Centre – Todd Lueck

City Life will be offering Divorce Care and Divorce Care for Kids again. Last year City Life adopted an initiative “Project Connect”, where they committed themselves to offer 50 acts of service in the community. While they didn’t quite reach 50, they were able to accomplish some very generous acts in the community, helping people who needed some extra care. It was very inspiring for all those who participated. The Youth Ministry at City Life raised \$1600 which was given to Bernard Elementary to help a family in crisis. This donation was met

by someone in City Life's congregation and so a total of \$3200 was given to Bernard Elementary.

5. Neighbourhood of Learning – Kirk Savage

The Neighbourhood Community Learning Centre will open at Chilliwack Secondary in January 2014. The vision includes a High School, A Distance Ed. Centre and a Neighbourhood Learning Centre. The facilities will be used 7 days a week all year long. After hours and weekends the building will be used for community programs which will bring in extra monies for the running and staffing of the Learning Centre. The rate of rental will be affordable to encourage partnerships. The NLC will have its own entrance and reception area and its own computer lab. A District employee will be hired to manage the NLC. This person will have to be very entrepreneurial. The NLC is the same concept as a Community School, only larger. The two main partners are MCFD and CCS. The criteria for programs being offered will be programs which will have a direct impact on students and secondly, programs which support family and the elderly.

Kirk said there will be a community kitchen but at this time it is unknown who will have ownership of it. James from CCS said they are still in the process of deciding which programs they will offer at NLC. Downtown Family Place will move there and there will be a preschool and childcare open to the community. Dan said MCFD hopes to use some of the office space for family meetings or one on one counselling. As this is a very vulnerable area of the community, MCFD will use the space to have staff available and more accessible. It will be a Youth Focused service delivery. MCFD is still in the process of conferring with community partners to determine the best use of the space.

6. CYC Conference Update – Dan shared that the working group would be meeting next week on January 15, and members were encouraged to attend. There are now working committees in place.

7. Coordinators Report – Karen Steegstra

Due to shortage of time, Karen was unable to share her report. It has been posted on the CYC website.

8. New Business

No new business.

Meeting adjourned.

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

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