

PARCA

Provincial Association of Residential and Community Agencies

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PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMUNITY AGENCIES (PARCA)

Board of Directors Meeting

9:00 AM – 4:30 PM, February 5, 2008

Coast Plaza Stanley Park, Vancouver

Minutes

Present: Paul Barnett, Gord Irving, Dave Johnson, Shawn Bayes, Tim Agg, Tim Veresh, Bob Ens, Inder Madok, Wendy Richardson, Yvonne Rigsby-Jones, George Curran

Regrets: Darryl Goll,

1. Call To Order 9:10 am
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Minutes of Meeting of November 7 & 8, 2007
Motion to Adopt the Minutes as amended. Moved Tim Veresh, seconded Bob Enns. **Carried.**
4. Financial Report
YTD surplus \$307
Net assets of \$35,673.00
No audit fees, so we should be able hold the line.
Motion to adopt the financial statement. Moved Tim Agg, second Wendy Richardson **Carried.**
5. Membership Report
Current Board listed on PARCA web site
Minutes posted from last meeting
Membership list will be posted. Also, links will be posted
As of Dec 31/07, in a new membership year
Motion to adopt membership report. Moved Tim Agg, second Tim Veresh. **Carried**
6. Organization Updates:
 - BC Halfway House Association/CSC
 - Roadmap to Public Safety Committee-Corrections.
 - Negotiations are underway for halfway houses, is on agenda.
 - Spike in younger residents with severe addiction issues.
 - Reworked web site for training for those who are part of the Association.
 - Complex trauma will be added to the site.
 - Discussion of being able to link this to Youth Workers. Tim Veresh to take back to the Board to discuss.
 - Discussion of Employment and retention in the Halfway House Association.
 - Losing staff to CSC, BC Corrections, Police Departments and Health Authorities.
 - The further north, the more difficult it becomes.
 - Seeing more and more apartment models rather than the 24-hour staffing.
 - CSC is looking at this and not blinking at the costs. Costs that they wouldn't have looked at in the past.

- Bob discussed a situation in Vernon and the ongoing issues with establishing a Halfway House in Vernon again.
 - Discussion of specialized 4 – 5 beds for geriatric type situations.
 - Discussion of Halfway House Association and the role that needs to be played with C.S.C.
 - New Worksafe BC regulations discussed for work alone/isolation staff.
 - Discussion of tandem teams by Ministry and double standards for Agency staff.
- CSSEA:
 - Executive Director Survey is out. To be completed in March.
 - Two memos on Pension Plan have recently gone out.
 - Roughly 8% for the employer and 7% for the employees.
- BCCJA:
 - Hosting the 15th. Justice Open in Abbotsford on June 13, 2008.
 - Several training/forums were hosted by CCJA with no linkages to BCCJA. This is being looked at.
 - Next National Congress in Halifax.
 - Meeting in Abbotsford with new president of CCJA, Cathy Gregory on February 21, 2008. Also meetings in Victoria at the Facility Club on Tuesday, February 22, 2008. Gord to represent PARCA at the Victoria meeting,
- United Community Services Co-op:
 - 104 members, including PARCA.
 - Looking at product development.
 - Discussions with Co-Operators Insurance.
 - Freedoms of Information Association working with Co-Op on a project that organizations in the sector are represented in relationship with Contracts, Policy and Government Agencies. Co-op and a few Agencies had a discussion with Law Foundation and have had an interesting response from the Foundation. Discussion of the whole exercise with Government and their perceptions.
 - Working together, dialogue, steering committee between the Provincial Government and non-profit sector roles governance, structure and engagement.
 - For the first time the Co-Op has been retained to find a new Executive Director rather than just consulting.
- BC Corrections:
 - Discussion on the potential jail in Kelowna.
 - 50 new beds being added to 3 facilities. All will be trailers. All busting at the seams.
 - Discussion of PARCA fall meeting in Victoria and an invitation to go out to BC Corrections and have that as the focus of the meeting.
 - The Branch has been at arms length for some time now.
 - Dave and Paul will attempt to meet with BC Corrections and attempt to get the dialogue happening.
 - This discussion needs to happen with CSC also, as they have not been at the Board for some time.
- Adult Forensic/Adult Mental Health:
 - Tim Veresh discussed report from Vancouver Police Department and their Report “Lost in Transition”.
 - Gives a good theme. Numbers might be a bit naïve.
 - Community Court initiative will also face difficulties with the housing issues.
 - Housing initiative announced by Health Minister. That will happen at Riverside with BC Housing and Vancouver Coastal Health. These will be cottages.
 - A media blitz is occurring over this issue and the recent death of the homeless individual.
 - Harm reduction and tolerance of the downtown eastside is the real issue or the lack of the tolerance that is occurring.
 - Discussions on “tolerant housing”, “understanding landlords”, “harm reduction”.

- Is there an interest or appetite for PARCA to get involved in the next step and look at the role we would play? It would be important for PARCA not to take a side. It would be important for PARCA to get the information out on what is occurring to the Justice system in the Province.
 - Where will this issue be on the radar in the near future and how long will it stay on the radar? This is not only a Vancouver issue but also a Provincial issue.
 - Discussion of the expertise that PARCA has and what we can offer.
 - PARCA could assist facilitating, conversations/forums around these issues. Discussions of what each Board/Agency could do to help facilitate such table discussions. Each Board/Agency has some very talented individuals that could.
 - Action Step – To help flush out this next step by meeting before the next PARCA meeting.
 - Tim Agg states that he has some Board members that might be very interested in this issue.
 - A discussion on involving Paul in this process, as he is a lot clearer now that he has retired. Paul will take the initiative to start this process.
- Federation of Child and Family Services:
 - Jennifer Charlesworth, new Ex D. for the Federation.
 - Tim Agg had lunch with her. PLEA has now applied for reentry to Federation.
 - Jennifer has identified that the Federation is linking with other Provincial Associations. This was not an importance in the past.
 - A working relationship, better linkage and information sharing seems to be a focus.
7. Regional Reports:
- Okanagan
 - Youth side is very busy with PO counts in Central and South Okanagan being the highest in the Province.
 - Youth Programs at capacity for ARC Programs Ltd.
 - Employment has balanced out in the last year.
 - Always looking for Youth Justice specific training.
 - So always looking for training and/or training material.
 - A great amount of instability in CSC in Kelowna. Difficult with filling positions and is being covered off by people who don't know the community or have much experience.
 - Much anticipation of jail in Winfield.
 - Waiting to see what is happening in Vernon.
 - Just bought a four-plex in Kelowna.
 - Victoria:
 - ISSP file Management, Logic Model reworked along with a Training Manual. Gord will be willing to share once we are finished.
 - Possible initiative to PARCA and look at where ISSP is headed.
 - Staff retention continues to be an issue.
 - Discussions of a non-union Agencies that do not have RSP contributions. How will they not lose staff to union/pension?
 - Dave discussed how or where the Province allots the funding for employment programs as they are moving from Federal Programs to Provincial Programs.
 - All other things go.
 - North Island:
 - A Six-Plex just recently purchased for Youth Housing.
 - Changed from COA to CAREF. Will have a small gap from current accreditation expiry to CAREF Site Survey.
 - Staff is very excited about the change.

- Kamloops:
 - Partnership with MEA to specialized banking. Much the same as Pigeon Park Banking.
 - Monitoring distribution of Debit cards and Specialized Banking.
 - 3-year project with Interior Credit Union.
 - Social Workers trained as Bank Tellers.
 - Embarking on accreditation process.
 - Purchased property to have an aboriginal Program.
 - Purchased 1-½ acres. 50 apartments with medical services on site.
 - Baptist Church donates \$250,000 a year for the next 5 years.

- Vancouver/ Tim Veresh:
 - Partnering with Elizabeth Fry around working with homeless clients when leaving custody. A 15-month Program.
 - J.H.B.C. providing advocacy training in Youth Custody settings- 14-month Program.
 - Sexual Exploitation and the Olympics. Discussion on an estimated 1000 places of operations. Anticipating that this figure will rise to 7500 at the time of the actual Olympics.
 - Discussion of possible media/advertising in airports and that it is illegal in Canada.
 - Discussion of boys involved in the Sex Trade and how it is being missed.

- Central Island:
 - Continues to do a lot of work around Residential Schools.
 - Assisting Common Experience Compensation and fallout from there.
 - Emotionally very upsetting for staff and for former student and now they have to prove they attended a Residential School.
 - A number of people are still waiting for their apologies.
 - Board has asked Yvonne to discuss with CSC that there are shortcomings in Funding. A phone call tomorrow.

- Vancouver/ Shawn:
 - Overly busy.
 - The administrative floor has been turned into a Shelter. Was passed at Council last night with limited backlash.
 - 4000 sq. feet of Administration was to be moved in 2 weeks. Will be going to New Westminister.
 - Purchased a private care home in surrey with BC housing.
 - Negotiated a Training Program with MEIA and The Ministry.
 - Partnered with Douglas College and the local School Board. This is an ongoing pilot project.
 - Opened an office in Abbotsford. Drop-in Center for Women.
 - Re-negotiated contract with Columbia Place. (Halfway House for Women). Invited to develop another resource/Blue Box.

- Vancouver/Tim Agg:
 - Core Programs exceptionally busy.
 - Big surprise in last while on the receiving end for Child Specific Residential Program – 19 beds at last count.
 - Transitional Foster Care System is unable to deal with the High Needs Youth.
 - Successful with going to the people we know to place the Youth, past Foster Parents. It is a scramble for staff.
 - Treatment Programs – Daughters and Sisters Program has always been an 8 Bed Program. 2 beds were to be non-adjudicated Youth. Those two beds have been pulled due to funding of Portage in Keremeos or to the Detox beds.
 - Will maintain Program at 8 beds.
 - Core Program/Integrated Youth Model in Maple Ridge has been providing a support group for gay, lesbian, transgender and going very well.
 - Music Lesson Project has been a very exciting and rewarding project. Individual lessons. Biting the bullet at the moment and are looking for funding sources to sustain.

- Last week Tim and Ann Alexander put on a presentation of Youth Addictions Program at a national conference. It was an excellent conference and opportunity to network with no mechanism in place to do it. (Agenda item).

8. Old Business:

9. New Business:

- Tim V/Dave J
- Review of “Roadmap for Strengthening Public Safety”.
- Review of the Specific Recommendations.
- John Howard National is reporting on report.
- National Elizabeth Fry had jumped on board.
- Tim has been asked to write a paper on behalf of BC and the Yukon Halfway Houses.
- A large part of it is very short sighted. Highlights some areas and barely touches on other areas.
- No mention of Best Practices in the World.
- It is apparent that a Report was written before the panel met with the community and stakeholders.

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR YOUTH JUSTICE:

- Discussion of possibility of this being looked at.
- Tim mentioned that Federal would have to fund and doubts it.
- National Conference might be an option and attach to Criminal Justice National Congress with a Youth stream.
- Might be an idea to discuss with Anne Kimmitt.

10. Next Meeting:

Wednesday April 23- Thursday April 24/08
Kelowna – Prestige Inn

11. Adjournment:

4:35 Motion to adjourn, Gord Irving