

VANCOUVER CLBC COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Present: Peter Swayne, Goli Khalafi, Ernie Baatz, John Tsang, Ken Wakeman, Rachelle Czerwinski, Rita Leedholm, John Davies, Yaming Chen, Mara St.Onge-Dueck
Regrets: Sue Salter, Jan Wood, Natalie Marach, Richard McDonald

1) **Reviewed minutes:** Council reviewed the minutes of February 21, 2009.

2) **What is the Buzz?**

- "FSI Project - Family Support Institute" various workshops for parents and professionals taking place in the coming weeks esp. Naramata training w/e Please visit <http://www.familysupportbc.com/workshops> for more information and workshop dates.
- "Walk Beside Me" - Ernie attended this workshop where the objectives were to:
 - describe and promote a process for building formal support networks for individuals within the community with assistance from facilitators
 - help individuals build their own network where involvement is mandatory (!) once committed
 - workshop was led by Jayne Barrett from Australia. She has led a "Circles Initiative" for several years promoting "Circles of Support"
- CLBC Annual Conference - April 20th & 21st
The conference will consist of:
 - practice scenarios and promote working in teams and groups consisting of community members, families, facilitators and service providers
 - The groups will try to brainstorm ways to provide services and resources to individuals and families.
- You've Gotta Have Friends
 - a May 7/8 conference, led by the Langley Assoc. for Community Inclusion
 - some of North America's best community leaders will present on:
 - community building and community inclusion
 - developing the skills and knowledge to make a difference in the lives of those they support

Among some of the themes and topics of discussion will be:

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| - working with youth | - practical tips and strategies |
| - supporting seniors | - discovering your sacred gifts |
| - discovering the faith community | - laughter yoga and much more |

For more information and to register please visit: www.youvegottahavefriends.ca

- Don Davies, MP, visited John Tsang's autism support group
- Canuck Autism Network rally, Apr. 2 @ 7:30am to commemorate World Autism Day
- Apr. 1, regular Parent Transition Group meeting @ Pacific Spirit Health Centre on 43rd & W. Blvd to discuss new CLBC funding
- Vancouver Foundation provides Neighbourhood Grant money, Mara uses the grant to fund a block party each year

3) CLBC update - John Davies

- CLBC is reviewing its business contingency plan for 2010 Olympics and the provision and continuation of services during the 2 weeks of events. Focus will be on topics of:
 - Transportation
 - Communication
 - Access to areas of the city with high security
- Vancouver CLC supports 930 adult clients,
 - statistics suggest there are thousands more in the community
 - they have not been identified
 - CLBC serves those who are identified by parents or themselves
 - the unidentified are likely being supported in the community in circumstances unknown
 - the number of children known to CLBC / MCFD are close to the statistical norm

4) Sub-committee reports

- Community Rec. Committee - John and Peter met with the Presidents of Associations for each of the 3 community centres. CLBC was looking for sponsorship and the possibility of working together in using the community centres as program venues for individuals with disabilities.
 - John Tsang has made connections with Strathcona Community Centre and Helen VanWart's support has been greatly appreciated in making this contact possible.
 - Mara is maintaining contact with YMCA @ 49th & Cambie. They are interested in providing opportunities for PWDD, but will not have time to proceed until the fall.
- Youth in Transition Committee - Peter reported on Transition Committee meeting. CLBC has been working to reconnect with those individuals who have lost contact with CLBC.

Ruth-Anne Lesar has met with the Vancouver School Board teachers with regards to transitioning youth in their classes. Teachers found Ruth-Anne's presentation and the information session very helpful and will be referring those youth to CLBC.

5) **Selection Committee** - has received applications and council will be reviewing applications in the following weeks and making final decisions. Applicants will be contacted once decision has been reached.

6) **Family Meetings** - CLBC is in the process of organizing meetings with families about services and plan for service allocation. The Meets will begin 2nd week of May - the 5 meetings will be on May 9th, 11th, 12th, 14th and 26th.

The focus of these meetings will be on how disability related needs affect allocation of resources and also the topic of transition planning will be discussed. The families of graduates will be contacted to attend the April meeting.

7) **Advise from Departing Member** -

- Ken Wakeman encouraged council to continue to work together
- a climate of trust and freedom has been created with a willingness to work together; respect among Council members has been evident
- all team members have discovered their role in working towards the Council's goals; members have taken on various responsibilities
- the Community Council is going in a very positive direction
- the positive atmosphere has brought a wealth of experiences and perspectives to these meetings
- Ken wishes the Council all the best in its future endeavours.

8) **New Funding** - CLBC has a number of priorities with regards to the increased budget for this year and these are as follows:

1. clear direction for Children in Care as our 1st priority - and those transitioning to adulthood in particular.
2. identifying individuals who are eligible but not receiving funded support
3. providing Individualized Funding; a minimum of 10 individuals
4. creating an emergency response team for the Vancouver Coastal Region

Options for recruitment into day programs were explored and suggestions were made for trying out alternatives in regards to flexibility, enrolment and attendance.

9) **Employment Options**

- *CBI Customized Employment Demonstration Project* - offers customized employment to Learners.
<http://www.cbiconsultants.com/>
<http://www.naldatwork.ca/information/news/0723081247>
- MHSD is offering an employment program for individuals with low income and those on disability income assistance.
<http://www.eia.gov.bc.ca/factsheets/2007/EPPD.htm>

Next council meeting will be held on: **Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.**