

SPC Monthly Community Meeting Minutes - Draft

Date: November 23, 2020 **Time:** 11:30 am - 1:00 pm **Location:** Zoom

Chair: Larry Stranberg

In attendance: Larry Stranberg, Anne Burrill, Barb Jones, Karen Irvine, Diane Wright, Rossana McGregor, Craig Glover, Eileen Alberton, Shannon Thom, Jessica Dunn, Carla Bullinger, Beth Veenkamp, Rebecca Fredrickson, Sheila Boehm, Trevor Kier, Marnie Brenner, Bree Odd (minutes)

Welcome and acknowledgement of traditional territory

Guest Speaker(s): Kristi Fairholm Mader, Co-founding Director of Scale Collaborative in Victoria

- Helping non-profits become financially sustainable through social enterprise [SE]
- Working with Anne, Carla, & Larry for approx. 1½ years pursuing ways to launch SE with the Business Legacies initiative, with support from Douglas College
- Posed questions: Have you considered starting a social enterprise? What is acquisition? Will it work for you? When does a start up make sense?
- Current funding models support high risk start up – funding for acquisition harder but more stable, think local: accommodation, food, retail properties build different capacity
- 3 challenges: 1) upcoming wave of business transition, 2) Huge shift in traditionally run NP, 3) Disasters change things
- Larry, Anne, Carla completed market scan & survey - highest responses coming from WL with 25 – one said no to business acquisition
- In process of developing tools and resources with the next phase being pilot projects
- Seeking ways to engage & host workshops/community acquisition incubators in spring
- What are the core businesses in community? Identify early, who are they? How does this approach land with you?
- Important to keep businesses local & not be bought by big outside corporations

Question, Answers Comments, & Suggestions:

Sheila: Non-profits [NP's] are suffering in our community so love hearing about possibilities of social enterprises.

Anne: We're excited to be hosting an SE incubator session. There are a number of NP's operating SE's already, though not recognized as such, Salvation Army, Cariboo Friendship Society. SE's require different skill sets & approaches from boards & staff when starting or buying a SE

Larry: Community Futures (CF) sees social enterprise as a potential new loan market

Rossana: Would like to revisit ideas/initiatives related to SE a couple of times a year, it's hard to think about this when we're swamped now, thank you

Carla: Echo what Rosanna stated. People are overwhelmed with stressors and thinking about it is hard. It is nice to have a guide, it makes it less daunting and more doable

Anne: This opportunity has expanded our understanding of SE's and what we can do – looking at community needs through different models

Beth: Thank you Kristi. Still highly interested in an SE Day Labour program – slam dunk if we can find the funds for it

Anne: Opportunities to discuss funding ideas at a community incubation session, being worked on

Lighting Round Table - 2 minutes per organizational update

Anne Burrill – Thrive:

- Thrive Poverty Reduction Strategy is nearly complete. An invite to attend a strategy presentation will be sent, register to attend one of the presentation sessions
- Community Navigation, a top priority recognized prior to the pandemic led to the development of a Community Navigation Workshop
 - Workshop attendees developed/enhanced skills relating to navigating community resources & access points for person(s) needing assistance
 - Carla organized, revised an existing workshop and facilitated the first workshop with assistance from Bree
 - *Carla noted: attendees appreciated being together, discussing resources and having face to face conversations
 - The second session is postponed, due to fire & new COVID restrictions
 - Trying to get training to unusual suspects, i.e. library staff, front desk staff, etc. with thought being “every door is the right door”
- Researching online resources, bc211 came up as the #1 service provider search app, we strongly encourage all service providers to register/update their organization & resources on bc211 regularly
 - *Carla noted: bc211 is only as good as the organizations registering and updating info regularly

Carla Bullinger – Cariboo Chilcotin Partners for Literacy (CCPL):

- CCPL still providing all services, financial literacy, immigrant language circles, Partner Assisted Learning, computer literacy

Barb Jones – Communities That Care (CTC) and Restorative Justice:

- **See email**

Beth Veenkamp – City of Williams Lake

- Consider joining the BC Non-Profit Housing Association BC's Affordable Housing Conference
 - Trevor will be attending, connect with Trevor if you would like more information
 - 3 different sessions: 1) non-profit, 2) Developers & Builders 3) Employers

Laurie Walters – Contractor

- Nothing to report on, thank you for the nomination to the SPC Board of Directors

Craig Glover – Williams Lake & District Credit Union (WLDCU)

- Thank you for the welcome and nomination, joining on behalf of the credit union
- Credit Union interested in community initiatives and can potentially provide volunteers, funding, etc. Will take info back to board and CEO as opportunities arise

Eileen Alberton – Women's Contact Society (WCS)

- Play group, choir, clothes closet is cancelled closed due to COVID, **will** continue to receive winter clothing
- Purple Ribbon will continue with modifications – no pins, etc.

Diane Wright – Retiree

- Nothing to report today

Jessica Dunn – Cariboo Chilcotin Child Development Centre (CCCDC):

- Continuing services with safety measures in place, masks are mandatory
- Family & Youth Counsellor Catherine Kimber – they are advocating to keep this service going
- CCCDC has a new logo, website, email, watch for email reading like:
jessica@ccchild.org
- Yuletide Dinner likely to be cancelled, encouraging people to continue donating to toy box – drop off at Boston Pizza or CCCDC

Karen Irvine – CCCDC:

- Thank you for nomination, Early Years program piloting outdoor activity sessions – different community locations
- Infant massage and supporting infant development will continue

Marnie Brenner – City of Williams Lake

- Thank you everyone elected and accepted for the SPC board, you do great work

Rebecca Fredrickson – Thompson Rivers University (TRU)

- Raised money for the Paul Davis Memorial Bursary, it will be \$1000 bursary for a student in need going into the Social Services Program

Rosanna McGregor – Cariboo Friendship Society (CFS)

- Aboriginal Overdose Working Group centered on answering the questions: What do individuals, living on the streets do in overdose when the naloxone is frozen? How do we keep our street people safe?
- Potency of Naloxone decreases at -15, some people require 6x's the normal dose & other treatment strips don't work, COVID doesn't stop overdoses
- Unknown when 310 mental health & substance use line will take effect
- Staff focused on internal training on mental health spectrum
- The Longhouse will be used as a temporary shelter expansion of existing emergency shelter, with 20 pods (coming)
 - The current shelter has 5-10 bunkbeds, so unable to safely physical distance
- Looking for employees for Dec 1 – Mar 31, contact Rosanna if you have any questions
- Working with BC Housing on a second stage 51 unit housing initiative intended for family reunification, proposals are due Jan 21

Shannon Thom – WorkBC:

- Shannon to contact Rosanna regarding employment opportunities at CFS
- Huge announcement – Wage subsidy eligibility expanded to all WorkBC clients, including self-serve clients
 - The enhancements will expand eligibility for more people to participate in WorkBC Wage Subsidy, and will help employers to:
 - Re-hire laid off employees
 - Hire new employees
 - Connect with WorkBC clients
 - Provide flexibility for employers to fill vacancies
- This subsidy enables employers to re-hire workers, help prevent further job losses, and ease you back into normal operations

Sheila Boehm – City of Williams Lake

- Thanks to everyone for keeping going,
- The city is implementing mandatory masks & new safety rules
- Frizzi Road is accessible now
- Kudos to Rosanna for her work

Bree Odd – Social Planning Council (SPC) and BC Schizophrenia Society (BCSS)

- SPC hat - Working on updating Newsletter, will be sending out reminders to have updates in by given deadlines
- Regional Rent Bank is moving forward with Women’s Contact Society, stepping up to the plate to act as lead agency, thank you Irene
 - SPC will continue to assist in developing the rent bank and is currently contacting potential partners in 100 Mile House, Williams Lake and Quesnel
- BCSS hat – continue to provide Family Support Groups and will be offering Strengthening Families Together in January, watch for updates

Larry Stranberg – Community Futures (CF)

- Funds targeted for businesses are available, website link <https://www.cfdccariboo.com/covid19/>

Meeting Adjournment: 12:50 pm

Moved: Shannon Thom

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