

## **Redesign Cumulative Monthly Report – for November 2009**

### **Working Group**

The Working Group is making progress. Three distinct information gathering sessions are completed and two more are planned. To date, a total of 98 community members or front line practitioners have generously shared their time and thoughts about practice.

The session on November 18<sup>th</sup> at the Chief Joe Mathias Centre was a huge success. The seventy participants included elders, practitioners and community partners who travelled from all over the lower mainland and Sunshine Coast through a torrential down pour. Much of the feedback from the participants was positive. They felt that the process was professionally facilitated and they appreciated the opportunity to talk about practice; what they like; what they do not like; and what they would like to see done differently. The information from the six breakout groups is being consolidated and will be posted on the web site soon. The observers from Vancouver Island were also positive in their feedback and were supportive of a like-process for the Island.

Two sessions on November 25<sup>th</sup> were held in Cranbrook at Ktunaxa-Kinbasket office. The morning session included 15 community practitioners and the afternoon session involved 16 elders and leaders from the five communities served by the agencies. These sessions took advantage of meetings previously planned by the agency and built an extra day on to accommodate the information sharing. Feedback from the participants was that this was a great process. They appreciated the opportunity to ‘talk from the heart’ – according to one elder – to discuss and share their views on practice.

A session is scheduled for February 8, 2010 for the Métis people and the location has yet to be determined. One for Burns Lake is tentative for early in January.

The Interior Directors met on November 17<sup>th</sup> and are looking to organize other events for their areas at that time. They continue to have many questions about the process and there still seems to be some confusion as to how the information sharing sessions are being rolled out. In the north, there has been ongoing discussion about a session for Carrier Sekani practitioners during the second week of December but nothing concrete as of yet. More time will be spent of the Redesign during the December Partnership meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Questions continue to arise as to the effectiveness of the current Working Group model. This structure worked well for the lower mainland and is having some success on Vancouver Island. Elsewhere, the regional Working Group model has had some struggles. In some cases, the members are unsure as to their role and authority outside of their own agencies. This will be revisited in December when the Steering Committee meets. Another option may include identifying a contact or contacts for each agency and coordinate the process in a more localized rather than regionalized model.

#### Meetings:

- July 16, 2009
- July 30, 2009
- August 20, 2009
- August 31, 2009
- September 10, 2009
- September 23, 2009
- October 8, 2009
- October 22, 2009
- November 5, 2009
- November 19, 2009

#### Documents: (Minutes also posted for the previously noted dates.)

- Working Group Terms of Reference – posted August 11, 2009
- Process for Community Focus Groups – posted August 12, 2009
- Literature Review References – posted August 26, 2009
- Project Charter, final June 16, 2009 – posted September 1, 2009
- Information Gathering Questions – posted September 1, 2009
- Vancouver Island Directors' Proposal, September 15, 2009 – posted September 23, 2009
- Communication Plan, Final May 11, 2009 – posted September 23, 2009
- Communities' Letter of Invite Template – posted October 13, 2009
- Focus Group Questions, draft – posted October 13, 2009
- Vancouver Island Directors' Modified Proposal, October 22, 2009 – posted October 22, 2009

#### **Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee continues to meet quarterly. There is recognition on the part of the Co-Chairs to call more Steering Committee meetings as issues arise. No additional meetings have been called to date. The next Steering Meeting is scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1pm. Action from the 3<sup>rd</sup> was to identify contact at each agency to solicit collateral information needed to support information sharing process for their agency constituents. Contact and information to be completed by end of December. Steering continues to request clarity on ownership of knowledge; access to Aboriginal Authority consultation documentation relating CFS. The Co-Chairs made a commitment to each other to better vet information and be more involved in calling meetings as issues arise.

#### Meetings:

- December 11, 2008
- February 20, 2009
- March 11, 2009
- June 19, 2009 (all parties meeting)
- September 17, 2009
- December 3, 2009

Documents: (Minutes also posted from previously noted dates.)

- Steering Committee Terms of Reference – posted August 11, 2009
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- Communication Plan, Final May 11, 2009 – posted September 23, 2009

## **CFNCS**

The Society continues to work with all parties to coordinate the project. There was recognition of a need to better communicate the process internally and externally. An additional page was added to the Society's website at <http://www.cfncs.com/whats-new/aopsi-redesign-project> where more information and updates will be available. The Society, on the direction of the Co-Chairs, is to take on a more proactive role in bringing concerns and issues about the Re-Design to the Co-Chairs as they emerge. The previous direction was to re-direct the bringer of issues and concerns to the Co-Chairs. Information on the past and emerging concerns is now available on the website. As a result of the Lower Mainland session, it was recommended that a Facebook group be created to facilitate further discussion. None of the documents will be found on Facebook but a group was created to allow for further discussion. A link to the group is on CFNCS' website.

### **Comprehensive Management Plan Development**

- January 19, 2009 – meeting
- February 2, 2009 – meeting to review terms of reference, plan and RFP
- February 5, 2009 – meeting with MCFD to review final drafts of plan, ToRs and RFP.
- March 30, 2009 – contracted with project lead.

## **Project Lead**

Nota Bene has been busy trying to organize information gathering sessions. To date, they have met with the Indigenous scholars, set one date and tentatively established two more dates for information gathering. They have completed a draft of the literature review and continue to provide updates to the Society, Working Group and Steering Committee for their information and input. The following list identifies the Lead's meetings with CFNCS. These meetings are strategic and focus on planning and implementation of information sharing/gathering events and overall progress of the initiative.

- April 1, 2009 - First Meeting
- May 12, 2009 - Meeting
- June 13, 2009 – Meeting
- August 6, 2009 – Meeting
- August 19, 2009 – Meeting
- October 14, 2009 – Meeting
- November 3, 2009 – Meeting
- November 17, 2009 – Meeting
- November 18, 2009 – Meeting

**Other Activities:**

- Indigenous Scholars Focus Group – June 10, 2009
- Creation of consent form and questions for [ad hoc] youth focus group held in north- July 7, 2009
- Creation of AOPSI framework for WG members to use in addressing questions related to a reasonable approach for gathering information – August, 2009
- Create outline of proposed focus group process for WG – August 2009
- Lower Mainland Planning Group – September 23, 2009 – event plan mtg.
- Indigenous Child Welfare Research Network Conference - October 6, 2009 – conference presentation – power point now available on the website.
- Literature Review Working Draft completed – October 21, 2009
- Co-Chairs Meeting – October 27, 2009; December 2, 2009
- Created Facebook Group - November 23, 2009
- Finalised Agency contact for soliciting collateral information
- Drafted collateral information questions.