

Community Members Meeting Minutes

Date: February 27, 2023

Time: 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Location: [Zoom](#)

Chair: Larry Stranberg

Minutes: Bree Odd

Present: Larry Stranberg, Bree Odd, Brianna van de Wijngaard, Laurie Walters, Shannon Thom, Sherry Yonkman, Michael Moses, Michael Moses, Marvene Latey, Stacey Miranda, Jill Zacharias (guest speaker), Beth Veenkamp, Silvia Siebert Dubray, Krista Harvey, Hannah Diether, Carla Bullinger, Surinderpal Rathor, Beth Holden, Robin Hunt, Carrie Julius

Regrets: Eva Navrot, Craig Glover, Barb Jones

Land Acknowledgement

The Social Planning Council of Williams Lake and Area would like to acknowledge this meeting is taking place on the traditional unceded territory of the Secwepemc Nation and the T'ixelc people.

Review & Approve Agenda for February 27, 2023

Motion to accept Shannon Thom **Seconded** Krista Harvey **Carried**

Review & Approve Minutes for January 23, 2023

Motion to accept Krista Smith **Seconded** Laurie Walters **Carried**

Member Introductions: Share your name and the organization you represent.

Guest Speaker: Jill Zacharias, BC Manager of Growth and Impact - Communities Ending Poverty, Vibrant Communities - Tamarack Institute

- Tamarack develops and supports collaborative strategies that engage citizens and institutions to solve major community issues across Canada and nationally
- Four areas of focus: collective action, building youth futures, deepening community, and addressing climate change
- The principles of Tamarack are Community Connections, Place Matters, Hope and Optimism, Equity and Inclusion, Courage and Learning, Action and Impact
- Catalyze change to build capacity at community levels for system change at the local level, creating a sense of belonging
- Advocate for systems change at a higher level based on local levels of input
- Always learning and evaluating to understand what systems keep people in poverty
- Networking with over 90 communities across Canada
- 1st time attending the Together BC Strategies at BC Government meeting on Feb 28

- Build capacity in the community through coaching and peer–expert support, group/online learning, events, publications, policy and systems support
- UBCM Thrive Reduction funding, working together to develop and implement plans for poverty reduction
- 23 active members with 30 other communities learning together across BC to set the stage for change at the local level
- Support communities of learning: lessons learned, and connecting dots with others working on similar causes
- Plan H Healthy Communities funding supports living wage initiatives
- It is critical to align all efforts
- Advocate for Collective Impact for all tables working, learning, and shifting together
- Case studies: Transforming Systems Through Lived Experience – Guide 10 Ways Local Government Can Propel Social Change, Summit for Strength April 25-27, 2023
- Support resilience at a local level, individuals, local government, and community to reduce the impact

Links shared via chat

- <https://www.tamarackcommunity.ca/library/case-study-transforming-systems-through-lived-experience>
- <https://www.tamarackcommunity.ca/library/10-ways-local-government-can-propel-positive-social-change>
- <https://events.tamarackcommunity.ca/summit-for-strength>

Questions, Answers, Comments

Michael – thank you, this work aligns with local goals – human awareness, looking forward to attending the summit. Please forward links

Laurie – thank you

Carla – thank you, we have a poverty reduction strategy and review it regularly to continue on the path, moving priorities forward. We are working together to re-boot

Jill – recognizes work already being done, it is the Seeds of Hope

Surinderpal – thank you, great presentation

Jill – there is an opportunity to have a group watch party via Zoom for the upcoming summit. If interested let her know. There are two free seats for the summit (Laurie and Michael attending)

Carla – thank you Beth for being a strong advocate

Lightning Round - Organizational Updates, a Challenge/burning questions, or a Success

Michael Moses, City of Williams Lake: Message from Shannon O'Donovan – advocate for climate action. Release of “*We Can Think It Out*” on Friday, March 3

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VddZgwBhVNs>. This was a very special collaboration

project between a group of youth ages 10-18 yr. olds and a few Cariboo local musicians, Pharis Romero, Shannon O'Donovan and Dena Baumann. The film festival is hosting the "What's Up in the Puddle" at the Arts Centre, tonight. Tickets are \$10, cash only at the door.

Shannon Thom, Work: thank you, Michael, no updates today

Sherry Yonkman, Downtown Business Improvement Association (Downtown BIA): Attended the Harm Reduction community training event, organized by Laurel White. Please take the time to attend the evening session coming up in the near future; it is well worth your time. BIA finished the bingo presentation to support local restaurants. Current focus Women of the Month. Contact Jason Reel or Sherry if you would like to nominate an outstanding woman in our area. There will be a ladies' night at the long house on March 31.

Krista Harvey, BGC Williams Lake Club: There is still time to register for the spring break programs for 5-12-year-olds and Noopa 12-18-year-olds.

Melissa Newberry, Thompson Rivers University (TRU): Day of Giving on March 2-3 initiative funds go towards making post-secondary education available to rural population <https://www.tru.ca/giving.html>. "A Night Under the Stars" gala on April 1st. Not public yet, but ticket sales will start soon. Contact Melissa for more information.

Marvene Latye, Northern Interior Communities Association, Community Gaming Grants: Workshops March 9 and 30 at 1:30 pm. Prince George's Coordinator resigned and looking for someone to fill the position.

Laurie Walters, Community Futures (CF), SPC: Applying for several grants.

Silvia Siebert-Dubray – City of Williams Lake: Updating Community Safety Plan for 2023. Developing a suicide and sudden death protocol.

Surinderpal Rathor, City of Williams Lake: Thank you to the staff and council. Thank you, Michael, Beth, and Silvia for the updates. City working on the budget. Door-to-door, strategy working together going well. Hospital announcement released. CRD budget available online. Attending a meeting with the SD in March. Working on upcoming programs and initiatives.

Beth Veenkamp, City of Williams Lake: Reminder Seniors Home Sharing survey report completed in April. Report to council for pre-zoning for accessible dwellings – multifamily, properties have to meet specifications – garden homes, carriage houses projects. Local action to increase housing. Meeting on urban-extreme heat - what we can do in community apartments. Shout out to Krista for an excellent presentation at the Chamber meeting.

Beth Holden, Cariboo Regional District (CRD): Grateful to be at the meeting and learning about all the great work on big-picture projects. "Make the Move" to recruit people to our area

completed, link on CRD website https://www.cariboord.ca/en/business-and-development/make_the_move.aspx. Improvements to Troll Mountain and Mount Timothy. Cultural tours to connect visitors are available.

Hannah Diether, Interior Health (IH): Primary Care Network Community Survey, 15 minutes to complete, link <https://surveys.reichertandassociates.ca/f/s.aspx?s=BD4E1B38-DBCF-4AE4-A3E9-2023FDC1278C>. Bridge to Care is complete. Two nurses continued in 100 Mile House, available 4-9 pm. In-person is available occasionally. Contact Health Connect for the waitlist to visit a healthcare practitioner. Primary Care Network with Allied Health has mental health clinicians. Unattached individuals can connect when referred.

Carla Bullinger, Cariboo Partners for Literacy (CCPL): Regular programs will be on hold during spring break. A challenge to access funds to sustain the literacy social enterprise. Working on financial stability plan. Presented to the Chamber, Rotary, and others. Rallying around the program. Success on the literacy social enterprise, linked to the [Thrive Poverty Reduction Plan](#), completed a well-attended six-week pilot in January.

Brianna van de Wijngaard, The Central Cariboo Community Food Hub: Hired two additional coordinators, Robin Hunt and Stephanie Bird. Stephanie is developing a seed resiliency project and meal support programs with the school district. Robin is creating workshops for the potential of food recovery. \$6000 donated through food collection at the Farmers Market last year. Working on a plan to collect again this year.

Robin Hunt, The Central Cariboo Community Food Hub: Food insecurity, working on the website, mission, vision and long-term seed gleaning.

Carrie Julius, Hospice Society: Provide seniors care at the end of life. Two new staff on board – Monique Goward and Kylie Green.

Bree Odd, Social Planning Council (SPC), BC Schizophrenia Society (BCSS): Share in for newsletters and Facebook anytime, the earlier the better for time-sensitive updates. Postponed BCSS “Strengthening Families Together” to the end of March.

Eva Navrot, Seniors Advocate via email: Invites everyone to the BC Community Response Network Table (stopping elder abuse together). The meeting takes place on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. The next meeting is March 8 at 10:00 AM at the senior’s activity center 176 North 4th Avenue. Contact Eva at 250-303-1249 for more info. The focus of the committee is to bring seniors’ concerns to the table, provide seniors’ resources, and present educational opportunities for individuals concerned about the safety and well-being of seniors.

Larry Stranberg, Community Futures: Registered for Elder’s College

Meeting Adjourned 12:52 pm, Carla Bullinger