



Steering Meeting Notes

Held via Zoom on October 6, 2021 at 10 a.m.

Hosted by Marie-Terese Little

In Attendance: Cynthia Day, (Chair); Marie-Terese Little, (Vice-Chair, Court Watch and Metchosin); Bill McElroy, (C.R.A.T and Treasurer); Marcie McLean, (Priorities); Esther Paterson, (Oak Bay) and Marnie Essery, (Recording Secretary).

Regrets: Adam Flint, (Communications Chair and View Royal)

Call to Order-10:10 a.m.

What was discussed at today's meeting:

- What SARS taught us- People not being sheltered, homeless and getting people PPE's and getting them vaccinated is problematic.
- Resources for social programs would have great difficulty.
- Massive problems with addictions.
- Significant psychological impact on school aged children and youth, causing depression and negative impact on youth's lives.
- High post traumatic stress disorders for health professionals and large numbers of retirements/ leaving jobs.
- With Covid similar or worse than what happened with SARS including burnout of resource workers and very high stress levels.
- A Time when we need greater resources - a lot of kids feel trapped right now.
- Sars predicted family abuse would increase and escape routes would not be available. Affects women and children in a significant way.
- There is a time delay of accessing services and resources, worsened by pandemic.
- Chair C. Day will follow up with Attorney General to see if our proposed new structure meets the requirements of the Act.
- Chair C. Day will also follow up with Federal MP re: legislation regarding Family Court/Youth Justice Committees.
- Working Groups: Finances, Community Charter and Mandate have not met yet.
- The 2 working groups that have met this information could be forwarded to the CRD.
- VFCYJC would like a new MCFD Representative. Chair will follow up.
- How does CRAT fit in with the new VFCYJC structure? A suggestion that VFCYJC have a discussion about this on the October 20 VFCYJC Meeting Agenda.

- It was also suggested to put on VFCYJC October 20 Agenda a motion to request CRD outline a framework for how finances will be handled for VFCYJC and CRAT for 2022 and how to best disburse funds.
- A suggestion was made to create a check list of what has been done for review and what still needs to be done.
- VFCYJC has a speaker that will share about new Community Health Centre on Goldstream Avenue which will have an immense impact on family and youth. Tentative presentation at Nov 17 VFCYJC meeting. Suggestion to share via Facebook, Twitter and on our website so that resource agencies can know time of presentation and can pop in and out.
- VFCYJC has received an email from Saanich and VFCYJC has confirmed that we would welcome a new Saanich citizen representative.
- Our Secretary will request dates of future Cultural Perspectives Trainings offered by the Indigenous Perspectives Society. VFCYJC has encouraged all VFCYJC members to participate in this training. In the past, VFCYJC has said that VFCYJC would cover the registration costs for committee members to take this training. Information about upcoming trainings will be shared with the Oct 20 meeting mail out.
- MLA Mitzi Dean, prior to being elected, was an active member of VFCYJC. While she was on VFCYJC, she shared with VFCYJC a report on Truth and Reconciliation. This report will be shared again with VFCYJC Members with the Oct 20 meeting mail out information.
- Adjourned at 11:37 a.m.