

**Vancouver Community Council Meeting  
Saturday, January 12, 2008**

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

**1) Review of Minutes:**

- **Imagine Conference was discussed**
- **Communication to isolated families was discussed. Jan, John, Peter, Mara, Sue, Ken and Anita have agreed to be on the "Outreach" Committee which will tackle the issues of isolated families.**
- **There is a proposed meeting in April for all Chairs of Community Councils in B.C.**

**2) What's the Buzz?**

- **Ernie's book – Spectrum Society for Community Living's report on personal support networks. Copies were distributed.**
- **Federal Disability Savings Plan – The federal government has released details of proposed changes to legislation that would enable a national Registered Disability Savings Plan to be in place beginning in 2008. MIEA will fully exempt the federal government's Registered Disability Savings Plan when calculating clients' eligibility for disability assistance.**
- **John Tsang – talked about his involvement as the District Parent Advisory Committee Executive. John is also the Secretary of Board for Act B.C.**
- **CLBC Conference – Changing the World One Person at a Time: The Canadian Experience. Date of Conference March 10, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> – Location is Delta Vancouver Airport. The event targets service providers and their staff, it will also**

**appeal to service users, families, advocates, administrators, funders and others interested in learning more about person-centered practice and the possibilities this offers for people with disabilities and their families. For more information contact Melinda Skwarok – 604-664-1083.**

- **Art in the Evening – Sue mentioned this weekly event. “The Residences for Independent Living Society Invite you to attend Mondays @ 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. 1167 Forge Walk, Vancouver – Call Chris @ 604-731-0401 for more details.**
- **It’s All About Connections – Parents and Family members who have a child with extra support needs will have a time of refreshment, information and conversation on Thursday, January 24, 2008. Time 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Greg Moore Youth Centre in Maple Ridge. Sue has details on this event.**
- **Exploring the Power of Advocacy Conference – Rachelle attended the conference and gave the council an update.**
- **On February 6<sup>th</sup> the Transition group will be holding a meeting on Taxation at Pacific Spirit – 2110 West 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Rachelle will forward the details by e-mail.**

**3. Review of December 6<sup>th</sup> family meeting. Housing for elderly was a concern expressed at December 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

**4. Communication strategy – Do we need one? What should it look like?**

- **Discussed phone line, web-site, feedback form**
- **Feedback Form - Yaming will work on feedback form and will bring to next council meeting. Feedback form will be accessed through CLBC Web-site.**
- **Phone Line – Community Council will decide at next meeting if phone line should be set-up.**
- **Communication Document – if phone line is set-up will need to add this information as well as address to Communication Document.**

- **Communication Questionnaire – Suggested that we wait until we have Feedback form and web-site set-up before we send questionnaire to families. Peter will revise questionnaire for next meeting. If families would like to attend our meeting we will need advance notice in case we need to book another location. Also, suggestion that we have a couple of family meetings a year so that family can provide feedback. Those families that don't have access to web-site can provide feedback by mail.**

#### **5. Sub-committee reports**

- **PLAN Proposal – “Caring Friends Network Fund” – Who would be eligible for funding? Process was discussed. Using “Outreach” committee to come up with names of those that may be eligible for this funding.**
- **Transportation Brief – Sue reported on the Brief that will be given to Norah. Gwen Lee would also like to add information and concerns to the brief and then it will be presented to Norah.**
- **Neighbourhood Gathering Place – Sue commented on lack of “gathering places” for our population. Peter working on gathering information on Community Centres.**

**Council Budget – Review, set priorities.**

- **Other Business – Attendance of Julie Hopkins TBA**
- **B.F. to next meeting – Self Evaluation, Transition Fair**
- **Meeting dates – February 16, 2008, March 8, 2008, April 12, 2008, May 10, 2008, June 21, 2008**