

**Network Minutes**

**Thursday January 9, 2014**

**CVRD Board Room- 6:00 pm**

**Present:** Rob Hutchins Chair: Jennifer Jones, Anita McLeod, Gerry Giles, Grant Waldman, Cindy Lise, Jane Hope, Joanna Nielson, Candace Spilsbury, Linda Roseneck, Robert Calnan, Denise Williams, Pat Weaver, Gretchen Hartley, Isabel Rimmer, Amy Brophy,

**Regrets:** Sandra Goth, Jan Tatlock, Jenn George, Laura Court, Amrik Prihar,

**Absent:** Georg Stratemeyer, Robin Routledge, Gus Williams, Barb Lines

**Guests:** Dr. Alex Anzarut, Dr. Bill Neilsen, Dr. David Robertson

**On Leave:**

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Adoption of Agenda- Moved/second Approved**
3. **Delegation:** Drs. Anzarut, Robertson and Neilsen presented on a preliminary plan to increase the capacity for providing non -funded surgeries during times when the operating rooms at CDH are vacant. The idea for a pilot project includes providing medical services within the Cowichan Community by renting the operating rooms at the end of the day or on weekends to perform non funded procedures such as plastic surgery, tubal and vasectomy reversals and other surgeries not funded under the medical services plan. Currently, Cowichan patients must travel to Nanaimo or other locations to receive these services. In the doctors opinion, if a pilot project is undertaken it could: a. Create revenue for the Cowichan District Hospital, b. Create work for nurses and anesthetists within the Cowichan Region, and c. Reduce wait lists and increase the number of funded procedures as a result of moving non funded procedures out of the day to day operations. The medical team was clear that this would not be two tier health care and would not draw away staff from current duties. The team is looking to see if the community would be behind a project such as this.
4. **Spotlight Speakers:** Caroll Taiji – unwell so Cindy presented a brief look at the blueprint policies and draft brochure and ad.
5. **Minutes of December 12, 2013 – Moved/second Approved**
6. **Correspondence**
   1. Christmas card from Ladysmith Family and Friends
7. **Business arising from minutes** 
   1. Following through with exploring primary health care, an information session and tour of the Ladysmith Community Health Centre has been set up for Wednesday January 15 at 4:30 pm. Heather Dunne will provide an overview of the history and has also invited a physician, nurse practitioner and mental health staff to provide the delegation with how the health centre serves the community of Ladysmith. All Our Cowichan members have been invited to attend.
8. **CCHN Committee Reports:**

**Admin Committee-**

* 1. **Budget-** The 2013 financials are up to date until the 15th of December and the final expenses will be provided at the February meeting. Our Cowichan has met every budget target or is below budget targets for 2013. The Financial statement was approved by consensus

**Approved**

* 1. **Business Arising from Admin Committee**
     + **Liability Insurance-**Following further investigation it has been determined that Our Cowichan is a non taxation function of the CVRD. As a result liability insurance is covered under the CVRD. A letter from the CVRD providing information on how to report when renting a facility is expected soon.
     + **Website-** The admin committee requested a review of the users accessing Our Cowichan’s website. This would determine if the website was worth continued financial support. Surprisingly, a report from Carleton Communications showed that the website had over 107,208 hits by 2,648 unique visitors.
     + **Letter to Island Health and Our Cowichan 2013 Year End Review-** A letter was sent to Island Health thanking them for the financial support they have provided. This funding has allowed Our Cowichan to undertake the work outlined in our yearend review. The Year End Review was attached to the letter.. Both documents were also shared with Our Cowichan members.
  2. **Granting:** A draft synopsis of the 2013 was presented. The Grant Committee would like to review the grants process, outcomes of small grants and determine if policies and procedures for 2014 should be revised. A meeting in February will review all grants to date and recommendations will come forward by March. Discussion included: ensuring small grants are included in the Annual Report, the success of the projects be publicized in the News Papers prior to requests for the 2014 applications, the communications committee create an ad celebrating the success of the grants, and that the small grants reports and communications from 2013 be put in a prominent place on the website.
  3. **Membership:**  Welcome to new member Dr. Isabel Rimmer representing the Cowichan Division of Family Practice.
  4. **Asset Mapping / Data Collection- update**- The project is moving forward. The Golder team met with Dr. Trevor Hancock just prior to the holiday break and focused on determining the best framework for health indicators. A framework developed by Hancock and his colleague Labonte resonated with the Golder team and is strongly recommended by Trevor. The table in the attached article (Indicators that Count) (attached) illustrates the determinant categories.

Dr. Hancock specifically notes the following are missing and are important to the Cowichan area:

First Nations perspective

Ecosystem health/sustainability

Food security, foodlands, agriculture

Peace/ safety/ non-violence

Shelter/ housing quality /homelessness

Nature connection/ parks etc

Participation/ engagement/ empowerment

* 1. **Communications :**
     + Brand blueprint policies and draft brochure and ad page presented above.

Cindy to update all Our Cowichan documents with the new logo and name- for example 3 Year Strategic Plan and Membership Package.

Cindy to set up Communication Committee meeting to review final edits

* + - **Website**- Gary Carleton from Carleton Communications was contracted to manage the Our Cowichan website in January of 2013. Gary has provided exemplary service and has been able to attend to all deliverables. The contract for Carleton Communications ends on January 31, 2014 and a new contract is recommended.

**Moved/second that Our Cowichan undertake a new contract with Carleton Communications to manage the Our Cowichan Website for 2014 for an amount not to exceed $3,000.00**

**Carried**

* 1. **CCHN Liaisons**

**Collaborative Services Committee** – No Report

**Hul’qumi’num Health Hub:** No Report

**Choose Cowichan Lake Update:** Cowichan Lake is to receive two more physicians in August. They are thrilled to welcome Dr. Clara Iturra and her husband Dr. Pedro Villarroel.

**Cowichan Lake Multi Disciplinary Team-** A full update on the progress of the Multi Dis. Team and Choose Cowichan Lake was published in the January 3rd edition of the Health Matters News Letter. The article and photo were published in the December 30 edition of the Cowichan News Leader Pictorial.

**New Business:**

* 1. **Update on CDH site Acquisition Forums**- Rob provided an update on the forums. The Contractor McElhanney has been hired to help determine available sites for the future CDH. The forums confirmed that the site selection criteria were complete and no changes to the criteria resulted from the forums. The process is now underway to look at targeted sites and potential land acquisition that will lead to a call for proposals.

**Physician Recruitment and Primary Health Care-** One Cowichan members are invited to participate in an information session on community health care in Ladysmith on Wednesday January 15 from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

**Hospital Utilization Presentation by Dr, Anzarut and Colleagues-** Discussion followed the presentation that included:

**Positive responses:**

* The idea to utilize resources better is a good idea
* Helping members of the Cowichan region access services within their own community is important
* The potential for increasing revenue for the CDH
* Providing employment for Cowichan staff
* Reducing wait lists due to non funded procedures moving to alternate hours and days
* Funds could be used for immediate needs within the community i.e funding more staff and beds

**Concerns:**

* CDH is already operating beyond maximum capacity
* what happens to patients and stressed staff when complications arise and they need additional care?
* Capacity to manage all aspects of this delivery model
* What happens when patients require specific care and their physician is working in another hospital or community?
* Capacity of CDH staff to manage unique medical emergencies as a result of the procedure they do not normally manage.
* Ensuring the service is patients from the Cowichan region and that they have priority over patients coming from other regions.

**Recommendations:**

* To find out what works and what does not work in hospitals such as Campbell River
* To refer this item to the Admin Committee so they can seek more information before recommendations on how to proceed are made.

**Our Nation’s Health- the Social Determinants of Health- Joanna** recommended Our Cowichan members view a program that was aired on Detroit Public Television on the Determinants of Health that include concrete ideas of how to address the determinants and to move ahead.

Cindy to look into acquiring the documentary for group viewing

**Island Health Capital Budget Planning-** This is the time of year when Island Health is reviewing projects for capital funding. Our Cowichan should send a letter reminding Island Health of the community's endorsement of the redevelopment of the remaining two wings at Cowichan Lodge. Our Cowichan will revisit the letter that was sent in November of 2012.

Cindy is to contact Jan to find out if the previous recommendation is moving forward.

**E Cigarettes-** Kim Bruce from Island Health will be joining Our Cowichan in February to share information on smoking policies and the new concerns of E cigarettes. While travelling in the USA, Gerry witnessed advertising promoting E cigarettes as a “Healthy Choice”. Our Cowichan members will be provided with background information on tobacco prevention strategies in the coming weeks.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM**

Minutes taken by Cindy Lise