

**Network Minutes**

**Thursday February 13, 2014CVRD Board Room- 6:00 pm**

**Present:** Rob Hutchins Chair: Jennifer Jones, Anita McLeod, Gerry Giles, Cindy Lise, Jane Hope, Joanna Nielson, Linda Roseneck, Robert Calnan, Denise Williams, Gretchen Hartley, Laura Court, Jenn George, Jan Tatlock, Amrik Prihar, Gus Williams,

**Regrets:** Sandra Goth, Grant Waldman, Candace Spilsbury, Robin Routledge, Pat Weaver, Isabel Rimmer, Amy Brophy

**Absent:** Georg Stratemeyer, Barb Lines, Sheila Service

**Guests:** Kim Bruce, Jennifer Yee Fairweather

**On Leave:**

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Adoption of Agenda- Moved/second Approved**
3. **Delegation:** Kim Bruce from Island Health presented on the controversial E- Cigarettes. Unregulated and potentially dangerous, E- Cigarettes are exponentially increasing in popularity. Although products with nicotine are illegal to sell in Canada many are making their way across the border. Due to limited capacity it is nearly impossible to regulate sales. The product is now being promoted as an affordable and healthy alternative to smoking even though they contain propylene glycol (antifreeze), sodium, iron, nickel, aluminum and a number of unknown substances. There are no age restrictions on the product so youth are purchasing the products as well. The discussion included looking into legislation regarding that would place E cigarettes into the same category as tobacco products. It appears that the popularity of the product is far surpassing any legislation at this time.

**It was moved that Our Cowichan Health Network recommends to the CVRD and its member municipalities that E Cigarettes be incorporated into their no smoking policies.**

**Carried**

1. **Spotlight Speakers:** Gretchen Hartley and Jennifer Yee Fairweather presented on Cowichan Valley Hospice. Every citizen living within the region will face the loss of a loved one at one time or another. Currently Hospice is serving more than 800 people per year. With an aging population this number will steadily increase. Unfortunately there are only 3 available beds in the entire district allocated for Hospice needs- 1 in Chemainus and 2 in Ladysmith. As a result almost all services are provided within the hospital, community or family home. Hospice also provides a number of programs and support groups for families, individuals and caregivers. It also houses a resource library available to anyone who needs it. The organization relies on its talented volunteers to provide services. Hospice is funded by grants and fundraising. Their main fundraisers are; a. Reel Alternatives- a film series; b. Hike for Hospice taking place on May 4th; c. The Annual Golf Tournament taking place on July 12th. Hospice is not supported by regional health authorities and communities that have hospice/ palliative care facilities have raised funds within the community and run as not for profits. In the fall of 2013 a recommendation went to the UBCM supporting the funding of Hospice. This motion was endorsed at the time. ***This may be an opportunity for Our Cowichan to make the recommendation that improving Hospice care in the Cowichan Valley move forward.***  If you are interested in more information be sure to stop by or contact Gretchen or Jennifer.
2. **Minutes of January 9 as amended – Moved/second Approved**
3. **Correspondence**
   1. None
4. **Business arising from minutes** 
   1. In response to the presentation from Dr. Anzarut and his colleagues at the January meeting Our Cowichan contacted Campbell River Hospital as they provide local non funded medical procedures. Rob reported on the response which included the following:
      1. Their hospital provides the services that ours does not.
      2. WCB, elective and non funded procedures provide great revenue for their hospital
      3. Patients get services including dental such as wisdom teeth and jaw surgery in their own community
      4. Having the additional specialists using the operating rooms has also increased the amount of equipment that the hospital has not had to cover as the specialists provide it
      5. They operate 2 to 3 operating rooms each day and have expanded hours to include procedures at the end of the day.. sometimes into the early evening. Doctors who are doing rounds like this as the last slated procedures are often at 3:30 but their rounds do not start until early in the evening. Doctors are on site and make better use of their time.
      6. Because they have the expanded hours- there is a mix of procedures throughout the day- not all elective non funded services are provided at the end of the day- they are mixed in with the regular slate. ( Our Doctors were requesting that their procedures be tagged on to the end of the day) Their hospital provides the services that ours does not.
      7. They too are currently working with old outdated operating rooms and a hospital working at its maximum capacity.
      8. They do admit patients with complex needs including those with tummy tucks- not all procedures are strictly day surgery.

Discussion included the need for more fact finding; what are the cautions for our facility? We have inadequate staffing; lack of equipment and sterilization capacity; lack of beds for complex cases. At the same time as we have a cautious approach it does make sense to find ways to make better use of our resources and to serve patients within our community. Some draft recommendations were provided that will go to the admin committee and will be presented to the network at the March meeting.

* 1. A letter was sent to Don Hubbard and Marianne McLennan of Island Health reminding them of the recommendations made on behalf of the community for the redevelopment of B and D wings at Cowichan Lodge. These recommendations have not changed and Island Health was asked to consider them in their new fiscal budget.

1. **CCHN Committee Reports:**

**Admin Committee-**

* 1. **Budget-**The financial statement for January arrived today. It was noted that some of the budget items need to be updated to the 2014 budget. Cindy and Gerry to work with CVRD accounting to update to the 2014 budget.
  2. **Business Arising from Admin Committee**
     + **Visit to Ladysmith Community Health Centre-** Admin committee members as well as interested network members attended a tour and presentation at the Ladysmith Health Centre. This was most informative and impressive to learn what a community has been able to do for its citizens. The resources, programs and health care provided are serving their community well. It was discussed that more health centres such as this are needed in Duncan and Mill Bay.

**Granting:** The grant committee met to review reports that have come in to date and the progress of the remaining project to date and to review the process for the 2014 grant process.

**Recommendation/ Action:** That the 2014 Our Cowichan small grants funding support our existing priorities within the framework of the 12 determinants of health. The grants will build on existing community assets or respond to gaps identified in the Asset Mapping and Research Project. The grant intake will be scheduled for no later than June 1, 2014 The 2014 budget for small grants is $20,000.00. The grant intake will remain open until the funds are depleted. It has not yet been determined what the amounts of the grants will be.

**Carried**

* 1. **Membership:**  No new report
  2. **Asset Mapping / Data Collection- update**- The project is moving forward. All members are asked to assist with providing contact information of resources, individuals and organizations that are linked to the indicators provided in the recent framework that was distributed. In addition members are asked to forward information on local research that they are aware of that could also enrich this work. Local knowledge is critical for creating a comprehensive profile of the Cowichan Communities- your help is needed! Members were reminded that the project is designed to be completed in two phases. Due to the timing of the monthly meetings the network will not meet until after the closing of phase one. In order to proceed the following recommendation was made.

**Recommendation/Action:** Moved/ Seconded That the Our Cowichan Asset Mapping and Research Committee along with members from the Admin Committee and any other network members choosing to participate in reviewing phase 1 of the Golder Contract, be provided with the authority to make the decision on behalf of Our Cowichan as to whether or not to enter into phase 2.

**Carried**

* 1. **Communications :**
     + The Brand blueprint final draft was expected today but has not yet arrived. Members will receive the final draft via email.

**Website**- no report

**Collaborative Services Committee** – Rob reported on the power of networking, information sharing and relationships within the Collaborative Services Committee. Two examples were provided

* + - 1. The maternity clinic was struggling to find a way to receive $50.000.00 from Island Health for the funding of a nurse due to the two leads regulated to follow different privacy and freedom of information acts. The conflicting policies may have prevented the funds from going to the Maternity Clinic all together. Once discussed at the CSC a recommendation to ask the CVRHD to hold and administer the funds was put forward. Within 24 hours this was approved and the crisis averted.
      2. A Ladysmith resident and family was frustrated as they were not able to access a local physician. Through linking the community member to the Division of Family Practice the reason for the complication was resolved and now that family is connected to a Doctor in their own community.

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

**Choose Cowichan Lake Update:** Through the series of community forums held last summer and fall it was discovered that many residents and organizations in the Cowichan Lake area were unaware of what resources and programs existed. As a result on March 1 from 10 am to 3 pm a Community Health Fair is being hosted. Guests will be able to go and learn about their local resources and meet the staff who provide services.

**Cowichan Lake Multi Disciplinary Team-** is now up and running in the Cowichan Lake area!

**New Business:**

* 1. Committee membership- Sub committees have played a key role in the great work that has been done at Our Cowichan. Some network members sit on a number of committees- all that are active and working simultaneously. This puts a lot of pressure on network members to participate in all committees. A request was put forward for members not currently assisting at the committee level to consider a term on one committee.

Discussion included- providing a terms of reference for Our Cowichan Committees, setting regular meeting dates and times that do not impact work schedules in the middle of the day as well as looking at the possibility of “subdividing” committees into smaller components. These requests will be brought to the Admin Committee to explore and provide recommendations for the March 13th meeting.

* 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 process continues with an expression of interest to go out soon. In addition the contractor will be seeking sites that have not been put forward**.** The 6 unsolicited sites that were put forward will also be sent a package for the expression of interest. Once all proposals have been submitted the top 3 sites will be shortlisted.
  2. **Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM**

**NEXT MEETING THURSDAY MARCH 13, 2014 CVRD BOARD ROOM – 6:00 PM- Dinner served at 5:30**

Minutes taken by Cindy Lise