



BC Association of Community Response Networks

Provincial BCACRN Teleconference Review

Monday, September 28, 2009

Getting Back at It: Welcome!

1. UPDATES – KEY EVENTS

- **Gaming:**
 - BCACRN is supported primarily by gaming dollars. Throughout the summer there was a freeze on the funds being distributed to organizations. This year we will apply sooner, as applications are being processed in the order in which they are received.
- **Vanguard Project:**
 - CRN applications have all been reviewed; no community will be left out. A couple of the projects will be slightly varied, or paid for from a different pot of money but we have found a way to manage addressing everyone's project idea.
- **New Horizons submission:**
 - BCACRN applied for the information sharing/network building component, that only geographic areas could apply for. If we are accepted, BCACRN will offer ten regional conferences over the next year and a half, which will be very beneficial.
- **Vanguard Project Provincial Strategy**
 - Launched on September 25, as part of the BC Crime Prevention Conference. Minister Chong spoke; we had a Media Advisor and a Media Release.
- **International Day of the Older Person. October 1**
 - We're hoping to get some media attention around the launch of the Vanguard Report. The press release is available for your use. April is hosting a session through **CHnet**, a University of Ottawa venue that's accessible through teleconference and on line. It will be an opportunity to look at addressing bias free and diversity approaches, an area of abuse and neglect that we haven't spent a lot of time on.
- **Alison Leaney**
 - Will be working locally for BCACRN a day a week, and nationally for the National Initiative For The Care Of The Elderly...the NICE network...four days a week to put evidence-based tools (for intervention with and prevention of abuse and neglect) in the hands of practitioners. This change is in no way an expression of any less passion on Alison's part about the CRN Movement. There will be opportunities at the national level to promote CRN work and the model that we use in BC, and benefits will come to the Association because

of that. Ros Hansen will be filling in for some of the duties for Alison, and Jane Osborne will be working on the Gaming Applications.

- **Board and Staff Retreat**
 - The Board and Mentor staff will meet in the third week of October to take everything we've heard, experienced and learned from all of you and figure out how to think about the future in these times. We are, as you know in a challenging time, not unlike many other organizations today.

2. SOME CRN HIGHLIGHTS...

- **Abbotsford:**
 - Worked with the Food Bank, Community Services, and Meals on Wheels to facilitate delivery of some extra meals for high risk, self-neglecting people who would not necessarily receive meals otherwise
 - Partnered with 'Lunch for a Bunch' crowd for a World Elder Abuse Awareness Day lunch with cake, for 60 -70 people; this included a presentation about World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, information about neglect/self-abuse issues, and contact information
- **Victoria:**
 - Held a Workshop on Non-Violent Communication, with Judi Morin from Queenswood, for about 50 people ... the toolkit is available on the Internet...if anyone's interested contact Rosa Goldstein for information
 - Held World Health Adult Abuse Event called "Adult Awareness Forum...Who Can Help" with topics ranging from legal advice, counseling, conflict reconciliation, mediation, housing, intercultural services, education, health support and advocacy to services for men
- **Kaslo:**
 - Staffed a CRN table downtown for World Day which inspired some connection with some vulnerable people
 - Handed out over 70 brochures and bookmarks for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
 - Holding weekly/biweekly drop in meetings at the Seniors Hall, and brief CRN 101 workshops to various groups around town
 - Connecting with groups such as Safe Community, Hospice, Search And Rescue, Hospital Auxiliary
- **Quesnel:**
 - The Friendship Center and the North Caribou put together a Luncheon for Seniors at the Native Friendship Center for World Day
 - The Quesnel Child Abuse And Family Network is looking at how the downturn in the community is affecting people and Services (e.g., Mental Health, Drug And Alcohol, The Women's Resource Centre, The Women's Transition House, Homeless Shelter) as a result of

- some of the stresses of the economy
- Holding an Overnight Camp: A Campout For The Homeless in October to try to raise money to help run their program
- Applying for New Horizons funding for an intergenerational, respect-building project called Volunteer Grandparent Program (matches grandparents with youth)
- **Salmo:**
 - Held a World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, including a presentation by the Victims Services Coordinator for about 20 people
 - Local drugstore distributed brochures (one with every purchase)
 - Considering an interview at a new local radio station, a community station, and other educational things for the community
- **Revelstoke:**
 - Email summaries and invitations to the agendas go out to 43 people (including lawyers, pharmacists, major agencies, hospices, and individuals)
 - Had four educational articles published in the paper leading up to World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. (Topics included issues that affect seniors, and how to prevent problems)
 - Held a Tea and a Program for about 60 people at Adult Day Care, Assisted Living and caregivers. Presentations included: Banking For Seniors, and Caring for our Caregivers, and Videos (Oak Tree, North Shore), generating pictures in the paper
 - Put out a PSA so people would be directed to watch video
 - Stocked about 20 locations including pharmacies, the dental offices, the Greyhound, and the Rec Center with newly translated and printed Italian Adult Safety Brochure
 - Will help plan for Seniors Wellness Day
 - Connected with the new Social Issues Coordinator, who is networking with a variety of associations
 - Started work with Community Guide And Protocol as a quick resource for both citizens and professionals
- **Fort St. John:**
 - Called attention to a report called *Older Adults Overview Paper*, available on the Department of justice Canada website, <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/eng/pi/fv-vf/facts-info/old-age/pdf/OlderAdultsOverviewPaper.pdf> This report goes through some of the charging provisions and a section dealing with Abuse Of Older Adults. Section 718.2 in the Criminal Code gives the court the option of looking at sentencing, to take into account whether the crime was motivated by age- or disability- related bias prejudice or hate. The court must also consider whether in committing the offense, the offender abused a person of trust or authority. Sometimes it makes it a

bit easier to get prosecutions.

- **Sechelt:**
 - There has been a recent upsurge in interest in having a CRN on the Sunshine Coast
 - Port Hardy will be re-forming its CRN, probably connected to the Health Network (funded by Vancouver Island Health Authority)
 - Went into mid Island and North Island reserve communities to take in the First Nations ReAct materials and see how they could be used in First Nations Communities
 - Started writing “Orientation to Practice” (Anti-Violent Communications and the Least Intrusive Way), a reflection of work done in First Nations communities (many requests coming in for communication and awareness raising)
 - Went to a number of World Day luncheons in communities to talk to elders, and received further invitations to return and talk at more length about actual situations
 - Took a boat trip into Squirrel Cove to meet with the Klahoose Nation—they are writing an Anti-Violence Policy for their community, and organizing a bus trip for the elders of the Klahoose band to go to Campbell River and meet with the Social Workers; will talk about their experience with abuse, both individually and at a community level and actually deal with the issue in a somewhat more open way
 - Working on a contract from the Public Guardian and Trustee of BC to develop and test a protocol with the bands on the Island, to develop understanding and agreement
- **Dawson Creek:**
 - Wants to rebuild a CRN committee for support
 - Supporting Extreme Weather Emergency Shelter
 - Invited to speak at a senior’s apartment complex to share with them what’s available in our community
- **Nelson:**
 - Gave out information to about 50 visitors at the hospital for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
 - Collaborating with a fellow in Nelson who now has a regular Senior’s Column and writes articles on abuse, services, or neglect
 - Working very closely with the Seniors Coordinating Society, and helping them to distribute and develop a Senior’s Resource Manual for the whole region (Nelson, Castlegar Kaslo and Salmo)
 - Castlegar and Kaslo will be putting on some Educational Forums for Vanguard Project
- **Vernon:**
 - Held an Age-Friendly Workshop with Dr. Elaine Gallacher and 58 people to discuss age friendly topics listed by World Health Organization

- Attended the Secretariat Advisory Network where Minister Ida Chong acknowledged that senior abuse needs attention; a lot of discussion generated about non-medical home support in five communities, funded mainly from United Way.
- Attended Age Friendly Leadership Network Conference Call, which addressed making businesses age friendly (consumer items and employment)
- **North Shore:**
 - Has been involved in the Health Sector around housing for at risk adults.
 - Hosting a forum with a priority on Subsidized Rental Housing and Support Services.
 - Putting together a Network Of Family Councils in the Lower Mainland as part of an ongoing project that came out of our Abuse and Neglect in Care Facilities Project.
 - Doing a forum for our victim services - community basic services, and possibly another to address the issues of adult abuse and neglect
 - Continuing with the Support the Supporters Project for the Iranian Community
- **Kamloops:**
 - The local Seniors Service Providers held a small event for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, which generated a good article in the Community Paper.
 - A Social Worker who works for the local Funeral Home put together 'Plan For The Future' workshops, various people (a grief counselor, a couple of bankers, an investment person, a lawyer) talking about planning tools that people can use and what to do in the event of incapacity, or death.
- **Summerland:**
 - Working very hard at a community wide Health and Wellness Fair/Fundraiser
- **Penticton:**
 - Working on self-neglect project