



Meeting, October 1, 2013

Mathieson Centre, 45195 Wells Road, Chilliwack

**CYC Chairs: Dan Bibby
Julie Unger**

Recorder: Karen Steegstra

Present:

Susan Edgcombe	SD #33	Susan_edgcombe@sd33.bc.ca
Dan Bibby	MCFD	Daniel.Bibby@gov.bc.ca
Karen Steegstra	CYC	chwkchildandyouthcoord@gmail.com
Sonja Mussell	Xyolhemeylh	Sonja.Mussell@Xyolhemeylh.com
Katrina Beppe	CHHCF	Katrina.beppe@chhcf.org
Julie Unger	CSCL	julie.unger@cscl.org
Donna Dixon	CHHCF	Donna.dixon@chhcf.org
Kiran Sidhu	FVDC	ksidhu@fvcdc.org
Shari West	YMCA	shari.west@vanymca.org
Kelly Janveaux	YMCA	kelly.janveaux@vanymca.org
Debbie Denault	CLCS	debbied@chilliwacklearning.com
Tracey Arsenault	Big Brothers Big Sisters	tracey.arsenault@bigbrothersbigsis.org
Steve Esau	CAPS	SEsau@pcrs.ca
Anne Todd	Fraser Health	Anne.Todd@fraserhealth.ca

Wayne Green	United Way	wayne@uwfv.bc.ca
Sabine Mendez	Healthy Communities Council	

Regrets:

Duncan Macdonald	CYMH	Duncan.Macdonald@gov.bc.ca
Stewart Mclean	City of Chilliwack	mclean@chilliwack.com
Tobi Araki	RCMP	tobi.araki@rcmp-grc.gc.ca
Rohan Arul-Pragasm	SD#33	rohan.arul-pragasm@sd33.bc.ca
Lisa Jarvos	Fraser Health	
Liz Lynch	Hospice Society	liz@chilliwackhospice.org
Les Talvio	Cyrus Centre	les@cyruscentre.com
Collette Bohach	Big Brothers Big Sisters	collette.bohach@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca
Todd Lueck	City Life	todd@citylifecentre.ca
Bobbi Jacob	Ann Davis	bobbi@anndavis.org
James Challman	CCS	challmanj@comserv.bc.ca

Guests: Rob Lees, Dan Ludeman

1. Welcome and introductions

Julie welcomed everyone and introductions were made. A special welcome was given to Sabine Mendez, the new coordinator for the Healthy Communities Council.

2. Review/revise/approve September 10, 2013 minutes

No revisions made to September minutes. Action: Karen will post minutes to website.

3. Quality of Life Survey – Rob Lees

The Social Research and Planning Council is gearing up for the 2014 survey. The last one was done in 2009 and is funded by the City of Chilliwack. As part of the lead up to the survey, they want to make stakeholders aware. By reading the past survey can forward questions that they feel need to be added or reworded. The Council wants to be able to compare the 2014 results with the 2009 results, making note of the achievements. Council would like to know what is helpful to other organizations. They also want the survey to be easy to take. Rob handed out copies of the last survey.

Action: CYC members are asked to review and forward feedback to Rob Lees.

The desire is to triangulate this survey with others being done such as Fraser Health's Health Survey Census and to integrate data. Are hoping to have 1000 randomly selected people complete the surveys. Fall 2013 is set aside for initial inputs; January to April will be the collation and review of data; May and June a draft will be created; September – November, implementation. Rob handed out a newspaper insert with the 2009 results. Interesting to note that although crime statistics were going down, people still don't feel safe. Connectedness is an issue and seems to be in decline. Rob was asked if Reserves and Institutions were going to be included. Rob replied possibly as a subset. He is hoping to get on the Aboriginal Advisory for the School District.

4. Consultation 2014 – Rob Lees

The Consult working group requires the approval of the CYC to move forward with the 2014 Consultation. The date chosen is April 4. City Life has been accessed as a venue, however also looking into the possibility of using the new Neighborhood Learning Centre, however at this point there is no mechanism for booking space.

The Consultation is meant to consist of 4 pillars:

- Networking**
- Improving insight by way of the Consultation feedback**
- Knowledge transfer**
- Vision and inspiration by way of a Key Note speaker**

The working group would like to build around the theme of "Family Smart". Rob told the group how the staff at CSCL does sensitivity training and uses a model that other agencies could follow. Some ideas are to invite families to talk about their best and worst experiences. A possible speaker is Paul

Kerkshaw who has tentatively agreed. Even though his focus is Early Years, he is very adaptable and is always pushing for a society that invests in its younger families. The Consult has always been funded by the partnering agencies and this year the Social Research Council has committed \$1000. Because of the celebration element, last year's budget was approximately \$11,000. This year it will be closer to \$6000 - \$7000.

Family Smart is a trademarked phrase coined by Keli Anderson and Dr. Jana Davidson, co-founders of the National Institute for Families of Children and Youth Mental Health, and ties in with "nothing about us without us". A provincial conference for the purpose of empowering families is taking place in May 2014. What we generate at our Consult could be transferred up for the May conference. We also want opportunity to show case the different agencies.

Debbie suggested using 'Every Door is the Right Door' as part of the Consult. Wayne noted that after reading the September minutes, he was concerned where the money was going to come from for training frontline staff. Julie replied that we would be able to draw from our own resources. The costs would be quite minimal and any of the benefits would supersede that. Debbie said that the CLCS would be willing to offer any training around literacy if needed. Susan inquired as to why a pro-d Day is chosen for the Consult. This makes it difficult for many who should be there to attend as they are attending other workshops. Counsellors and administrators are able to get away on regular school days. The CYC members were asked for feedback. There was discussion that if on a Pro-d day, childcare would need to be provided, especially since we want parents to attend. Rob suggested that there be a working group committed to childcare. Tracey suggested that having the Consult at the NLC may make it easier for youth to attend. **Action: Agencies are to consider how much they are willing to contribute this year. Wayne said the United Way has an Executive Director's "discretionary fund" that may be accessible for this event.**

Dan thanked Rob for his continued leadership.

5. Aboriginal Youth Engagement – Dan Ludeman

The Aboriginal Youth Engagement project was started as a result of an intense province wide consult. A couple of sites were chosen as a pilot project; Surrey and Chilliwack. In the last year they have made significant headway. The mapping and the Youth forum confirmed what was discovered in 2008. The question was "how do we hear the voice of Aboriginal youth?" There was discussion around access and transportation. Many youth were not sure where to go for services. The youth also expressed a desire for a youth centre, not solely aboriginal, but one that had some Aboriginal

programming and services. It was discussed how that for many youth in care, it is difficult to maintain relationships and it gets even more complicated whether “on reserve” or “off reserve”. The question is how to build a positive Aboriginal identity. The linkages between the Aboriginal service providers does not seem to be purposeful and there is a substantial amount of duplication. A seamless service model is not actually happening.

The key initiatives for the rest of the year:

- Create a Youth Advisory Council – already have 5-6 youth who are enthusiastic**
- Talk to staff regarding child protection and children with special needs, on how to deliver services to Aboriginal youth**
- Will have a second annual “Building Bridges” Youth Forum in December and from there build an action plan with concrete actions**
- Help staff to start thinking about cultural service by having lunch and learns**

Dan and Sonja have been very supportive of this initiative and are working hard with agencies to move ahead in the community.

Donna pointed out that as a CYC we still do not have a good sense of what each agency is doing. She suggested that each month an agency be given 10 minutes to highlight what they do. CYC members agreed this was a good idea. Dan said there is good collaboration taking place that we may not always be aware of and while there is intentional work being done, there is always room to grow. Dan L. said it is good to see what is working and then to explore how to broaden it. It is important to have the difficult discussions. Dan L. said that for the December Forum they are requesting that agencies allow staff to attend, provide input as to what you think is important and if agencies are able to provide financial support that is always needed as well. Rob suggested that as we work towards becoming more multi-cultural, we need to consider the things that we can learn from Aboriginal culture that could become core values. He said that often cultural experiences are devalued.

6. Strategic Plan – Will be brought forward to November meeting.

7. Every Door is the Right Door – The first working group meeting will take place this afternoon, 12:30 pm at MCFD.

8. Agency Updates

CHHCF – October 1-7 is World Breast Feeding Week and Chilliwack’s Breast Feeding Challenge is October 5 at the Vineyard Community Centre. Everyone

was invited to take part at Harvest for Health, October 10 at the new Hampton Hotel.

FVACFSS – Have gone through lots of staffing changes. Groups will be starting up again soon.

Fraser Health – Are promoting their survey to collect data that will be used in the longterm since data once collected through the census is no longer available. Are needing at least 2% of the population to participate.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – Collette has been doing workshops in Agassiz and as result got an overwhelming response to the in school mentoring programs. Are still working on the young parent mentorship program. Have excellent mentors in place but still trying to get buy in from the young moms. Are working at creating relationship building activities to help build trust.

FV CDC – CDC will be offering more universal parenting programs in Chilliwack. Triple P seminars will be coming to Central Elementary in November.

United Way – Are presently on a donation campaign. As part of the poverty reduction initiative are creating awareness around the “Living Wage”. They are trying to get representatives from each community and they meet on the 4th Wednesday of October. At the next meeting will be reviewing community presentation to create a universal one. VanCity has signed up as a Living Wage employer. Priority Grant applications are now open. Wayne requests that agencies check criteria before applying. Money is distributed by geographic location. Application deadline is, November 15, 4:00 pm.

CLCS – The new brochures are ready. The adult students who are enrolled in Family Literacy played a huge role in the language and design of the brochure. Karen’s contact info is included to show CLCS’s partnership to the CYC and to ensure that families who need others supports for young children get the resources they need.

YMCA – Sheri is now heading up the Striving Kids Campaign. The new General Manager replacing Sheri is Yvonne Comfort.

CSCL – October is Community Living month in B.C. and Canada. A big issue they are facing now is in regards to funding collective agreement contracts. The province had started to fund wage increases in April and are unable to provide anymore. Having to work around a 4% cut in funding. CSCL is coming

up on its 60th anniversary; a great history to celebrate and many committed staff. On Saturday, Oct.19 is a celebration and fundraiser for CSCL. Contact Julie if you would like tickets.

MCFD – Are working with a reduction of 5 permanent employees, which has made for some challenges. The Early Years initiative is proceeding with a Provincial Director of Early Years. The hope is to have Early Years Hubs throughout the Province. \$2,000,000 has been committed to providing daycare spots. MCFD is still looking into which programs will fit at the new NLC. The programs will be youth focused and be around youth justice and youth mental health. There is a meeting planned on site for January. CCS will also be running a number of programs here as well.

9. Community Coordinator's Report

September took off like lightening with all the agencies back to working at full capacity.

At the beginning of September I concentrated my energies in assisting the School District Early Year's representative, Charlotte DeBryun, in planning our first Early Childhood Expo. The event had excellent participation from agencies however not the turn out from families we had hoped. The evaluations from the participants and attendees were all very positive and the event even received an endorsement from Mayor Gaetz. Charlotte and I have been in discussion and are looking into planning a similar event around Family Day in February.

September is when most of the sub-committees met after a summer sabbatical. I sit on most of the sub-committees along with a number of working groups, including the Consultation working group, Collaborative Practice and "Every Door is the Right Door." The CYC is making positive progress in building off of last year's Consultation evaluations and keeping aligned with our Strategic Plan. I have been in the process of updating all the information from the sub-committees and am waiting on co-chairs to provide me information regarding their membership and task/working groups.

I have been asked to work with the new coordinator for the city's Healthy Communities Counsel. Sabine Mendez, Karen Stanton and I have already met and feel there are many things the CYC is already doing that parallels with

what the Healthy Communities Counsel is working towards. It is positive to note that the model of the CYC is one that others are looking to emulate.

This month I was asked to do a telephone interview with Peter Briggs, from “The Church in Chilliwack”, to explain what the CYC was all about. Like so many people, he had no idea the CYC existed and the great work being done by the agencies in our community. We are gaining momentum, word is getting out and people are becoming more familiar with the CYC.

The location of my office at Central Elementary Community School provides perfect opportunity for conversations and building relationships with service providers and those participating in the programs. It is my goal to sit down with some of the parents accessing the services at Gateway to hear their stories and then be able to report back to stakeholders.

Next Meeting: November 5, 9:00 am,

School District Office, 8430 Cessna Drive, Chilliwack, BC