

SPC Monthly Community Meeting Minutes
November 25 12:00 pm– 1:00 pm
Lunch provided. Donations gratefully accepted.

Location: Community Futures
Chair: Larry Stranberg

Meeting Called to Order -11:59am

Review & Approve Meeting Agenda for November 25th 2019

Approve Agenda -
Motion 1-Carla
Motion 2 - Bree

Approve Meeting Minutes from October 28th Community Meeting

- Defer to next meeting for approval, Minutes are on our Website and can be read prior to next meeting. ***Please visit our website under <http://www.wlspc.ca/meetings.html> to read Community Meeting Minutes. To conserve paper we will be posting the minutes online previous to the next meeting.

Review & Approve Meeting Minutes from October 28th 2019

Motion 1-Anne Burrill
Motion 2-Janice Breck

Release of the Williams Lake Living Wage with Anne Burrill

- Anne Discussed Living Wage and Website to help calculate.
- Living Wage is 16.73\$ for Williams Lake for 2019
- PDF of Living Wage will be posted on the SPC Website Soon, as well as the Thrive Williams Lake Facebook Page.

Thrive Update – Anne Burrill

- Poverty simulation held end of October. Co funded by Red Cross, co-hosted by United Way.
- Lots of Volunteers, was immersive experience. Everyone moved through a “month” of families living in poverty. 60 People participated.
- Everyone ate, got oriented at the beginning and then we had the simulation with a debrief circle at the end. Everyone stayed for an hour to discuss the simulation and everyone also stayed to help clean everything up which was so great.
- Lots of good comments, was great empathy building in the process.
- Report will be up on the Thrive Facebook Page soon.

Communities that Care Update – Barb Jones

- CTC is a prevention focused project to to address risk and protective factors that are root causes of problem behaviors in Youth. Next Survey of youth will be in fall 2020.
- We are working on funding. Civil Forfeiture has been applied for.
- Ladies of the Royal Purple sponsored a play box recently. (4th play box in Kiwanis Park); the first 3 were thru CTC, the City, and Success by 6.
- Child Care Needs-BabyFest, lots of uptake of Survey Already.

Child Care Needs Assessment – Jordan Davis

- Data collection phase of Child Care Plan still right now.
- Surveys are live till December 1 2019.
- We are really encouraging everyone in the community to fill them out as most people are effected-providers and parents guardians-we all know someone affected most likely right now.
- Discussion around information found so far: wages not high enough, program not offered locally and online is not serving as a viable enough option. ECE’s are very in demand in all child care settings, not enough qualified staff to fill positions.
- Short staffing putting programs in jeopardy of closing doors in some cases.
- We have advised TRU by letter that we need ECE in the community.

- Also discussed subsidy for Child Care- - some parents/guardians don't know it's available and some are daunted by the amount of paper work.
- We really need more men filling out the survey – to get that side of perspective as well.

Lightning Roundtable – what's new with your organization?

Rosanna McGregor-ED Cariboo Friendship Society

- Was at BC nonprofit housing AGM, updates on what is going on with all sectors of housing- not just social housing; Youth, seniors-all projects that are taking off. We will definitely be looking at possible next projects with our board of directors on moving forward.
- Anne Howard conversation, orgs applying for things without understanding ALL their needs. Lots of good workshops, looking at what exactly are the needs.
- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation – getting back into housing funding
- AGM at Williams Lake Social Housing Society tomorrow. 2004 Glendale Place, in amenities room.
- Con Call with Minister Simpson this week-discussion on what is TRUE participation, regarding aboriginal peoples, and if you want something meaningful you need to REALLY engage with them.
- Continuing to work on all poverty reduction and social issues.
- Aboriginal Housing management association – Rosanna also involved with. Looking at what is coming ahead.
- Violence is Preventable Williams Lake (Group) December 6th Documentary Movie on Polytechnique Tragedy. 5pm Chilliwack and Bannock/6pm Film, Facebook Page is Violence is Preventable Williams Lake

Bree Odd (Currently United Way)

- Local Cultural Awareness Session at TRU, 130+ people showed up. Over 50 Evaluations. There is clearly a true need in the community, especially around protocols of going into communities.
- Sent out mental health working group survey-not a lot of feedback.
- But biggest gap identified are still trying to figure out ways to reach hard to reach Populations-ranchers, farmers, First Nations communities
- Capacity is still a huge issue-not enough people to do the work that needs to get done.
- (leadership side)
- (community side)-Biggest gap was outreach to communities; least important gap was access to communities.
- Contract comes to an end December 1st. Bree will move into new things in the future.

Jody-

- BC Yukon Disasters Red Cross (fires and floods etc, even small house fires)
- 53 active psycho social projects right now
- Focusing now on where there are gaps on investments that have been made-ie hard to reach populations.

Karen Irvine

- Part time at Child Development Center doing Infant Massage, huge gap for post-partum women (lack of support for breastfeeding especially) looking forward to continuing. Will bring Perinatal Committee things forward
- Classes are posted on the Social Planning Council of Williams Lake's Facebook Page

Pratyush Dhawan-Red Cross

- Gaps in people trying to figure out where there is still funding to access services. IE Counselling-
- Directing people to services, Will send Link to Webpage. Everything Red Cross will be funding for the next few years, all available on the Website. You can reach out there. We do not want the extra supports to not be noticed. Lots of people don't know this service exists.
- Any questions, people can reach out to Red Cross, and these things can be fully utilized.
- Question-More for Jody...Whether Red Cross looks at what happens when all the funds are finished; there will be a huge Gap. This does create a challenge for this table to talk about.

Jodi- Red Cross

- Great Question; when we design a project we look at sustainability, we have a certain amount of time to get our donors money out the door. We have multiple projects ending at Fiscal Year. Please include us in those conversations. Fort Mac used Staggers. %50 then down to 25% of funds. Need is expected to return to baseline in 3-7 years. We can do advocacy, and can bring need to partners at provincial level. Lots of conversations with be happening next year, and looked at by the whole team.

Anne Burrill-Thrive

- It is worth having a conversation with Orgs that are funded. We could talk as a Community with you as Red Cross, what is that impact. How does the community cope

with the demand still being there for say all “10” new services in the community, when the demand is staying high.

Jessica-

- Free drop in class at Child Development Center , Babies infant massage (connections)
- Wednesdays 11-12.
- Early years drop in Lee Ray Haines, there Tuesdays 10-11 at CDC, and special drop in sessions as well. Kids 0-6, not childminding service.
- Dec 4th, 22nd Yule tide dinner. 4-7 at Sacred Heart, rides provided. Volunteers needed.
- 14th Annual Xmas 630am-9am Boston Pizza Toy Breakfast (unwrapped toy and or monetary donation) you do need to register at the CDC. Please call to register.

Natasha Williams Lake Indian Band

- Youth Wellness Program at WLIB.
- Focus on give back to community members-hair care, nails, lots of fun stuff.

Betty Turatas-New Heights Autism Center

- 25 Clients so far
- Crystal is the Parent Navigator-helping parents with all paperwor for assessments etc..
- Supports for children that are waiting to be assessed.
- We write grants for kids that are waiting to be assessed.
- Waitlist for ICAN is 6-9 Months. Children need to have early interventions.
- Big need in the community for community members to understand inclusion and what Autism is.
- We are going to have some conferences so we can bring speakers in for parents and professionals.
- April and October. The rest of the time, we will devote to children.
- Looking into trying to open a child care center that has a special needs component. Not just for children with Special Needs, but special training. ECE’s will come out of retirement if we have space for their children.

Kathie Vilkas-

- Delivering Workshops through Red Cross funding. Program will no longer continue once funding runs out.

Rebecca Fredrickson-Thompson Rivers University-

- Faculty of Arts is trying to revitalize Arts in Williams Lake. Early stages, putting together 2 year diploma in applied knowledge. Indigenous knowledge, focus on language
- And Communication and Leadership. (Diploma) Grant writing, critical thinking skills – very relevant to Williams Lake. Next step will be consulting with the Community's.

Anne Burrell– Housing First

- Full Case Loads, 30 people with applications, hard to find any housing. Vacancy rates are really low, challenges are very high. Different environment at the beginning of program as landlords were more willing to work with us. Landlords can now pick and choose tenants because there is so much demand, and will pick less challenging tenants. In larger communities it can be easier as people can be moved around more, and here less options for that.

Sheila Boehm-City of Williams Lake: City Councillor

- Everyone is aware of the issues of Child Care.
- Low income, lots of people not interested in wages.
- We need students, some can start online.
- We need to run, but they are not getting enough people to run program
- Melanie Mark (minister) her response was that forestry workers should go, but wage is so low.
- SD 27 needs to be bugged, but we need to get students engage.
- So many male dominated programs, and would benefit both sexes to participate.
- We are putting pressure everywhere.
- Flexibility in classes is necessary.

- SPC Fee for Service request was brought up as well, every group asked for more money – Grant writer is with us, and he is there to assist. One thing being discussed is that our funding models for Gaming will go back to the Community.
- (Anne) SPC not eligible for gaming \$\$'s, it is great to offer grant writer, but it's a huge amount of work to sit down with a grant writer, as when you have a grant writer they cannot design the project, so it still needs to be designed by the organization that needs the funding and it is not practical for a grant writer to do that. We don't have the capacity to transfer all the info needed to a grant writer. The work is in development of skills and program development. Programs have to be specifically designed, and that's a different skill set from grant writing.

(Sheila added)

- We need to change how our gaming model goes.
- Discussion Shelved re City of Williams Lake Grant Writer etc.
- Physicians coming to town. Mental health issues, and transportation are big barriers. Will be speaking with more physicians. Transport in and out.
- Two helicopters for all provinces. Any transport out of here is huge.

Meeting Adjourned

1:13pm

Motion - Anne