



Social Planning Council of Williams Lake & Area

June 24, 2019 – Monthly Community Meeting Minutes Draft

Review Meeting Agenda

Reviewed agenda. Added Job Opportunity to agenda. Approved agenda as amended by Diane/Sheila. Motion carried.

Review May Meeting Minutes

Approved – Anne/Sheila, motion carried.

Lightening Round

This is an opportunity to introduce your organization and the key services it provides to people new to the Social Planning Council table, and Chris van der Mark, new Superintendent of School District 27.

Bree Odd – Community Wellness Manager with the United Way. Biggest part of role is to raise awareness about mental health and connect people to resources.

Laurie Walters – helps develop strategies to address the skilled worker shortage in our area and get businesses to work together to achieve these goals. This is a contract with the City of Williams Lake with her office located in Community Futures.

Jeremy Vogt – Pastor Cariboo Bethel Church, churches support many initiatives in the community and are engaged in lots of ways and are always looking for new ways to be engaged. Cariboo Church runs a breakfast program at the WL Campus.

Carla Bullinger – Cariboo Chilcotin Partners for Literacy (CCPL) provides a wide range of programs for adults with low literacy. CCPL also has been working with Marie Sharpe School on a Family Engagement project. CCPL, TRU, and SD27 have co-chaired the Regional Education Council. Our community recently hosted the What Works Summit, a collaborative event that was conceived at the REC table and supported and facilitated by many community stakeholders. Nearly 50 people attended this event to talk about employment challenges, including low education/skills, and coming up with innovative solutions to try.

Natasha Poyser, Williams Lake Indian Band, Family Services – works with children and youth at-risk to provide assistance where necessary. However, the main focus is youth and family engagement to increase their involvement in the community.

Pratyush Dhawan – Red Cross, community partnership program, several programs have been funded and will continue for the next two years.

Jessica Pye – Safety and Well-Being Advisor with the Red Cross.

Sheila Boehm – City Councilor, lots of joint use with the School District and always interested in exploring ways to work together with the SD27.

Lory Rochon – CCPL in 100 Mile House, one-to-one adult tutor program, financial literacy, works with school district looking for new students, particularly with the GROW in WL.

Shannon Thom, WorkBC – works with GROW to support adults looking for work. When they need to upgrade their skills they work closely with the GROW, CCPL, TRU, etc.

Barb Jones, Communities that Care (CTC) Facilitator - CTC is a prevention focused approach to improving the health and well-being of children. We did a prevention needs assessment survey of children in grades 6-9 in 2009 and established community priorities. We did a second survey in 2015 that helped us measure how we've done. The results showed things are changing for the better for children and youth in our community. We've continued to collaboratively address key priorities and will do our 3rd survey in 2020.

Anne Burrill, Thrive Facilitator – Thrive is a community development project to develop a community poverty reduction strategy. Our long-term goal is to identify and implement strategies to reduce poverty. One of the projects Thrive is working on in partnership with many agencies, including the school district, is a food program for all schools.

Kathie Vilkas, Community Futures, Regional Training Coordinator - coordinating regional training based on business and non-profit needs. All the workshops for the region are on this site:

www.cfwildfire.ca

click 'workshops'

click 'Cariboo Chilcotin'

click on workshop you want to register

Larry Stranberg, Community Futures - Helps people start businesses, buy businesses, sell businesses.

Crystal Sheridan – LPN works with seniors in long-term care, and also created junior cadet program. Works with lots of at-risk youth. Junior cadets provide lots of different kinds of activities for kids, and community service is also a component. Also works with Pride group. Had connected with former Superintendent SD 27 about working together to create a youth centre that all groups working with children and youth could access.

Guest – Chris van der Mark, Superintendent, SD27

Almost everything he heard around the table is new to him. From Surrey, but has spent his entire educational career in the north – Hazelton, Smithers, Stewart. On a steep learning curve and is excited about the opportunities. Looking forward to exploring evidence-based programs to try in the district. September 20, Stewart Shanker, a neuropsychologist, is coming to Williams Lake and 100 Mile House. His area of expertise is on mental health and self-regulation, particularly in children and youth. There will be an evening session open to the public. SD27 will try to do a follow-up in the spring. Stewart Shanker's tagline is "there are no bad kids".

Collaboration and Partnerships with SD27 and the Larger Community

Diane talked about CTC, the partnerships that formed as a result of the work, how we used the data, and the strong collaboration that has resulted of the work. The Prevention Needs Assessment Survey is an evidence-based tool to gather population data.

Carla talked about the Regional Education Council and the collaborative work this group has been doing. An example is the What Works Summit that happened in February.

Chris talked about the SD27 suspension policy and that they want re-visit it because SD27 has a high suspension rate, it can be up to 10 days. We want to keep kids close. The focus needs to be on relationships.

Situation Table being formed in Williams Lake. It is a true wrap around through restorative justice. This link provides a good description: <https://www.wlu.ca/professional-development/centre-for-public-safety-and-well-being/situation-table.html?ref=academics%2Ffaculties%2Ffaculty-of-human-and-social-sciences%2Fcentre-for-public-safety-and-well-being%2Fsituation-table.html>

Question how employment is with teachers – challenge continues to be in specialty fields and in the rural/remote communities. Overall, recruitment of teachers is improving.

Community Data Program (CDP) Update, Anne Burrill

- At the last SPC Anne talked about the CDP. CDP provides access to a wide range of data sets for local communities that might be otherwise difficult to assess. It's used for measuring and tracking local well-being, local data can be used to understand the population living in poverty as well as other characteristics of the population and its diversity. You can look at the website to see what types of data are available <https://communitydata.ca/>

Anne is organizing a demonstration of CDP for July 17 or 18.

Social Enterprise Workshop

Sept. 18 is a Social Enterprise 101. September 19 is dedicated to training for the Temp Agency we want to establish as a social enterprise.

Job Opportunity - Social Planning Coordinator

SPC is looking for a Social Planning Coordinator. We'll send out a job description through the SPC distribution list.

Round Table

Kathie Vilkas:

- All things Not-For-Profit training, August 15. There are 25 spaces and 18 spots are already taken.

Shannon Thom:

WorkBC Williams Lake is moving. 201-172 Second Ave North as of Tuesday, July 2.

Thrive, Anne Burrill:

Homelessness in Williams Lake continuing to grow. Camps are set up throughout the community. Has been meeting with Housing First, the City, RCMP, and other service providers to come up with strategies, but there is very little housing available.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Shannon. Seconded by Laurie. Next meeting Monday, Sept. 30 11:30-1:00 at Community Futures.