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**Table of Partners Minutes**

**Wednesday, June 20th @ 9:30 am**

ACRD, 3008 5th Avenue, Port Alberni, BC

**Attendees:** Penny Cote, Marcie DeWitt, Dan Schubart, Willa Thorpe, Esther Pace, Laurie Bird, Julie Rushton, Anna Lewis, Jeff Kizuk

**Regrets:** Josie Osborne, Stefan Ochman, Wes Hewitt, Pam Reardon, Sandra Tate

**Guests:** Faye Missar, Coastal Family Resource Coalition, Melissa Trowridge, Schizophrenic Society of BC

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 9:33 am.

The Chairperson acknowledged we are on the traditional territories of the Hupacasath and Tseshaht First Nations.

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES**

The Agenda for June 20th was approved.

The Meeting Minutes of May 16th, 2018 were approved.

1. **CFRC Annual Report to ACHN – Faye Missar**

The Coastal Family Resource Coalition began in 2003. F. Missar discussed goals of the CFRC. The communities they service include Hot Springs Cove, Ahousaht, Opitsaht, Tofino, Ty-Histanis, Estowista, Macoah, Hitacu and Ucluelet. Health priorities and regional health priorities were discussed. Activities this year included coordinating with the following working groups – Early Years, Youth, Harm Reduction (communication campaign on Cocaine, Heroin, Oxy, Meth, MDMA, etc.) Shared priorities with the Table of Partners include the BC Poverty Reduction Strategy. Community Consultations are taking place on the West Coast. Involved in Poverty Reduction Summit Western Canada. F. Missar provided a budget overview – coordination and capacity $7,500, action tables – $2,500, strategic priorities – $5,000.00.

The Table of Partners accepted the CFRC final report with no questions around 2017/2018 activities. It was agreed to renew the Memorandum of Understanding with the Coastal Family Resource Coalition for 2018/2019 for $10,000 already approved through the budget process.

Marcie will update the MOU and distribute for feedback.

1. **REPORTS**
2. Coordinator Report - TOP reviewed the monthly reporting spreadsheet. M. DeWitt reported on activities that she was involved in over the past month, some of which included the Coming Together Workshop, working with Island Health, attended Cities Poverty Reduction Summit with Faye Missar in Vancouver, working with BC Transit on Ride Share program, supporting West Coast opioid work. Quite a bit of travel and meetings.
3. ACHN Budget - Expenditures to date. – June numbers are not up to date. They will be available at the end of June and at that time, will be submitting Island health quarterly report.
4. **ACHN UPDATES**
5. Adaptive Leadership Workshop – powerpoint presentation available in drop box file.
6. Poverty Reduction Workshop – attended by Marcie and Faye from CFRC through sponsorship from the Vancouver Foundation. Event had some great presentations and was a good opportunity to meet with people Marcie had only spoken to by telephone.
7. Housing Round Table – 13 participants, staff and leadership from all three Municipalities, Regional District and First Nations. Discussions included challenges, priorities, opportunities and next steps. Common priorities emerged around need for funding for planning from Province, need for a diverse spectrum of housing to meet needs, need for data. Marcie will distribute information coming out of this roundtable with the partners.
8. Transportation Round Table – Taking place Thursday, June 28th in Ucluelet.
9. Summer Work Planning – Includes website input to ensure the resource category is well established with research tools, poverty reduction long notes will be reviewed. Marcie asked TOP members to fill out the ACHN Network Mapping Survey.
10. **ACHN UPDATES**
11. Correspondence

Two late letters were received that were not on the agenda requesting letters of support. The Air Quality Society is requesting a letter of support regarding Plan H: Creating Healthy Spaces Grant. If successful, the Air Quality Society would use the funds towards the creation of an air shed management strategy for the Alberni Valley. The Air Quality Society is requesting a second letter of support for the Coastal Community Credit Union Building Healthier Communities grant of up to $5,000. This grant is provide one-time financial support for initiatives that contribute to building healthier island communities. The Air Quality Society is currently trying to create an air shed management plan. One of the technical pieces that is an integral part of the air shed plan is an Air Emission Inventory. The Province has earmarked $20,000 for this $30,000 project, as Port Alberni has been red-flagged for continuing to exceed PM2.5 emissions. Port Alberni needs to come up with the remaining $10,000. This opportunity probably will not arise again. The Table of Partners agreed to write two letters of support for Air Quality Society.

1. Member Updates

E. Pace advised that her program has finally settled into their new intermediate home. The problems and move have had a detrimental effect on staff and programs. There is now a Healthy Schools person in place. Very excited to have this person in this full-time position. Hopefully this will help with healthy schools. Education and health collaboration is very important.

W. Thorpe attended Steps to Wellness yesterday. Next year this will be a one-stop shop. The Gyro washrooms are being refurbished to be gender neutral. The City of Port Alberni’s summer camp programs are 75 per cent full. Registration can be through Echo Centre or on-line. The City has a couple of free programs through the summer. “Our Town” and the Drop In Playground program. Everything is listed on the City of Port Alberni’s website.

L. Bird advised that she attended the Graduation Ceremony at North Island College and was very impressed. Has been working with the Ucluelet Food Bank on the Edge. Small Food Banks will be receiving free computer programs to assist with demographic information. The computer program is provided free of charge and there will be a monthly fee to the foodbank with the amount varying depending on the size of the foodbank. This will be very helpful to the small food banks.

J. Rushton advised that the Alberni Valley Drug and Alcohol Report showed that out of 118 Youth the three highest choices were Xanax, Marijuana and Crystal Meth. The report consider youths age 11 – 20. Every youth is vulnerable no matter how stable the home is. Youth are coming into the wellness centre and asking very good questions. Early Years program funding will end March 31, 2019. The funding is not disappearing but the way the funding is distributed will change. Julie will send out information once she has it. Julie sees this as a change and not necessarily a bad thing. Julie has also been doing homeless prevention work.

A Lewis discussed the Air Quality Society. There has been a series of three coffee house sessions to try to get more people out and get more dialogue happening. A. Lewis received a message from the Province advising there will be a boost in funding for woodstove exchange program for six communities in the *red zone* of which the Alberni Valley is one. There will be a telephone conference meeting with those communities affected on what form this supplemental program could take. The Community Harvest Program will end this year. The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District is a support for emergency planning wildfire abatement on farms, meat inspection, armyworms, and food security initiatives.

M. Trowridge, Schizophrenic Society of BC thanked TOP for having her attend the meeting. The Schizophrenic Society of BC is changing the landscape of mental illness. Her job is as a regional educator to help families look for signs of mental illness as early as possible. The younger the better. Mental illness if diagnosed at a young age and treated can very often disappear in adulthood. Melissa works with families that support the person with the mental illness. A ten-week program on mental illness held at North Island College has just ended. A family support group was recently created. Melissa only works a few hours a week but funding recently received for a second person for a few more hours will be very helpful.

J. Kizuk advised there is a new team leader taking over from Laurie Money. There is lots going on locally. There is an increase for Youth MH&A services on the West Coast from half time to full time. The Ministry going through earlier years. Planning for early years is a government responsibly. Residential service for children in foster care or housing is in crisis. Fewer than ever spaces are available. The Ministry is not able to keep up to the need of foster homes and housing for children. Port Alberni has a number of residential care houses mainly for youth (this is rental housing with contracted staff). Care homes are not ideal but there is a severe lack of foster homes. The housing is mainly for youth, younger children placed only in extreme need. There is a challenge in this community concerning youth and drugs. Worse drugs are more available and consequences much riskier.

P. Cote advised she recently attended a BC Transit workshop for one day. They provided some very interesting data. The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District’s Alberni Valley & Bamfield Services Committee is meeting today with BC Transit. Sproat Lake is experiencing an algae bloom. This may be a deep lake bloom. Water is being tested to confirm it is safe to drink.

**7. MEETING CLOSE**

The meeting adjourned at 11:37 am. The next meeting of the Table of Partners will be held Wednesday, September 19, 2018.