



# Social Planning Council

Williams Lake and Area

*Many Voices - One Table - Shared Goals*

*happy monday!*  
SEE YOU AT 11:30



**REMINDER: See you Monday, May 29, 2023,  
11:30 am - 1:00 pm**

**TENTATIVE May 29 Guest Speaker(s): Gregory Nickel**, Crisis Intervention Specialist - Mobile Response Team (MRT) with Health Emergency Management British Columbia (HEMBC), Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA)

Remember your updates, challenges/burning questions, and/or success for the famous \*lightning round.

*\*You only have two minutes to share*

**Location:** [Zoom](#)

May

29

**Next  
COMMUNITY MEETING  
June 26, 2023**

Click your calendar app below to add Junes meeting to your schedule

- [Click HERE for Today's Zoom Link](#)
- [May 29 Community Meeting Draft Agenda](#)
- [April 24 Community Meeting Draft Minutes](#)
- [Employment/Volunteer Opportunities](#)
- [Funding Opportunities](#)
- [Notable Quote](#)
- [2023 Community Meetings](#)
- [Join Today, Become a Social Planning Council Member!](#)



Powered by [AddEvent](#)

[Click HERE for Today's Zoom Link](#)

## May 29 Community Meeting Draft Agenda

**Date:** May 29, 2023

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

**Chair:** Larry Stranberg

**Minutes:** Bree Odd

### 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'exelc people.

### Review & Approve Agenda for May 29, 2023

Motion	Seconded by	Carried
--------	-------------	---------

### Review & Approve Minutes for April 24, 2023

Motion	Seconded by	Carried
--------	-------------	---------

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

**TENTATIVE Guest Speaker(s):** Gregory Nickel, Crisis Intervention Specialist - Mobile Response Team (MRT) with Health Emergency Management British Columbia (HEMBC), Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA)

**Questions, Answers, Comments**

**Lightning Round - Share an Organizational Update, a Challenge, or a Success**  
*Just remember you still only have two minutes J*

1. an update on events/programs/initiatives your organization is planning

**or**

2. a challenge your organization is working to solve

**or**

3. a success you want to brag about

or

4. a combination of the above

**NOTE:** *Anyone can share feedback, possible connections, or thoughts to what they heard during their time or in the chat.*

**Meeting Adjourned:**

## April 24 Community Meeting Draft Minutes

**Date:** April 24, 2023

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

**Chair:** Larry Stranberg

**Minutes:** Bree Odd

**Present:** Larry Stranberg, Bree Odd, Barb Jones, Laurie Walters, Carla Bullinger, Shannon Thom, Silvia Siebert-Dubray, Craig Glover, Brianna van de Wijngaard, Michael Moses, Stephanie Masun, Anne Burrill, Marnie Brenner, Laurel White, Brad McKinnon (Guest Speaker), Josh Smith, Heather Silvester, Madison Rushton (Guest Speaker), Hannah Diether, Beth Veenkamp, Sherry Yonkman, Krista Harvey, Wylie Wystedt, Angie

**Regrets:** Tammy Levesque-Holyk

### 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'exelc people.

### Review & Approve Agenda for April 24, 2023

Motion Silvia Siebert-Dubray      Seconded by Carla Bullinger      Carried

### Review & Approve Minutes for March 27, 2023

Motion Laurie Walters      Seconded by Silvia Siebert-Dubray      Carried

**Member Introductions:** all members shared.

### Guest Speaker(s): S/Sgt Brad McKinnon and Sgt. Josh Smith Williams Lake RCMP S/Sgt Brad McKinnon

- An interim replacement for Dell Byron & Darren Dodge
- Relocated from Nova Scotia, 13 years with the RCMP in three different provinces
- Learned a lot from his time in Ottawa during the terrorist attack
- Firm belief in the importance of mental health
- Experience in everything from homicides to LNG project services, and major highways incidents
- Looking forward to being here

### Sgt Josh Smith

- 18 years with the RCMP, mostly in BC North

- Experience in everything from Indigenous services to trafficking, and bike patrol
- In Lynton during the forest fires
- Active in community initiatives like school wrestling and Kids, Cops, & Computers
- Provides office support 2<sup>nd</sup> to Brad

### **Questions, Answers, Comments**

**S/Sgt McKinnon**, the RCMP is open for business and interested in contributing and working together in the community.

**Larry**, can you share info about the Violent Offenders Program pilot project? S/Sgt McKinnon, it is a strategic enforcement project, focused on a percentage of violent offenders. It is a program in collaboration with Crown Counsel and BC Sheriffs. It is about developing a strategy to hold those committing violent crimes accountable for the bad doings in the community. Having them put away, and may mean rehabilitation. Waiting for expectations from the province. There is a struggle with “catch and release” not addressing the crimes, there is a passing off to the courts, which can create greater challenges for those in custody. Crown Counsel is leading the charge.

**Carla**, to clarify, is RCMP looking to fill another position? S/Sgt McKinnon, we are waiting for the Senior Management replacement to come, it was previously Myron Friesen and Jeff Pelley. Together with the new hire, Brad and Josh will make up the senior team.

**Marnie**, will you be open to an RCMP stop & chat and is there going to be a mental health nurse going out on some calls? **S/Sgt McKinnon**, for sure interested in a stop & chat. We are looking into an integrated approach for mental health calls. Every option is at the table. There is a process in place with the crisis nurses and walks in the community with them. Looking for approaches to resolve issues peacefully, such as how the encampments at City Hall were managed. Prince George has new initiatives and we are excited to see what comes of it.

### **Lightning Round - Share an Organizational Update, a Challenge, or a Success**

**Heather Silvester, Canadian Mental Health Associations Cariboo Chilcotin Branch (CMHA CCB)**: CMHA CCB is a non-profit, operating on contract grants. CMHA CCB is hosting an open house in recognition of Victims and Survivors of Crime Week on May 16 open to the public from 12:30-4 pm. We provide many different services including Perpetrators of Violent Crime education, Counselling for youth, adults, and couples and the crisis line. No one is turned away; however, those at high risk are referred to the Mental Health and Substance Use team. Last year our crisis line provided 6,000+ interventions; 2500 hours locally; 33,000 hours province-wide; 36,000 calls and 540,000 minutes of support. The majority was done by volunteers with over 800 free additional minutes by staff.

**Laurie Walters, Social Planning Council (SPC)**: She and Counselor Michael will attend the Summit through Tamarack Institute; the focus is on policy changes. If you haven't purchased an SPC membership we encourage you to do so. Applying for several grants, and looking for more ideas. If you have any please share them with her at [laurie.walters@wlspsc.ca](mailto:laurie.walters@wlspsc.ca)

**Madison Rushton, CMHA CCB**: New Training Coordinator with CMHA CCB, focused on building community resiliency with funding from the Red Cross. Working toward ASIST and safeTalk train the trainers to provide the workshops locally and will be looking at other workshops to build resiliency in the community.

**Laurel White, CMHA CCB & BGC Williams Lake**: The Community Action Team (CAT) with CMHA CCB will be providing another free community-wide training event in August,

hoping to coincide with International Overdose Awareness Day.

**Silvia Siebert-Dubray – City of Williams Lake:** Received funding from Red Cross to increase resiliency after the fires, floods, pandemic, etc. The Wellness and Safety Committee is working toward reducing trauma, and asset mapping. The Cariboo Chilcotin Action Response Team (CCART-situation table) has supported 238 situations to date. If anyone is interested in CCART, community policing, or restorative justice connect with her.

**Sherry Yonkman – Downtown Williams Lake Business Improvement Association (BIA):** Developing a five-year strategic plan with input from downtown businesses. The BIA Strategic Plan Survey (10 questions, approx. 3-min to complete, link below) to determine time, focus, and funding.

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sv/uGT70N5/DWLbia> The Art Committee is taking applications for 10-year art projects with a \$5000 award from BIA and a \$5000 award from the City. The application's closing date is April 30. Art Walk applications are accepted until May 4, the Art Walk is happening Aug 11 - Sept 6. Amanda Fuller is organizing a Shop & Win (baskets) for Mother's Day and Father's Day, with entries completed on the spot for each purchase at participating businesses. Send community updates for the BIA newsletter to [info@downtownwilliamslake.com](mailto:info@downtownwilliamslake.com) **Larry**, appreciates Wednesday morning coffee for businesses to network. **Sherry**, thank you, they have been successful at the Appoii Kitchen, and the next one is May 10 at 8:00 am

**Barb Jones, Communities That Care (CTC):** Also provides family mediation and participates in Restorative Justice. Provided brief CTC and “[It takes a community...](#)” report overview. CTC Advisory Council working to reignite [Circle of Courage](#) The CTC network meetings take place on the second Tuesday of each month from 1-3 pm, location changes each month. Supporting BGC in Youth Week with a challenge going out to partners to collaborate with BGC on a youth week activity. Those accepting the challenge will have their names added to a draw for a Smashing Smoothies gift. Working to create “a sense of belong” newsletter so please share your “sense of belonging” stories to [communitiesthatcare@wlspsc.ca](mailto:communitiesthatcare@wlspsc.ca)

**Carla Bullinger, Cariboo Partners for Literacy (CCPL):** Bright Red Bookshelf: CCPL is collecting gently used children's books for our Bright Red Bookshelf program. Please drop off at #302-172 Second Ave or call 250-392-7833 to arrange drop off. **Larry**, have you connected with the Rotary Club? They often have books. **Carla**, yes, thank you, through Suzanne.

**Krista Harvey, BGC Williams Lake:** Youth Week is May 1-7, watch for activity updates on social media. Hiring two leadership positions for NOOPA (for 12-18 year-old youth programs), and four summer camp leaders (for 5-12-year-old summer camp kids). Bottle Drive takes place May 8 and Street Party is Aug 30. Those interested in Mountain Biking program will have to sign up online; we can provide assistance in registering for families in need. BGC Open House is June 2, **Carla**, to clarify all youth interested will have to sign up online. **Krista**, youth can drop in though they will still have to register. For liability reasons and to keep track. Sprout Kids leaders have to participate in training; there is a cost for this.

**Wylie Bystedt - T̓silhqot'in National Government (TNG):** New to Economic Development Office with TNG, looking forward to attending meetings regularly.

**Michael Moses – City of Williams Lake:** Assisting in planning a 4-Day, 10-year

anniversary event for Orange Shirt Day. If interested in helping with the event contact Michael, planning meetings will happen more frequently as we get closer to the event. We are open to entries for brochures, related to every child matters, for gift bags. Organizations interested will have to print 2500 copies. There is a call out to local artists and vendors to share their arts and crafts at the festival. Orange Shirt Society is creating Orange Shirt Day scrubs; Michael can connect you with Blair if interested. **Krista is interested.** Also working on Orange Shirt Day flags. Michael is also attending the National Indigenous Day planning sessions. Indigenous Relations in WL are growing with a new position for Indigenous Relationships and Reconciliation coming. Working directly with [Women Transforming Cities Laurie](#), based on Michael's interest in learning about encampments, would like to connect after the Summit before the City writes encampment policies. **Laurie to connect with Silvia. Michael to connect with Laurel** for the upcoming Community Harm Reduction Training.

**Beth Veenkamp, City of Williams Lake:** Attending housing conferences, is tough for the province. There is a lack of communication related to housing in rural housing matters; missing rural acute crisis at larger meetings. There is a push for a Northern Rural-based housing summit. Infrastructure costs always. There is rezoning in WL for garden/carriage homes, based on property suitability. The City of Quesnel has pre-designed garden/carriage home plans at <https://www.quesnel.ca/building-development/accessory-dwelling-units/pre-reviewed-accessory-dwellings> Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI), very few successful applications in March, will host another round for non-profits. Myth-busting - Williams Lake is **NOT** a "SMART City" Anyone spreading the word that it is, is wrong. **Larry**, how is the mall developing? **Beth** is slow and progress is being made. **Sherry**, is the CRD looking at the bylaws for garden/carriage homes? **Beth**, talks are happening at CRD to address concerns around wells and utilities. There are creative ways to overcome some of these barriers.

**Marnie Brenner – Interior Health (IH):** New Healthy Community Development team, is interested in being a part of the discussions with the CRD. Participating in the Active Transportation Week planning for April 27 discussion at the Gibraltar Room with Dr. Trent Smith. Doors open at 5:30 pm. There is a community connectedness grant coming from Plan H

**Brianna van de Wijngaard, The Central Cariboo Community Food Hub:** Provided a brief overview of Food Hub goals to get more food into the community through organizations already doing so. Working with Stephanie Bird and Robin Hunt to coordinate food literacy Pierogi Making workshop, reserved for clients, in need and is fully sponsored. Send an email to [foodhub@wlspsc.ca](mailto:foodhub@wlspsc.ca) if you have an interested client. United Way BC (UWBC) is hosting a survey for community impact and investment projects that might need volunteer support, it is not area specific. Complete the survey at [https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Fb1Mtc9DG0WhW\\_EGvHTciY4gOFRSyPZHqaDun0pRjGdUMUk4WEtPUkZPQUwwRDdQWFJpQINJOUZOSS4u](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Fb1Mtc9DG0WhW_EGvHTciY4gOFRSyPZHqaDun0pRjGdUMUk4WEtPUkZPQUwwRDdQWFJpQINJOUZOSS4u)

**Hannah Diether, Rural Divisions of Family Practice:** A new dietician and Social Mental Health Clinician starting in May. Collaborative service planning for primary care in the community for those impacted by the closing of the Yorston Clinic and attaching patients to maternity care.

**Craig Glover, Williams Lake and District Credit Union (WLDCU):** Lending for real estate is increasing. Those in need of restructuring due to shutdowns, layoffs, etc. can contact WLDCU for assistance and temporary solutions. There is a chance interest

rates will go up again if we don't see a dip in inflation.

**Angie:** NA

**Bree Odd, Social Planning Council (SPC) and BC Schizophrenia Society (BCSS):**

Working behind the scenes to update and revise the SPC website and planning guest speakers for May and June. Facilitating in-person Family Support Groups (FSG) starting May 4, 6-7:30 pm. LEAP Communication workshop May 26 from 9-4, location TBA. Strengthening Families Together (SFT) a six-week program specific for families and friends supporting a loved one living with a mental illness will start May 30.

**Larry Stranberg, Community Futures Cariboo Chilcotin (CF):** Met Brenda Bailey to discuss an extension to the Planning for Succession program. Still seeing many new business plans.

**Brad McKinnon, Williams Lake RCMP:** We are finalizing plans for this year's Stampede and will have a strong police presence there. We are assisting the city with the homelessness challenges. In the process of meeting with stakeholders for the annual performance plan, consider how we do business and whom we do business with. Already looking at the middle of May for a coffee talk, we want people to see us people first. **Laurie**, we would like to extend the invitation to attend SPC community meetings on a regular basis, when available. **Brad**, please send the invite.

**Meeting Adjourned 12:55 pm, Krista Harvey**

## Employment/Volunteer Opportunities

### **BGC Kamloops Employment Opportunities**

[GRIP \(Gangs, Guns, Intervention & Prevention\) Team Leader](#)

[GRIP \(Guns, Gangs, Intervention & Prevention\) Facilitator](#)

[Summer Day Camp Leader](#)

[Human Resources Manager](#)

[Youth Resource Worker](#)

[Child & Youth Worker](#)

[Early Childhood Educator](#)



## Funding Opportunities



I am pleased to share with you that the RONA Foundation is marking its 25th anniversary this year by redefining its mission and launching a new community initiative, Build from the Heart. Eligible organizations in your city are invited to submit their applications as of today.

This new program aims to improve the quality of life of populations in need by revitalizing their living environments and making it easier to access housing. The RONA Foundation will award a total of \$500,000 to eight selected organizations, one for each province or region where RONA has stores, to support them in carrying out projects in

line with the Foundation's mission.

If you know of any non-profits in your city that could benefit from the Build from the Heart program, please feel free to share the information with them. Organizations are invited to submit their projects until June 9 by filling out the form available [HERE](#).

If you want to share the news on your social media channels, we would be pleased to help you.

To learn more about the new mission and program, I invite you to read the following press release.

Sincerely,

Me Jean-Sébastien Lamoureux, MBA

Chair of the RONA Foundation's Board of Directors and Senior Vice-President, Affiliated Dealers, Wholesale & Public Affairs

RONA inc.

514-599-5900, ext. 5852

[jean-sebastien.lamoureux@rona.ca](mailto:jean-sebastien.lamoureux@rona.ca)



## Notable Quote

"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on the old, but on building the new."

~ Socrates



**Social Planning  
Council** Williams Lake  
and Area

## 2023 Community Meetings

January 23

July 24

February 27

August - **summer break, no meeting**



March 27

September 25

April 24

October 23

May 29

November 27 - **AGM & Community Meeting**

June 26

December - **winter break, no meeting**

Meeting minutes can be found [HERE](#)

## Join Today, Become a Social Planning Council Member!

Social Planning Council is a member-supported organization. Your membership fees are critical to supporting our work connecting, collaborating, and bringing our community together for a better quality of life for all.

For more info contact [info@wlspc.ca](mailto:info@wlspc.ca)  
or find a membership form [HERE](#)



The Social Planning Council of Williams Lake and Area thanks to the City of Williams Lake for their funding support.

---

266 Oliver Street, Williams Lake, BC V2G 1M1

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Social Planning Council of Williams Lake and Area · 266 Oliver St · Williams Lake, BC V2G 1M1 · Canada

