

Fraser Region Community Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday October 26, 2011

Teleconference

Present: Jim Wong, Barb Thomas, Jacquie Jordon, Deb Appleby,
Soheila Godiseh

Regrets: Richard Faucher, Vera Anderson

Our regular meeting at the Port Moody Office was cancelled due to the majority not being able to attend in person so a teleconference was arranged instead. This change resulted in having to cancel a presentation by Megan Taylor-Reid and our first meeting with John Bergman, Analyst Manager.

The meeting began at 7:00pm. We had an in camera meeting of the council members only until 7:30 at which time Soheila joined us.

We took a moment to thank Jim for all of his hard work and commitment to the position of Chair of our council for the past few years and that he would most definitely be a hard act to follow and wished him well in his new endeavour.

Could not locate the meeting minutes from our last teleconference but confirmed with Jim that he did indeed send them via email. I will follow up with Jim to forward another copy so that we can accept both sets of minutes at our next meeting.

CLBC Update:

As I personally find it difficult to take minutes at the best of times I find it even more difficult on a teleconference.

I am quoting directly from the government's news release and I hope that you will agree it in part covers some of what Soheila stated with respect to the Client Support Team.

The Minister Launches Client Support Team

Today's announcement follows a number of significant changes at CLBC and by government to improve the services to individuals with developmental disabilities.

These include:

- The appointment of a new Minister of Social Development, Stephanie Cadieux.
- The appointment of an interim CLBC CEO, Doug Woollard.
- In September, the creation of a Deputy Minister Working Group to examine how individuals with developmental disabilities and their families

are supported by government ministries and how CLBC assesses and prioritizes needs.

- In October, a dedicated internal audit team began meeting with CLBC to report on a number of areas related to the service demand, performance management and cost analysis for CLBC. This is the same audit team that completed the recent BC Hydro audit.
- This week, a request by Minister Cadieux for an interim update from the board of CLBC for their vision for the organization and how they expect to achieve this vision. Due date is Nov 1st, 2011.
- The establishment of a Client Support Team to work with clients and families who do not feel that their service requests have been satisfactorily met by CLBC.

The Client Support Team is comprised of senior staff from the Ministries of Children and Family Development and Social Development and will work with families and individuals who not satisfied with the services and support plans provided by CLBC.

Quotes:

Minister Stephanie Cadieux:

“I am very pleased that we have the Client Support Team in place to help ensure individuals and families receive the most appropriate care possible from CLBC and our government.”

Doug Woollard, Acting CEO, Community Living British Columbia:

“While most clients and their families feel well served and supported by CLBC, we need to do a better job to ensure the best services possible are provided to all individuals who receive our services. The Client Support Team will ensure that families are being heard by CLBC.”

I will carry on in point form some of what Soheila talked about with respect to our region.

- Business as usual, no extra money as of yet.
- John putting together a new budget.
- Not enough money to meet the need, 108 not receiving any service, 181(number to be updated on the 30th) all together waiting for something else-enhanced.
- Amounts changing daily.
- Doug Woollard, interim CEO for 6-12 months, has been bombarded the past 10 days.
- Self Advocates Conference in Feb or March

As a group, areas of concern, questions and discussion:

- The number one concern for all of us is something that we as a council have struggled with more than once, around what exactly is the role of this council, what are we here for, no call or courtesy extended especially with respect to all that was happening in our region.
- We will formulate our questions to John to discuss at our next meeting.
- We seem to be quickly losing our passion and not feeling very effective..no purpose..no teeth.
- Soheila suggested that she bring Doug to a future meeting for discussion and to answer our questions.
- We definitely need new members and thanks to Vera a new member will be joining us soon and thanks to Soheila there maybe one other.
- The need to have self advocates to attend more regularly and what we can to facilitate. Some suggestions were, cab fare to and from all meetings, find better ways to communicate information, all correspondence and info

in plain language and to make more of a concentrated effort to not speak so quickly.

- We need to complete Re-appointment Questionnaires and get them to Peggy
- Briefly discussed the Face Book Group, Outside Noise. I asked Soheila about three forums that were being held south of the Fraser and if any were planned for this side. She had not heard of it and would look into it.
- I asked if it would be possible to move up our next meeting date to Nov 23rd as I had another meeting that I wanted to attend. No definitive decision was made.

Next meeting Wednesday Nov 30th

