

Abbotsford Child and Youth Committee Minutes

**January 29, 2015, 1 to 3pm
Sweeney Neighbourhood Centre, Board Room**

Chair: Shairose Jinnah, ACS

Minutes: Louise Smith, ACYC Coordinator

Attending:

Cheryl Unger	Big Brothers, Big Sisters
Carla Webb	Empowered by Horses
Sharon Crowley	Literacy Matters
Shairose Jinnah	ACS – Child, Youth and Family Services
Andrea Senft	School District 34
Maria Cargnelli	ACS – New Beginnings, Child Care Resource and Referral
Bev Olfert	Abbotsford Youth Commission
Pierre Welbedagt	West Abbotsford Community School Society
Kimberley Laing	Sumas First Nation – Education and Community Development Coordinator
Irene Wesenberg	MCFD – Youth Justice/Restorative Justice East Fraser
Anna McWhinney	Central Abbotsford Community School
Ryan Coreau	Abbotsford Parks and Recreation
Pamela Jones	YRC, Abbotsford Community Services
Michelle Favero	Abbotstord Division of Family Practice
Dave Bahre	Impact
Maple Melder-Crozier	University of the Fraser Valley
Peter Buitendyk	Fraser Valley Aboriginal Child and Family Services Society
Dr. Elizabeth Watt	Abbotsford family physician

Meeting called to order at 1:00pm.

1. Round table – introductions and upcoming child, youth, and family focussed events/workshops

- *Carla Webb* – Power of Horses – horses have been moved to an all weather facility. A number of programs coming up for Spring Break and for May Pro-D.
- *Pam Jones* – YRC – ongoing program with mothers and fathers with teens. Also offering anger management for youth, and increasing community awareness about the challenges with youth aging out of foster care
- *Peter Buitendyk* – FVACFSS – a number of different programs for aboriginal families being offered. Provided a heads-up that Aldergrove Royal Bank of Canada will be running a Day of Service program from April 12 to June 12th as part of the National Volunteer Week.
- *Bev Olfert* – Bullying Awareness rally and march is February 25th from 3:15 to 4:15. T-shirt sales for campaign is a fundraiser for YRC. Girl Empowerment Day and Eating Disorder Awareness Week is first week of February.
- *Maria Cargnelli*– New Beginnings– 25th Anniversary celebration at the end of May and new program logo will be unveiled then.

- *Louise Smith* – requested by Miscellaneous Productions to announce a youth arts project being run 430pm to 9pm on March 13th. Food provided. Zoe Green can be reached via miscellaneousproductions.ca.
- *Maple Melder-Crozier* – UFV – Special Needs Advisory Committee will be offering Bridging the Gap on March 7th. UFV will be starting their ECE training program in May. ECE Forum offered with ACS, Child Development Centre and SD 34 on May 2nd – focus will be on social-emotional regulation.
- *Andrea Senft* – SD 34 Measuring Up report was distributed around table. Middle years forum is February 19th.
- *Pierre Welbedagt* – WACSS – Preparing for their Spring Break camp and accepting applications for Jumpstart funding for summer programs.
- *Irene Wessenberg* – MCFD – youth justice – nothing new to report.
- *Cheryl Unger* – BBBS – Bowling fundraiser is focus for next few months.
- *Anna McWhinney* – CACS – just completed Winter Festival – large turnout – 95 children completed child development screening while attending.
- *Dave Bahre* – Impact – parent group has started and another group will start in April.
- *Ryan Coreau* – Parks and Rec – nothing new to report.
- *Kimberley Lang* – An on-line Indigenous Youth Health program beginning – mental health focus in the February programming.
- *Sharon Crowley* – Literacy Matters – Presented at City Council re: an adult learning centre. There were indications of support from Council. 400 people attended the Literacy Matters pancake breakfast.

2. Meeting minutes reviewed from November 20, 2014 – accepted

- a. Shairose asked if CYC membership wished to have detailed minutes from these meetings or to have high-level notes. Stated preference from those attending was to have detailed minutes.

3. Terms of Reference – feedback that has been received will be incorporated into draft of TORs. Still possible to provide more feedback. Final draft planned for presenting for approval to CYC at April meeting.

4. Facilitated Discussion

What could be the next priority areas for a more child and youth friendly Abbotsford?

Maple Melder-Crozier, Dept Head, Child, Youth and Family Studies, UFV

- Using priorities sent in to Louise from the Youth Table, Special Needs Table and the Early Childhood Table, Maple listed on the white board the range of priorities to be considered for ACYC attention.
 - Those listed were: Housing for youth, employment for hard-to-employ youth, awareness and education for middle years children and teachers regarding children with mental health concerns or other special needs, education for community workers for middle years children and teachers regarding children with mental health concerns or other special needs, family literacy (non-technology based)

- Maple then asked those attending meeting to contribute any other areas they saw as Abbotsford priority areas. Additional areas of priority were: Pre and post natal support for low income families, domestic violence, poverty,
- As a means to move the CYC towards determining the top 3 of these twelve possibilities, Maple provided each participant with 15 stickers and invited participants to 'vote' for their top priorities by placing their stickers (in what ever quantity they preferred) under the priority headings they supported most. The resulting vote counts in order of greatest votes received were:

• Youth housing – all stages	34
• Employment opportunities for hard-to-employ youth	33
• Middle years – family support	27
• Poverty	24
• Middle years – health and recreation	24
• Transition to adulthood mental health services	23
• Middle years – life skill building	17
• Awareness amongst students and teachers of 6 to 12 year children with mental health concerns and other special needs	17
• Pre and post natal support	14
• Family literacy	12
• Domestic violence	11
• Awareness amongst community workers of 6 to 12 year children with mental health concerns and other special needs –	6

6. Planning for June 1, 2015 ACYC Forum

- Planning Committee members requested. Participating will be Andrea Senft, Denise Thandi, Cheryl Unger, Pamela Jones, the CYC Executive, Karen Copeland, and Louise Smith
- Louise will connect with all Ctte members to confirm first meeting.

7. Presentation

Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Collaborative

Michelle Favero, Executive Director, Abbotsford Division of Family Practice

Michelle provided PP overview of a Provincial initiative called the CYMHSU Collaborative. Currently first year of projects completed in Okanagan/Kootenay communities and on Island. Now starting in Fraser Valley – more information at - <http://www.sharedcarebc.ca/initiatives/cymhsu-collaborative> . Funding would be administered through Abbotsford Division of Family Practice. Michelle requested CYC support for starting a Collaborative here.

Attending CYC membership supported Abb Div of Family Practice moving forward with seeking funding for a Collaborative to start here.

Meeting adjourned at 3pm.

Next ACYC meeting will be held Thursday, April 16th, 1-3pm, Sweeney Neighbourhood Centre.