

SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF WILLIAMS LAKE & AREA

COMMUNITY MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

Date: February 22, 2021 **Time:** 11:30 am – 1:00 pm **Location:** [Zoom](#)

Chair: Larry Stranberg **Minutes:** Bree Odd

Present: Anne Burrill, Karen Irvine, Larry Stranberg, Carla Bullinger, Shannon Thom, Barb Jones, Kristi Rintoul (guest speaker), Laurie Walters, Sheila Boehm, Rosanna McGregor, Pat Biblow, Rev. Nancy Colton, Judy Ventry, Jodie Boyle, Janice Breck, Jessica Dunn

Regrets: Jessica Dunn

Review & Approve Agenda for: February 22, 2021

Motion 1: Barb Jones

Motion 2: Jessica Dunn

Review & Approve Minutes for: January 25, 2021

Motion 1: Karen Irvine

Motion 2: Shannon Thom

Guest Speaker(s):

Kristi Rintoul - Senior Manager of Community Impact with United Way TNC.:

- bc211 is a non-profit social services directory, established to strengthen communities by connecting people to services and resources confidentially by call, text, or web app
- Currently there is 14,000 active listings for everything from food banks, to mental health and employment services with general to more specific info available, info can be downloaded and printed
- Services are provided in 150 languages; call centre staff are trained through Victim Services/Crisis Intervention with live text and web chat available 365 days a year from 8am to 11pm
- Site is more targeted than just googling, helpful for older adults/seniors, benefits all communities as a 1 stop app especially in emergency situations – recently 100 calls were legitimate with 150-200 calls not having to utilize 911
- Monthly analytics are available to communities, free data can be utilized to advocate for those agencies being targeted most, data is anonymous, no personal information is collected
- Encourage communities to utilize the app as much as possible and if there are resources not listed email updates@bc211.ca and have them added

Comments, Questions and Answers:

Carla – CCPL on list but not showing accurate info, changed quickly. Community Navigation training where “every door is the right door” has been using bc211

Anne – How do we get word about bc211, especially those not knowing how to get connected to agencies, creating pathways, for those not sure where to start, at the right entry point?

Kristi – Anne talk one on one with Kristi for promotional materials

Carla – It would be good to have Kristi present bc211 info at the Early Years table and others

Kristi – Connect with kristi@unitedwaytnc.ca

Carla – CCPL ESL settlement support listed but not providing, can we request to have it removed?

Jodie – There is baseline data, 3 way calling, statistically used for connecting

Lightning Round Organizational Updates: Remember you only have 2 minutes :)

Sheila Boehm – No news on the river valley, no slides. Funding available for different COVID streams to \$2500 for not for profits. Not in city, Bull Mountain Cross Country Skiing club received some for COVID related supplies. Can be used for cleaning products, sanitation, hand sanitizer, etc.

Shannon Thom – Horton Ventures (d.ba. WorkBC Centre Williams Lake): Currently services only available via Zoom or phone, self service is closed to public. Resumes can be emailed & printed. Accommodating Pathways to Employment

Rosanna McGregor – Cariboo Friendship Society (CFS): Busy with COVID response – shelters, food security initiatives - freezers and food gift cards out to tenants. Activity boxes for family shut ins and helping people to feel connected. Tax season hard as many received CERB benefits and shouldn't have, showing on T-4's & T-5's, our job now not to scold but help people sort out. Assessments/billing noticing more visits. 50 housing units proposal went out and waiting response from Dana Lock (Williams Lake First Nations and Interior Health support)

Pat Biblow – Thompson Rivers University (TRU): Open, completed reading week, no one really in offices as many working from home. Preparing for fall courses synchronous or asynchronous some students enjoy working learning from home, some may not revert back to face to face – there is a committee in place for this

Laurie Question: Do you know about Sprott Shaw and government funding for ECE program?

Pat Answer: No, but we are pushing and advocating for the program here. Pat will look into government funding

Reverend Nancy Colton – St. Andrews United Church: Grateful to be here, thank you to Anne for making the link. Learning who's who and who does what and how to participate, to be part of the solution

Karen – Cariboo Chilcotin Child Development Centre (CCDC): CDC's Early Years Coordinator, working with high-risk clients in community. Looking forward to Nature walks with

groups. Mother's group in house provides COVID check-ins for moms with young children, if a good response we will open to others. bc211 interesting, pursue and refer to CDC for parents struggling with parenting issues

Anne Question: Is there a COVID check-in visuals/posters to share with social media to connect people? There is an active moms group on Facebook.

Karen Answer: Karen to look into

Judy Ventry – Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction: MSDPR is ending the \$150/month supplement to "ween" people of the \$300 they were getting for COVID in April. Waiting to have upgrade to shelter money passed in the new budget. Currently providing street outreach ½ time as offices are closed. Providing some virtual services at the Salvation Army. It is helpful as government offices can trigger some. There are lots of complaints about online applications, Judy can escalate applications for those in high need

Jodie Boyle – Red Cross: Will be sending out invitations to Community Meeting, to recognize the layers of needs not just from Wildfires (Pandemic also). Meeting to take place early March with manageable group sizes to reflect on if CRC has it right? what can we do now? Etc.

Janice Breck – Canadian Mental Health Association: Lots going on, issues with an old building and working to navigate strategies around the contract renewal time. Lots of meetings, 1-3 Beyond the Blues Zoom events, first will focus on Anxiety, Depression/Joy, Isolation, etc. ½ staff working from home, and services are up and running

Judy Comment: Janice connect to Judy re Beyond the Blues poster and forward to her

Carla Bullinger – Cariboo Chilcotin Partners for Literacy (CCPL): Virtual English classes offered. Appointments required for 1 to 1 meeting. Digital Financial Literacy has been expanded with the purchase of new tablets and is provided at Baker Manor

Laurie Walters – Cariboo Memorial Hospital/Division of Family Practice: Facility Engagement hat – doctors come to Laurie for new initiatives. Emergency docs, Dr. Kriek and general nurses working on Opioid use disorder. Community Futures hat – marketing succession planning for businesses (it can take up to 2 years to sell a business). Zoominars provided in March for businesses thinking of retiring/selling – You've Got Talent, Recruitment and Retention. Laurie can provide assistance 1 to 1. Non-profits showing interest in this

Judy Question: When talking Opioid use disorder, what are you meaning?

Laurie Answer: Working to break the stigma – opioid use can impact all stages of life

Jessica Dunn – Cariboo Chilcotin Child Development Centre: still responding to ever changing factors. providing out of office services for clients. Dr. McKay, pre-school/daycare, family counsellor free until next February, thanks to Red Cross for providing funding. Prenatal classes moved online, still provided in person in gym with limited space. 6-week parenting program starting April 6 from 5-6 pm

Barb Jones – Communities That Care (CTC), AXIS, Restorative Justice: Funding from Red Cross allowed four youth to use the Youth Engagement Toolkit in school. Looking for

grade 11 mentors. Bach Harrison completing the 2020 Youth Prevention Needs Assessment analysis, waiting for data material to tackle prevention strategies

Anne Burrill – Social Planning Council & Thrive Project Lead: Thrive Strategy complete, presenting to community and council for endorsement and implementation of strategy. Tangible pieces being worked on and looking for ways to leverage resources for initiatives like the Rent Bank, Food Security, Housing, Digital initiatives, etc. Identifying work already being done by community and ways to celebrate work to lift people out of poverty. How we can support that work?. For information on the COVID Response meeting contact Anne or Bree

Rosanna Question: Where can Excel spreadsheet online training be found?

Bree Odd – Social Planning Council: Continues work on newsletters, will be switching over to Mailchimp. Continue work on Regional Rent Bank, recognizes organizational capacity is a challenge but movement is taking place

Larry Stranberg – Community Futures: Open regular business hours, very busy, prefer people to make appointments.

Motion to adjourn Janice Breck

Meeting Adjourned: 12:43 pm