

**Network Minutes**

**Thursday July 14, 2016 CVRD Board Room- 5:30 pm**

**Present:** Denise Williams chair, Rob Hutchins- co-chair, Cindy Lise Regional Facilitator, Sheila Service, Melie De Champlain, Jan Tatlock, Joy Emmanuel, Michelle Staples, Valorie Masuda, Colleen Fuller, Jane Osborne, Rhoda Taylor, Robin Routledge, Gerry Giles, Gus Williams, Leslie Welin, Jane Hope, Tom Walker Linda Roseneck, Diane Pope,

**Regrets:**, Robert Calnan co chair, David Robertson, Douglas Hardie, Amy Trippe Brophy, Aimee Sherwood, Alice Gelpke , John Elzinga, Denise McKinlay, Gretchen Hartley

**Absent:** Jennifer Jones, Dave Ehle, Bob Day, Travis Peterson, Kate Marsh

**Guest:** MP Alistair MacGregor, Addie Russell

**On Leave:** Joanna Nielson, Laura Court

1. **Welcome and introductions.**
2. **Spotlight Speaker –**Melie De Champlain Syrian, Afghan and Iraq Refugees- Melie’s presentation included a synopsis of the refugee crisis and her visits to Greece to support those displaced by war and the corruption of governments. Her initial visit in late December and early January of this year was for an organization called Lighthouse where those who made the dangerous trek across the Aegean Sea were welcomed and provided services such as dry clothes, medical aid and food once their precarious and overcrowded rafts reached the jagged shore. Many of these families and individuals were hypothermic and traumatized but the Lighthouse team was there to provide support. Her journey to Greece in May of this year was very different because there has been a ban on moving refugees through Greece into Europe. The families who have arrived on the shores of Greece are now being placed into refugee camps. Some of the families may be registered and processed to be able to move on but others do not have the same fate. In particular there is a camp which houses approximately 100 refugees. These families are from Afghanistan and because of policies in place will not be able to be registered as official refugees nor will they be safe to return to their country. As a result these people are left in limbo with no way out. Melie shared the backgrounds, names and ages of these families who are educated and range from children to seniors. Her hopes are to work with the Cowichan Community and the Canadian Government to look at options for Cowichan to adopt the desperate people in this camp.Melie and some colleagues from Canada and the USA are looking into the complex process of taking on this project including the funds required to do so. This would be a precedent setting case and will take some effort. It was a wonderful coincidence that our MP Alistair MacGregor was joining us this evening as questions were directed to him regarding policies and decisions regarding refugees from a political perspective.
   1. This topic will be placed on to our September agenda and will be one that OCCHN has further discussion.
   2. A pot luck dinner to welcome our current Syrian Refugees to Cowichan is being hosted at Vimy Hall on Thursday July 21 from 6 pm to 9 pm.
3. **Celebrating Network Members –** Cindy Lise- Presentation shared with Island Health Board of Directors. Our Cowichan sincerely thanked Island Health not only for the financial support that allows us to continue our work but for the contribution of staff, resources and expertise over the last six and a half years. The presentation outlined that the building of the foundation of Our Cowichan which includes relationships, research and an understanding of the communities and the needs of those communities has lead to the successes that we are experiencing today. Our intent to undertake some significant undertakings such as our work with aligning anti smoking legislation, sobering and detox work, EPIC, and our collaborative project with Social Planning Cowichan for the Snap Shots project was highlighted in the presentation.
4. **Adoption of Agenda- Moved/second Approves**
5. **Minutes from June 9, OCCHN meeting-**  **Carried**
6. **Correspondence:** 
   1. We have received a letter from the CVRD confirming that the Sobering and Detox Report has been sent to BC Coroner Lisa Lapointe
7. **Business Arising from Minutes**:
8. **OCCHN Committee Reports** 
   1. **Business Arising from Admin Committee-** 
      1. **Admin Chair**-
   2. **Budget-** Accepted as presented **Carried**
   3. **Granting-** Small grants project will begin in September. A request for committee members to prepare the RFP and review and vet the applications was put forward.
   4. **Membership**- no new members. We welcome Gerry Giles back to the Network!
   5. **Communications**- Copies of the new brochure including FETCH were distributed to members. We are now at a place where communications work is required and as a result OCCHN members were asked for representation on the communications committee. Those who are interested are asked to contact Cindy.
   6. **Asset Mapping and Data Collection**- Snaps Shots project with Social Planning Cowichan moving ahead. Members were encouraged to go to the Social Planning Cowichan website to participate in two surveys that will feed information into the project. Cindy will also include links to the surveys for members in the Friday newsletter. Members were also encouraged to submit photos for the photo contest.
      1. The latest Living Wage Report for Cowichan has been released and the costs have increased since the last report to $18.81 per hour for a family of four. The full report can be found on the Social Planning Cowichan website.
   7. **Website**- The website is up to date and includes the Sobering and Detox Report on the home page
9. **OCCHN Liaisons:**
   1. **Collaborative Services Committee**: This committee is very important to the community and to Island Health. It is through the Collaborative Services Committee that the Hospice Palliative Care Centre of Excellence was acknowledged as an important resource for our community and that inroads were made on two differing perspectives. We are moving to a shared vision for this important resource for our region.
   2. **MHSU Collective Impact Initiative:**  no report
   3. **Cowichan Valley Hospice project-** The Task Force met with the Island Health Board of Directors and shared the dire state that we face within the Cowichan Region for those at the end of life including the experiences of families moved to a coffee room where loved ones are dying. The Board meeting the following morning had almost 200 people attend, many of those wore Hospice Sunflower Badges. Their presence was acknowledged by the Board members and it was reiterated that Island Health has a commitment to work with the Task Force and the Cowichan community to build a Hospice Centre of Excellence. A memorandum of understanding is currently being negotiated between the two parties. Next steps will be to ratify the MOU and then move to a feasibility study to determine that it can be placed on the recommended Cairnsmore site as well as a concept design.
10. **New Business:**
    1. **There is NO OCCHN meeting in August and in September we will be transitioning to meeting Every Second Month and will be meeting at Clements Centre Society**
       1. On the September agenda will be the following: Focus on our youth experiencing homelessness and MHSU, Refugees
    2. Cowichan District Hospital Site- the site passed its second reading at a recent special Council meeting. There will be a covenant placed on the bylaw to ensure that the commitment to complete an area plan and infrastructure requirements prior to construction taking place. The third and final reading will take place on July 20.
11. Strategic Planning Review- Cindy shared a power point presentation outlining our progress on the three year strategic plan over the first year of the three year plan. A number of items on the plan have been completed and equally as many are moving ahead and ongoing. Areas where more work is required include areas around communications and messaging. As a result the communications committee will be reactivated in September to move this work forward. A copy of the presentation will be distributed with the minutes as well as will be placed on the website for future reference.

**NEXT MEETING THURSDAY September 8 6:00 PM- Dinner served at 5:30**

**Please Note that our meeting will be hosted at Clements Centre 5856 Clements Street**

Minutes taken by Cindy Lise- Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm