

VANCOUVER CLBC COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, October 28th, 2009

Present: Peter Swayne, Ernie Baatz, Rachele Czerwinski, Mark Perry, Rita Leedholm, Deanne Ziebart, Liz Cochran, Yuko McCulloch, Goli Khalafi

Regrets: Mara St. Onge-Dueck, John Tsang, John Davies, Richard MacDonald, Theresa Huntly

1. Reviewed and carried minutes of September 16, 2009

2. What is the buzz?

- Canadian Association for Community Living: Rachele attended AGM in New Brunswick
 - CACL wants to consult more with families, developed "recipes for promoting inclusion
- Labour Market Development Agreement: Feds providing \$300m (nationally?) for harmonizing services – all the federal programs providing different support needs (e.g. to new immigrants, single parents, people with disabilities) under 1 roof; in BC Ministry of Housing and Social Development in charge
- CLBC will be an Adult oriented organization starting November 1, 2009. Children's services will be transferring over to the Ministry of Children and Family Development.
- November 7th – Margaret Newbery Jones workshop on Sexuality
- November 14th – Conversation about Real Work (6-9pm) a presentation by BACCI
- November 16th – Forum at BCACL on Reduction Strategies: Poverty and People with Intellectual Disabilities
- Best Buddies Canada is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing our communities through one-to-one friendships between individuals with intellectual disabilities and students **Amy Lynn Taylor** Western Canada Program Manager 778-318-3683

3. Manager's update: Given by Chair with input from Facilitator

- New Organization at Vancouver CLC:
 - 12.5 positions, 4 analysts, 6.5 facilitators, 2 administrators
 - new postings filled by internal shuffle then external postings

*** Council to write to John Davies suggesting that the role of Facilitator be renamed so that the functions of that role are more apparent to the public and, especially, to people with disabilities, and that, whatever the name, the function be clearly and boldly described in plain language**

- CLBC to maintain files of transitioning youth (16 yrs +) for transition planning and assistance to parents around the transition checklist
- CLBC is committed to having a facilitator assigned to all youth who will be turning 19 between November 1st to June 30th 2009
- Vancouver CLC will maintain communication with the Vancouver Board of Education offering workshops and gathering information

*** Council to write to Mary Dowdall, CYSN (Children and Youth with Special Needs) Manager recommending MCFD retain a social worker with the specific responsibility for transitioning 19 year olds with developmental disabilities to CLBC**

- John will ensure that Council is familiar with the CLBC Resource Data Base at the next Council Meeting in December

*** Council requests that at all Council meetings a senior staff member be present**

4. Transition Parent Support Group:

- Support Group wanted to thank the contributions of Ruth-Anne Lesar and her support to the transitioning youth, their families and schools

- Rachelle and Yuko wanted to bring some issues forward around challenges for transitioning youth, some of these concerns were as follows:
 - Isolation after school is over
 - Lack of true membership in their communities
 - Finding ways for families to get connected to their community resources and finding services
 - Need for more Family Support Groups
 - For organizations like CLBC to continue to keep young adults connected to each other and to their communities
 - The need for realization that Transition Planning is essential
 - Knowledge about current resources in the community such as the DDA drop-in centre, Friendship curriculum @ Spectrum Society and the efforts of DDA to promote group respite

5. Action Plan for Council: the following action plan was adopted by the Council

Initiate projects and initiatives to:

- 1. improve awareness and support for inclusion and full participation of people with developmental disabilities in community by:**
 - using CLBC provided materials (when available) to inform the public – posting notices; handing out brochures; etc.
 - personal contact with friends and members of the public
- 2. improve understanding of local issues within the larger community by:**
 - regular reports at Council meetings of issues arising from: parent support group meetings; service provider meetings; school experiences; business contacts; etc.
 - holding an annual, Council run meeting with families
- 3. improve the ability of the community to include and informally support people with developmental disabilities to live good lives in welcoming communities by:**
 - creation of a subcommittee, comprised of those members able to participate, which pursues a specific initiative developed by the Council as a whole
- 4. improve the identification of province wide barriers to inclusion and citizenship by:**
 - reporting to the Board any issues that arise in Vancouver that seem to be of a provincial nature
 - Liz, Deanne, Rachelle and Peter will form subcommittee to work on friendship, isolation, social life issues, 1st meeting Nov.6 at Oakridge Senior Centre
 - Liz would like to contribute by helping families in being creative with their individualized Funding
 - Deanne would like to see translation of the CLBC website into different languages

6. Family Meeting with Community Council

- Goals of Family Meeting: provide opportunity for families to meet Community Council, hear of Council's activities, ask questions of CLBC Manager and voice concerns
- April would be best month because of Christmas events and Olympics – previously held in Nov. 2008, Dec. 2009

7. Other Business

- Thank you's to the staff for efforts made on behalf of children and adults and for working through the trials and tribulations of reorganization
 - Peter to arrange thank you's and wee gifts

8. Next Meeting: Wednesday December 9th (6 – 9 pm)