

PARCA

Provincial Association of Residential and Community Agencies

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PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMUNITY AGENCIES (PARCA)

Board of Directors Meeting

1:00 PM – 4:30 PM, November 7, 2007

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, November 8, 2007

Coast Bastion Hotel, Nanaimo

Minutes

1. Present: Paul Barnett, Gord Irving, Dave Johnson, Shawn Bayes, Tim Agg, Tim Veresh, George Curran
Regrets: Darryl Goll, Bob Ens, Inder Madok
Guests: Wendy Richardson, Yvonne Rigsby-Jones, Doug Hillian
2. Call To Order 1:15 pm
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Minutes of Meeting of September 5 & 6, 2007
Motion to Adopt the Minutes as amended Tim Agg, seconded Dave Johnson **Carried**.
5. MCFD Liaison – Doug Hillian
 - Young persons being charged in BC have dramatically decreased with 188 persons being charged in 2006. This equates to 29% of matters police attend result in charges. This is down from 49% in 1995. 2003 31%, 2004 30%, 2005 29%. This may be due to police not having confidence in the YCJA, it appears police may not be as proactive with youth when compared to adults. It may also be that alternative measures are being used to a greater extent. Encourage to invite police to meet with MCFD staff and not for profit societies to become more aware of programs and services. These stats represent trends similar to those across Canada. BC in comparison to Canada there has been a decrease in violent crime but not as dramatically as non-violent crimes.
 - Youth under community justice supervision 2,338. This is half of what it was 10 years ago.
 - Numbers in custody 138 for 2006-07 down from 400 in 1995-96. This explains why we are down to 3 youth custody centres in BC. This equates to 4.3 youth out of 10,000 in custody in BC. For aboriginal youth this equates to 19 per 10,000. This remains 4.3 times higher for aboriginal youth. Doug will forward these slides to Paul Barnett.
 - Diversion and other RJ programs are receiving MOUs with Crown in various areas of the province.
 - Youth Justice Provincial Forum – there will be five seats for each contracted Agencies. Agencies may bring more individuals but only five seats will be paid for by MCFD. Minister Christianson, Nicholas Balla Queens University, Mary-Ellen Turpell-Lafond, Leslie Detoite, Dr. Martin Brokenleg Circle of Courage, Dr. Bruce Perry Trauma Academy, Katy Huchinson, individual organizational wellness. This will be at the Coast Plaza Hotel and Suites February 6 and 7, 2008. Contact may be made with Dan Alexander if you are interested in attending and have not received.
 - Asante Centre handout was passed out – www.asantecentre.org
 - Federal Government is doing a Youth Justice Forum to share experience and multi-disciplinary approaches to this issue. Focus on Guns and Gangs. This will be held in Surrey November 23, 2007 contact Alexis Carty at 613-954-3088.
 - Opening of the new Burnaby Youth Custody Centre and Forensic Youth Clinic will locate there. This will open in November 17, 2007. The Wellington site will be closed. It should be noted that BCCW had the highest custody rate of mental health issues. The isolation

within the facility by design seems to contribute to this and will likely affect youth and staff. We work to keep youth out of custody. Mark Gosse made mention of the fire at Wellington and if it had not been for the heroic act of staff we would have lost kids. This new facility will reduce the risk of such an incident occurring again. The dog program had tremendous therapeutic success at BCCW and should be considered for the youth. Capacity of the facility is 84 youth. Transit Access continues to be an issue but will continue to be a lengthy walk to the facility.

- Accepting young people into attendance programs with arson or fire setting backgrounds. In recent years we seem to have moved away from reservations is this still the case for care givers? Most times this is done on a one off basis, what were the factors relating to the event and what has changed. This has not been specifically addressed with insurance. The Government Master Insurance Program should cover this for provincially funded positions that have an additional provision under the family care home. The homeowner is to claim on their insurance and if coverage is declined then the Government Master plan falls in line. Elizabeth Fry is working with Marsh Canada and they have the MIP being drawn on first and then Marsh. They provide hourly bed checks and installed sprinklers in the building to minimize risk.
 - Review of community justice programs there needs to be dialogue prior to start the process. This should also not be personality based and have measurable outcomes. Program reviews are taking place annually by Agencies and with MCFD staff. It appears this practice is not occurring throughout the province. Agencies should include MCFD staff in these reviews if they are not already.
 - Secure e-mail: a demonstration project is in the work along with video conferencing, unfortunately, the regions have not supported. The Victoria Youth Custody Centre is piloting a project. This has been budgeted for in the next fiscal year, however, it pivots on how successful the pilot is.
 - YCJA proposed amendments by bringing in deterrence and denunciation as principles of the Act. This would allow judges to impose longer sentencing. Tighten up bail conditions; it is rare for youth not to receive bail. The NUN commission in Nova Scotia found a youth cannot be held in custody if they do not have prior involvement in the criminal justice system.
 - MCFD Regional Governance has been placed on hold only Aboriginal Governance has moved forward. Regional Governance will likely be shelved. Youth Custody Centre Executive Director positions will likely report to regional directors. We will still see regionalization what we will not see is Regional Authorities.
6. Financial Report – YTD surplus \$652. We have had \$1400 in income this fiscal year. Motion to adopt the financial statement Tim Agg, Second Dave Johnson **Carried**.
7. Membership Report – No change since the last board meeting with 11 current members as of October 31, 2007. Elizabeth Fry Society of Prince George are interested in joining.
8. Affiliations
- BC Halfway House Association/CSC – Facilities continue to be full, concerns relate to whether or not the government will abolish statutory release. This will have a major impact on overcrowding in institutions and a major setback in community safety as such a measure contradicts evidenced based practice. CSC has introduced Aboriginal Strategy and hired Elders throughout the Pacific Region.
 - CSSEA held conference in Victoria in October. Discussion relating to the development of a pension plan March 31, 2010, succession planning and variations from the current collective agreement by members. Rick Connerly is completing a review of the Employer Associations within British Columbia. His report is due December 2007.
 - BCCJA – Congress was held in November in Toronto with the theme being Mental Health.
 - United Community Services Co-op – AGM October, most members are from the community social services sector however there are others in health and arts. The Co-op is looking at who is using what services. Telus' long distance rates are now down to 2%.

- BC Corrections – Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Vancouver to go into prison to assist persons with application for housing. Broker all services to develop beds. Meeting with health, corrections, BC Housing, MEIA and community agencies. This is an expansion of the third party service provider. They will be able to provide top up funding for housing. Rent subsidies will be ongoing once the person has been identified.
- Adult Forensic – PLEA’s Folkstone program has been approached to support a client within their program.

9. Regional Reports

- There are rumblings of creating a Metro Vancouver Police Department that would create greater integration of the many municipal detachments throughout the Lower Mainland and the Fraser Valley. The police will be aggressively targeting persons involved in organized crime and gang violence. Police stating that a person is known to police.
- The RCMP officers who have recently lost their lives in the line of duty presents a major challenge to society. This may be due to the loss of mentors and support. It may also be due to the regard Canadians or some Canadians place on the lives of Police Officers. Police may need to address policies relating to single staff. Hopefully this does not result in Police becoming more us and them and fear and rather community building and supportive communities.
- We continue to move away from practices that involve relationships. Yet the challenge remains the best supportive programs for Mental Health and FASD result from supportive relationships.

Meeting Adjourned 4:10 Motion Shawn Bayes, **Carried.**

9:00 AM, November 8

10. Guests/Presentations

- Nanaimo Region JHS – Barbara Rumney and France Tellier
- Tsow-Tun Le Lum – Yvonne Rigsby-Jones
- Long Term Inmates Now In the Community – Mike Kinseth

11. Old Business

12. New Business

- AGM

13. Next Meeting(s)

- Invite Robbyn Pike, Public Safety and Solicitor General has created an office to combat trafficking persons, Canada is a signature to the United Nation. This initiative will be underway shortly with one lead organization for adults and youth. You may call trafficked people migrant workers who may be deported. The problem is the Canadian Charter of Rights does not apply to these individuals. The faith communities, advocacy and service agencies with the services will work for secretariat funding for the initiative. Connecting these people to the appropriate resources has been the major stumbling block.

Next Meeting Tuesday, February 5/08 Coast Stanley Park, Vancouver

14. Adjournment