



Alberni-Clayoquot Health Network

Working Group Minutes

Tuesday November 12, 2013

West Coast General Hospital Room A, Port Alberni, BC

Meeting Chair: Penny Cote, ACRD

Facilitator(s): Devon MacFarlane

Note taker: Shelli Lyle

Attendees: David Peterson, Ministry of Social Development; Tanis Dagert, ACHN Coordinator; Ellen Brown, WCGH; Julie Rushton, Alberni Children First; Peter Klaver, SD 70; Marcie DeWitt, Coastal Family Resource Coalition; Rebecca Hurwitz, Clayoquot Biosphere Trust; Eric Geall, ACRD; Kathy Waddell, Huu-ay-aht First Nation, Adriane Schroeder, Island Health.

Regrets: Esther Pace, Island Health, Patty Edwards, Alberni Valley Stakeholder's Initiative to End Homelessness.

1. Call To Order

Welcome and introductions around the table.

Objective: A first meeting of the ACHN Working Group to refresh the Network structure, clarify decision-making responsibilities and commit to operationalizing the ACHN strategic plan.

Penny Cote, Chair of the ACHN, expressed her desire to create a strong foundation for the ACHN working group to move forward from as well as a sense of "we" / shared ownership & commitment towards the ACHN.

2. Facilitated Group Discussion

Devon MacFarlane, Manager, Community Development and Service Integration with Island Health facilitated group discussion related to the following key topics. Flip chart notes were transcribed by Adriane Schroeder as follows:

I. **Hopes and Dreams for what the ACHN can achieve:**

- Put a dent in some of these horrible stats!
- Sustainability of impact
- Wise decision making and action
- Strong reputation, seen as go-to on issues
- Go forward with policy and action
- A force for change (force coming from within, not top down) Pathways for residents to create change in their lives
- Magic, light touches that reframe, create opportunities
- Understanding and acting on shared values

II. **Whose Table Is This?**

- ACRD's influence
- We can figure out finer details
 - Follow through

- Terms of reference
- Future of Network
- Benefits, need to clarify relationships
- The Community's table: we are stewards
 - so far doesn't have public ownership
 - can we cultivate that?, increase understanding of active citizenship
 - welcome everyone, down the line
 - Help planners understand that early Community Development results are 'soft' at first

III. Who are we as the ACHN Working Group?

- Diverse
- Good question!
- We believe in collaboration
- Resource people who care
- Rich with multiple perspectives
 - Shared goals
- Interested in using time wisely
- We have common interests
- Dream team
 - Potential for collective intelligence, action, magic

IV. Purpose

- Create smart, informed change: not info sharing at working group
- Influence other tables
 - Both to Do stuff AND support others to do
- Do what no one else can do alone
- "Sandcastle":
 - decide together what tools we need
 - Deciding what we want

V. What Can We Achieve Together?

- influence
- advocacy
- education
- in broader systems: systems not currently linked with and existing systems
- identification" opportunities, issues, leverage points etc.
- a voice that we can't achieve alone
- mobilize more resources, expertise
- systems thinking
- able to frame issues to be broadly supportable
- the value of: universal, non-targeted programming

VI. How do we want the Network to work?

- Mount Waddington had no coalitions to build on? Context in this community is different
- The people who sit at this table make the decisions
 - Network has been an umbrella that needs to be flipped
- Context, initial purpose
- Initially started as small invite only group, bad reputation
- Start-up initially very political, challenging to get at Table

VII. Potential Work

- Protocol agreement between ACHN and ACRD? (current protocol is btwn ACRD and Island Health)
- Relationships with pre-existing networks
- Get clear and get creative about support for different pieces of work
- Clarify what is the purpose of this table, why are we here?
- Connect strat plan and environmental scan

VIII. Options for Future Discussion

- Identifying what challenges were and pressing reset
- Check-in, what work is happening
- How are the nuts and bolts happening
- Defining parameters
- Support coordinator to be a tool of the Network
- How do we mindfully maximize the potential of the Network*
- How the Network works* / Role Clarity

3. ACHN Meeting November 21

- **Decision:** That traditional territories be recognized at each meeting of the health network and that large Network meetings include an invitation to local First Nations to provide a welcome and opening prayer. The Health Network will recognize this contribution with gifts of food. Kathy Waddell will follow-up with contacts from Tseshah and Hupacasath First Nations.
- Book Barclay Hotel Arrowsmith Room. Advertise in the local papers, facebook, website and email to ACHN group listing. Agenda items: Island Health Executive strategic plan, Patient Voices Network, Transportation Initiative update, Health Network update.

4. Follow-on to the meeting to include:

- poll working group members re: meeting preferences
- volunteers to work with Coordinator on Terms of Reference etc.