

Upper Fraser Community Council
 Date: January 7, 2014
 Address: Abbotsford Garden Park Towers
 Time: 6:00pm

Attendees: Dawn Robertson (PAC Rep), Sylvia Dirks, Donalda Madsen, Bryce Schaufelberger, Maggie Metcalfe(chair), Kerry Lawson (CPD Manager), Dan Collins, Tiffany McCurdy (minutes)

Regrets: Brenda Gillette, Jerry Laidlaw

Guest: Brian Salisbury

Agenda Topics	
Topic	Discussion
Community Council Member's Handbook	<p>Brian Salisbury came from Headquarters to discuss the Community Council Member Handbook. Brian reported that one of HQ's goals is to meet with the 13 councils around the province between January and March 2014 to discuss the Community Council Handbook and terms of reference for one last meeting to seek feedback. The board will then be asked to approve the handbook and terms of reference. The handbook outlines a process for the councils to follow to ensure consistency. Brian will be looking at how to organize the website to ensure that the handbook is user friendly and accessible. If individuals want hard copies of the handbook they can go to their local CLBC office for a copy.</p> <p>Brian reviewed Section 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3 and 2.1.4 with the Upper Fraser Community Council. HQ is asking the councils to focus specifically on these points in Section 2.1. Community councils are encouraged to focus on the four roles outlined:</p> <p>Convenor: bring people together to explore issues or identifying opportunities to act.</p> <p>Catalyst: stimulating change by bringing together different elements needed to make something happen.</p> <p>Connector: linking with others in community in support of a common cause.</p> <p>Advisor: sharing perspectives, information or insights to support something to be achieved.</p> <p>The four roles provide a lens or way of thinking to the work the councils will engage in. There are lots of good examples of things different councils have engaged in which will be written up to provide examples of action plans.</p>

	<p>Bryce inquired as to whether the handbook has been reviewed with plain language in mind. Brian responded that Jessica Humphrey will work with self-advocates to make some changes to make the handbook language more accessible. Movies will also be made in conjunction with the handbook to explain the handbook content including key topics for community councils to help address some of the language challenges associated with the document.</p> <p>InCommon TV will provide resources, training and tools. Each community council has a budget... and it is the role of HQ to support the councils in developing the budget and exercise autonomy. Community councils generally desire autonomy in order to willingly engage in council duties. Within the context of the work plan, it is up to the community council to decide how they will use their budget. The spending of the budget should be linked to the strategic plan.</p> <p>Comments...</p> <p>A council member raised the question: What is the role of community planning and development? How do they play a role in building community? Community development is long term, intensive, relationship oriented work. There is a potential strength by connecting the community council and local CPD office.</p> <p>A council member commented on the challenges of working in the four communities, which make up the Upper Fraser Communities.</p> <p>A council member made a comment referring to page 12 of the handbook and the need for a council member to provide a driver's abstract if they are driving a self-advocate to a community council meeting. The response is that it acts as a safeguard as there needs to be accountability around transporting the vulnerable adult.</p>
Topic	Discussion
Review of Community Council Workplan	<p>The following goals were outlined in the area of Community, Families and Self-Advocates: Community</p> <p>Goal: To enhance the capacity of community to support and include individuals with developmental disabilities by harnessing the community's social capital.</p> <p>Specific Actions: To undertake a process to discover places in community where the contributions of those with developmental</p>

disability are recognized or where citizens (groups, organizations, clubs) are aligned in the shared goal of making community available to everyone.

To host a community event, with the participation of civic leaders, to highlight and share examples of community building in action.

Families

Goal: To work collaboratively with individuals and families to support innovative and flexible options that support families to be informed, engaged and resilient.

Specific Actions: To host a gathering of informal family leaders to dialogue about the conditions/supports that allows them to assume a family leadership role in their community.

Self-Advocates

Goal: For self-advocates to have good jobs, good homes and friends.

Specific Actions: to organize a dialogue with local leaders interested in learning about supporting the development of creative models of supportive housing in the Upper Fraser.

Work Plan Implementation

The question was raised whether to implement these goals in each community of the Upper Fraser or to centralize the gatherings? How does the community council identify family members who are leaders in the community? A council member commented that members of the council know local leaders in community, and autonomous family networks.

Planning with Families

Planning with families requires creative thinking with families. If there is a shift, the reality in community therefore will force the system to respond accordingly. Choose to have a system that ultimately delivers the scope of community or choose to have a community who describes what the system needs to be. How? Using social capital, having active and resilient families. There needs to

	<p>be a larger scope or long term plan. What is possible remains unknown until you get together and try and do it. This involves bringing families together who are thinking outside of the box and moving towards a goal. Unfortunately "Giving in Action" no longer has funds as of March 2014. Creative thinking involves bringing self advocates together who have innovative ideas. What are we hearing from self-advocates about what they're wanting? I.e. living independently but not having the money to afford their rent.</p> <p>Discussion arose around the systems of CLBC and the importance of coming together and working together. The question was asked: What are the conditions that need to be in place for us all to be on the same page? Council does not believe that building a perfect system leads to perfect lives... efforts needs to be constructive in other realms When you delve deeper into best quality of life outcomes for people most of those relate to external factors which are relational based not systems factors. Therefore it is important to involve extended family in planning. One of the focuses should be supporting self advocates to build their social capital.</p>
Topic	Discussion
Announcements	Jennifer Wheadon & Tricia Lins to come to next meeting in February to present on Quality of Life.
Adjournment	
9:00pm	
Next Meeting	
Tuesday, February 11 th , 2014	