



The attachments contain the reports individually compiled by the Central and the North Island Community Councils regarding work undertaken in 2009/2010. As of May, 2010, these groups have merged and the new entity is known as the Central Upper Island Community Council. As the individual reports reflect, much energy has been expended this past year in accomplishing this merger, and both Councils and their leaders need to be acknowledged for their resilience and strong contributions in that regard. The Strategic Planning process for 2010/2011 is nearing completion for the new group, and coupled with new Terms of Reference (September 2009) and a clear mandate on the part of CLBC to focus on adults, there is a renewed sense of purpose emerging from the newly struck Council membership.

Draft Priorities for 2010 include:

- (1) Recruitment, renewal and nominations (establishing a nominations committee);
- (2) Communications (refining a dynamic process for outreach and community feedback, providing input to CLBC via the Provincial Advisory Committee, defining Council communication expectations, strategies and tools);
- (3) Council management (developing an identity and an efficient approach to Council business);
- (4) Building partnerships (with community members, families and self advocates);
- (5) Creation of focus groups on specific topics;
- (6) Creation of standing/sub committees (possible areas: housing, employment, transitions, crisis response, vulnerabilities and safeguards).

The Central Upper Island Council looks forward to a successful and productive year.

Central Island:

CHAIR SUMMARY

The Council's current areas of focus.

- Housing/Home Options
- Employment
- Waitlist
- Communication with CLBC and the Public
- Working through the merge of the North Island and Central Island Councils
- Council area of CLBC website current
- Recruiting new Council Members
- Council Terms of Reference

ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Housing/Home Options Workshop with Plan BC, over 70 people participated, Housing/Home Options group formed within the Parksville/Qualicum Beach Area, they are currently looking into the opportunity to be involved in a Habitat for Humanity Home in the Parksville area.
- Supporting Community Living Month celebration activities in Central Island communities during the month of October
- Strategic Planning Session with both North and Central Island Councils
- Community Awareness - held information meetings in all communities covered within our geographic area. At least two council members attended each meeting. Goal, connecting families, identified local leader, used anecdotal personal stories. Concerns arising from these meetings: housing, transportation, employment, ageing in place, need for better availability to connect with CLBC facilitators, analysts.
- These community meetings formed the basis of our strategic plan.
- Transitioning Youth - from high school to 'what's next'?
- Met with all sitting MLA's from our region: 3 council members attended -discussed role of Community Councils (who we are, what the councils concerns were, what we are planning to do) -found out MLA's knowledge of CLBC. Provided an opportunity to introduce ourselves and to create a relationship.

- Attended the 'All Island ' Community Council meeting in Nanaimo with members from all three Vancouver Island Councils.

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

- Providing a Resource Collection of information about services provided by CLBC and other organizations
- Keeping the Council website current, the process to do this
- Recruiting new Council Members, difficulty getting interest from new members and especially recruiting a member representing the First Nations people
- Provided feedback for the Terms of Reference.
- Acting as a communications conduit between community and CLBC has been challenging due to confidentiality and privacy concerns on the side of CLBC and due to lack of identity as Council in the communities.
- This requires an ongoing commitment as our Council, as yet, lacks a high profile in the community.
- One of the Central Island Council challenges is the limited contribution of its members. It has been suggested that all members be required to commit as least ten hours per month to council business.

RECCOMENDATIONS ARISING FROM WORK UNDERTAKEN

- There is an urgent need for all types of affordable housing within our communities.
- Communication. Who/ what is a CLBC Community Council? We need to get the word out. How do we do that?
- Transportation. Almost non-existent in rural areas.
- Ageing parents with ageing dependents. Viable options to be identified which are on going and acceptable and will give peace of mind to all involved.
- Self-advocates to be given support, as required.
- There needs to be more work done to ensure that access to CLBC information and supports is accessible, so that all families and individuals have a chance to benefit from the services available.
- Innovative projects are evolving across the Province. How can Community Councils access and share information about these projects in order to share new ideas and inspire local communities

CURRENT COUNCIL MEMBERS

NAME	COMMUNITY	MEMBERSHIP
Terry Patterson	Nanaimo	Community Member - Chair
Heather Porteus	Nanaimo	Self Advocate – Vice- Chair
Ron Greenhorn	Nanaimo	Self Advocate
Doreen Shaw	Parksville/Nanoose Bay	Family Member
Jean Scholefield	Duncan/Cowichan Valley	Family Member
Christa Schiffelers	Port Alberni	Family Member
Tina Fabro	Ladysmith	Service Provider

North Island:

CHAIR SUMMARY

Overall the work of the Council in 2009 has been continuing the identity formulation process in the midst of significant challenges. The work of this Council mirrors the challenges of CLBC in coming to terms with focus. Clearly, we believe in welcoming communities, but are having difficulty coming to concrete terms of how to facilitate this end. CLBC's reshaping activity, due to the transfer of children's services to MCFD deflected this Council's focus. We lost Council members. We were slowly moving forward in solidifying our Council's identity, role and function but too slowly for some.

KEY INITIATIVES

BUILDING WELCOMING COMMUNITIES

The Council understands the need to engage the community in a fuller way. We hoped to undertake discussion in our Work Plan review and restatement process in order to come to terms with how to best market or brand the Council so that the community knows who we are and what we do. We are fortunate in having a very skilled planner as our Administrative Assistant. This discussion was set to begin in 2010 when we were told that we were merging with the Central Island Council.

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Changes at CLBC have affected the Council's focus. We have lost members for moving too slowly and due to questions about the efficacy of the merger.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We are quite comfortable with the relationship we have with the local offices of CLBC. We trust the input from both planning and development side as well from quality assurance. We are uncertain that the Council is providing much of value to CLBC beyond oversight.

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

The Council is finding the following:
- a clearly stated process for issue identification through to actual recommendation and implementation is lacking

- a desire for legitimacy of output has led to delay and the need to recruit substitute Council members
- Council merger has deflected focus and has slowed the momentum of existing work
- Council is struggling to find it's new identity and role under new the format still unclear

FINANCIAL DECISION MAKING

This Council lacks complete understanding of the detail of the Region's budget. The updates are well presented; the manager is clear and comprehensive in responding to questions. However, the Council is not well equipped to assist except in a very broad stroke manner.

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

The issue is partially that CLBC doesn't always seek feedback from the Council regarding resource items. This issue relates to the Council being unclear as to how input to the Region moves up to the CLBC Board and results in programs and services in the Region.

There appears to be a generalized disconnect between issues in the Region with decisions made by CLBC provincially.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Council continues to be committed to open communities. We host Family Forum meetings 3 times a year to which the Community is invited. All our regular meetings are open to the community. We passed a motion to ensure this reality as we go forward.

We are eager to review our work plan which was delayed until Feb of 2010. The merger process with the Central Island Council has further delayed this activity. However, we are clear that our role is to enable open and welcoming communities within our expanded region. The new terms of reference for Councils have been very useful in assisting and supporting our role in relation to our community.

The challenges created by CLBC reshaping itself due to the transfer of children services and attendant merging of regions has set us back at least 4 to 6 month. We have lost ground and Council members.

Our hope is that lost Council members will stay involved with the work of Councils, but on special interest issues. Our challenge is to work on our new identity as a merged Council at the same time as facilitating open and welcoming communities.

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

NAME	COMMUNITY	MEMBERSHIP
Nicole Dowling	Courtenay	Self Advocate
Russ Keil	Courtenay	Family Member
Diane Bieber	Campbell River	Service Provider
John Dawson	Campbell River	Service Provider
Heather Cornfield	Campbell River	Family Member
Karen Merritt	Campbell River	Family Member
Ryan Salant	Campbell River	Community Member
Eugene Hrushowy	Courtenay	Community Member