

**Network Minutes**

**Thursday July 16, 2015 CVRD Board Room**

**4:30 pm -8:00 pm**

**Present:** Rob Hutchins Chair, Jennifer Jones Co-Chair, Denise Williams, Cindy Lise Regional Facilitator,Gerry Giles, Amy Trippe Brophy, Robert Calnan, Robin Routledge, Alison Nicholson, Sheila Service, Leslie Welin, Denise McKinlay, Gretchen Hartley, Grant Waldman, Dave Ehle, Valorie Masuda, Gus Williams, Jane Osborne, Bob Day, Aimee Sherwood, Rhoda Taylor, Joanna Nielson

**Regrets:** Isabel Rimmer, Jane Hope, Jenn George, Kathleen Erickson, Jan Tatlock, Melie De Champlain, Victor Nowoselski, Val Crossley, David Robertson, Tom Walker,

**Absent:** Lori Iannidinardo, Bonnie Thomson, Laura Court

**Guest:** Lois Cosgrave, Sue Plester, Krista Fox, Susan Barr, Clair Wessen, Marie Hinchsliff, Donna McCasky, Marian D?

**On Leave:**

1. **Welcome and introductions.**
2. **Special Presentations by Lois Cosgrave Island Health Director of End of Life and Home and Community Care and Gretchen Hartley Cowichan Valley Hospice Society**
	1. Gretchen shared the presentation provided to the OCCHN Admin Committee on June 17 and showed a video about Hospice and Palliative Care. The presentation highlighted the need to die healthy and the current conditions faced by many patients who end their lives in the Cowichan District Hospital wards or emergency room. While considering the planning of the new designated hospice and palliative care beds we need to consider the quality of the programming and the ability to support those who choose to die at home as well as the caregivers when implementing our plans. We also need to consider the environment and the cultural needs of the families who are experiencing the loss of a loved one including: outside space, space for children, and an environment that welcomes cultural traditions and families to gather together it should even include pets.
	2. Lois provided an update on the current process underway to select an appropriate site for the Cowichan Hospice and Palliative Care beds. In addition Island Health is currently undergoing a redesign to deliver timely coordinated care including providing information, education, tools and resources for individuals and caregivers. The Ministry of Health announced that it would double the number of beds in the province. This means that the Cowichan region will be getting 4 new beds in addition to the current 3 serving the region. A process for selecting the sites includes the following:
		1. Environment including private rooms, outdoor space
		2. Access via outside door versus through a building
		3. Staffing- 24-7 RN
		4. Proximity to physicians and hospital
		5. Capital requirements
		6. Ensuring that beds displaced can be replaced in another location
		7. Community input
		8. Whether the facility is owned and operated by Island Health or an affiliate
		9. Clustering of the 7 beds in one location

It is important to note that we are extremely limited with our options in the Cowichan Region.

* 1. Cowichan sites currently considered include:
		+ 1. Cairnsmore
			2. Cowichan Lodge
			3. Sunridge
	2. A number of questions and comments were posed by the members and visiting guests that included:
		1. Other capital expenditures have followed the 40 to 60 split for funding- why is this project not the same? The original planning behind the beds was to embed them into existing facilities and this was not considered for significant capital funding as the process could take years to ever be approved.
		2. How can we move from fitting 7 beds into a facility to creating and exceptional facility for the Cowichan Region- which may include building from the ground up? We can start from the ground up if that is what the Cowichan Community is requesting but it still must meet the criteria for operational funding. ( for example it could be built on existing sites)
		3. Why was the community not involved in the conversation sooner? It seems like the options for sites have already set. Preliminary discussions have begun but no decisions have been made.
		4. This may have quite an impact on the Ladysmith and Chemainus beds- How do we ensure that all options are considered before clustering the 7 beds together. In order to be the most cost efficient clustering is recommended but no further discussions regarding the existing beds have taken place.
		5. Sunridge is a private facility that has undergone many challenges and changes in management and operations over the last few years- It does not seem like a site that should be considered. No decisions have been made it was included as it is one of the sites that could potentially house the service.
		6. How can we ensure that the community is engaged from this point forward? We can form a steering committee at any time.
		7. There is concern for decision making without community consultation and the reason why OCCHN exists is to put a community voice back into health. We need to ensure that the community is engaged in the decisions and process regarding hospice and palliative care.

**OCCHN RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That Our Cowichan Community Health Network (OCCHN) strongly support the establishment of a Hospice/Palliative care facility in the region; **Carried**
2. That OCCHN request Island Health to establish a community task force or engage with a task force of community members to establish a community vision for Hospice/Palliative care in the region; **Carried**
3. That OCCHN assist the Cowichan Valley Hospice Society in advocating for community and Regional District funding for such a facility; **Carried**
4. That OCCHN request delegation status on behalf of OCCHN and the Cowichan Valley Hospice Society at the CVRD Reg. Services meeting or another suitable CVRD meeting at the end of August; **Carried**
5. That OCCHN offer to assist the Cowichan Valley Hospice Society and Island Health to facilitate a community discussion on the location of the facility and the potential relocation of palliative care beds presently in Ladysmith and Chemainus.  **Carried**
6. **All Regular OCCHN business was deferred until September-** Members were provided with minutes and the financial statement for their review and comments to be submitted via email if needed.
7. **Sue Plester- Presentation of the DRAFT Strategic Plan-** Sue lead the members through a power point presentation outlining the draft strategic plan. Members made recommendations on the overall plan and will submit their specific comments and recommendations to Sue and Cindy by Thursday July 23. A final draft will be distributed via email and will be addressed at the September 10 OCCHN meeting.
8. **New Business**
	1. **New Horizons Seniors Grant-** Cindy shared the extensive process and work undertaken to submit a federal grant proposal to reduce senior’s isolation in the Cowichan Region. The grant is a part of a larger Island Collective Impact initiative and if successful will see 10 projects engaged in reducing senior’s isolation take place over a three year period. If successful Our Cowichan will be the project lead overseeing the Cowichan Collective and will also be responsible for establishing a regional senior’s strategy. We should know more information in approximately three months. Cindy would like to thank a team of people who helped during a very trying three weeks.
	2. **Sobering and Detox Conversation June 12, 2015** – The first consultation and community conversation took place on June 12. Representatives serving those who may be impacted by alcohol and substance use came together to talk about challenges, gaps in services and the establishment of a regional task force to address the subject area. A synopsis of the conversation will be circulated and further discussions will take place in September. If there are any members who wish to get involved or learn more please contact Cindy.
	3. **Collective Impact Sharing Event June 26, 2015**- A number of community partners and Island Health representatives gathered together on June 26 to learn about the emerging Collective Impact Strategies currently underway and to celebrate the significant amount of work and community collaboration in progress to tackle some of our most challenging health, social and environmental issues in the region. This was the second gathering related to community collaboration. A third gathering will be planned for 2016. Members will be sent the synopsis of the day once it is completed.
	4. **Office Closure**- The OCCHN office will be closed for the month of August. If there are any important issues or requests members are encouraged to contact Rob Hutchins and Jennifer Jones.
	5. **Board Meets Boards-** Dr Trevor Hancock from the University of Victoria will be presenting at the October 19 Board Meets Board Meeting
	6. **MEND Program** – members were provide information on the MEND program designed to help families with children aged 7-13 years who have weight that exceeds a healthy BMI. The 10 week program is free for families as they work together to get healthy and fit together. Space is limited to 15 families so if members are aware of a family who would like to be involved in the program please refer them to Jill Amy – fitness programmer at the Cowichan Aquatic Centre. Registration requires specific information. All families will receive a free fitness pass at the end of the 10 weeks.

**NEXT MEETING THURSDAY September 10, 2015 CVRD BOARD ROOM – 6:00 PM- Dinner served at 5:30**

Meeting adjourned 7:50

Minutes taken by Cindy Lise