

COMMUNITY MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES

Date: April 22, 2024

Time: 11:30 am – 1:00 pm **Location:** [Zoom](#)

Chair: Larry Stranberg

Minutes: Liane Nunn

Present: Sherry Yonkman, Lindsay Sidor, Andrea Moe (guest speaker), Shannon Thom, Chris Vandermark, Amanda Schulz, Marnie Brenner, Beth Veenkamp, Larry Stranberg, Laurie Walters, Kylie Thomas, Carla Bullinger

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'exelcemc people.

Review & Approve Agenda for April 22, 2024

Motion Shannon Thom **Seconded** by Sherry Yonkman **Carried**

Review & Approve Minutes for March 25, 2024

Motion Marnie Brenner **Seconded** by Shannon Thom **Carried**

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

Guest Speaker(s): Andrea Moe, Project Lead Recruitment & Integration for Central Interior Rural Division Of Family Practice

- A lot of recruitment through two main programs – Practice Ready Assessments and UBC International Medical Graduate Program.
- Practice Ready Assessments (PRA) – internationally trained family physicians and completed residency outside of Canada – comes on a three-year service contract.
- UBC Graduates – Canadians who trained outside Canada and US. Two-year service contract.
- Started a retention piece, where they meet with physicians every three months. Check in on service deliverables and managing their practice and panel group.
- Question: Larry Stranberg- How to you help outside of Canada's get comfortable in the community?
 - o We start discussions with recruits 1.5 years before they arrive.
 - o Support any community needs they may have. All questions can be taken to Andrea.
 - o Some struggles with immigration while trying to get international practitioners' family here.

- Eight new arrivals coming to Williams Lake and 100 Mile in 2024. February, March, April, August, and September.
- Williams Lake Primary Care Network doing a soft open – Dietitian, pharmacist, social worker. Co-located in the office at the old Yorston Clinic (above the Atwood Clinic)
- Question: Larry Stranberg: Is it difficult to get doctors to the Cariboo?
 - o It can be hard; a lot of recruitment comes through the programs.
 - o Doing some recruitment network events.
- Question: Larry Stranberg – Any challenges with housing?
 - o Not really. Our new program is super helpful our Healthcare Landing Coordinators provide a soft place to land. They are offered a fully furnished place for the first period, to allow them time to get to know the community before picking a space.
- Question: Marnie Brenner - Good lay out of the programs. It is important to note that these practitioners coming are students, housing and cost can be difficult. Is there more that our community can do to attract more physicians that maybe isn't financial? To showcase the community.
 - o It's tough because all our rural communities have the same thing to offer. Wish we had the answer to get them here.
- Question: Carla Bullinger – At CCPL, we help newcomers feel connected to the community for the whole family.
 - o As part of the integration lead, Andrea would like the contact information to connect with CCPL.
- Questions: Beth Veenkamp – About the registration list ([Health Connect Registry](#)) and the people that are on that list – how is this being addressed?
 - o We worked with members last year on service deliverables, and what we've done is the physicians who leave must put their patients onto the attachment list and the new physicians will be taking them off the list. One of the new doctors has taken 300 patients of the attachment list so far.
 - o With a new system, the patients will be triaged. The attachment list will be taken off on a priority basis, not a top to bottom.
- Question: Beth Veenkamp – What is the goal of the Primary Care Network? What patients get to go there?
 - o There's no doctor there now. In the future, it will depend on the doctor and the program they're coming through – it will take people off the attachment list and a doctor will have a panel.
 - o Not a walk-in clinic.

- To see any physicians/dietician, in this network, a referral will need to be made by Family Doctor or ER.
- Another layer - still trying to figure it out, the details and how the primary care network will work is still being flushed out and will be communicated.

Lightning Round

Sherry Yonkman, Downtown BIA

- Annual General meeting tomorrow night (April 23rd). 6:00pm at Mr. Mikes. If you represent a location within the BIA, you're welcome to attend.
- Art walk applications are open. Deadline to apply as an artist or host location is May 6th.
 - \$175 for a host location, \$75 for an artist. Two artists can share one location.
- Office is closed next week and following Monday (April 29th – May 6th)

Shannon Thom, Work BC

- Job fair May 8th and 9th at rink two at Cariboo Memorial Recreation Complex.

Chris Vandermark, School District 27

- Daycare project continues to move along. A little behind schedule, waiting for flow of material – but should still be opening in the fall.
- Addressing safety concerns around fire alarms, security, etc. so looking to update those.
- Last year in our budget, we ordered minibuses to help with sports travel in the North and South end. Received one, waiting for the other to arrive.
- Hosted some staff events with people from around the province to participate.
- This is the first year that our rural positions that are usually hardest to fill will be filled with certified teachers.
- Transportation is a challenge. The SD is not required to provide buses and transportation to and from school. Buses are half full, going all over the community. Spending too much money on transportation – need to focus on this deliverable.
- Worthwhile to know that all schools are doing processes and protocols around cellphones in the school and more awareness being made in the school. Lots of work being done to tackle it more proactively.

Marnie Brenner, Community Health Facilitator

- Looking at engaging with Indigenous communities around support for planning.
- Division zero grants have been adjudicated and awarded (road safety grants)
- Plan H grants are coming out.

Amanda Schulz, Williams Lake First Nation

- Partnered with the Grad community, held a fundraiser for them with a Bingo night – over 90 people.
- May 18th – a night market at the harbour with lots of good vendors, and room for more.
- Emergency Preparedness event with FN Health Authority, CMHA, Interior Health, CRD, and City of Williams Lake – community as a whole emergency preparedness meeting. Based on wildfire planning, evacuation, etc.

Laurie Walters, Social Planning Council

- Nothing to note.

Lindsay Sidor, CIBC

- Just back from vacation, plugging through emails.

Liane Nunn, Social Planning Council

- Poverty Awareness video will be launched near to the end of May on social media – asking that our members and partners help us share the video across their social media platforms to get lots of engagement and a wide audience.

Larry Stranberg, Community Futures

- Going to be at the Chamber Trade Expo on Saturday.
- Lots of people wanting to start businesses.
- Lots of activity on the PASS program.
- Mycommunityfuturesbc.ca – lots of free workshops.

Rosanna McGregor, Cariboo Friendship Society

- CFS is applying for Indigenous Housing Funds with BC Housing to construct a 48-unit multi-use housing complex that is estimated at 25.5 million to construct. We will be including Second stage housing, family reunification and complex care and would love any letters of support by May 1.

Carla Bullinger, Cariboo Chilcotin Partners for Literacy

- With the BC Health Care System, they are hosting a free workshop on April 29th, 5:45 – 6:45. Learn about medical insurance, how to find a doctor, mental health, medical expenses, and dental benefits. This is designed for newcomers to Canada, but anyone is welcome to attend.
- Drop in learning at the All Nations Healing House on May 3, 10, and 17th, 11:00 – 12:30.
- Computer technology drop in training at Seniors Activity Centre, Mondays until May 27th. 12:30 – 2:00.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:15