

Inuvik Interagency Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2009
Aurora College – Board Room

Present:

Julian Ichim	Inuvik Youth Centre
Derek Lindsay	Town of Inuvik
Tony Devlin	Town of Inuvik
S/Sgt Cliff McKay	RCMP
Ruth Anne Blake	Employment, Culture & Education (ECE)
Karen Mitchell	AHF – Gwich'in Tribal Council
Patricia Davison	Childrens First Society
Delores Harley	Inuvik Community Corp.
Mabel Brown	Inuvik Justice Committee
Jolene Donovan	Constituency Assistant – MLA Floyd Roland
Carol Benjamin	Inuvik Community Counselling Program
Nancy McInnis	Dept. of Justice-Probation Services
Sue McNeil	Inuvialuit Development Corporation
Mary Ann Ross	Gwich'in Tribal Council
Alana Mero	Aurora Research Institute
Ashlee Carew	Social Work Practicum (SAMS)
Alfred Moses	Municipal & Community Affairs
Jennifer Cockney	Inuvik Food Bank
--	Inuvik Greenhouse Society
--	Healthy Foods North
Larry Peckford	Interagency Coordinator

Regrets

Beth Oehler	Paul Grech
Eugene Rees	Leanna Steen

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Alana Mero at 1:20 PM.

2. Introduction of Members

Eighteen members in attendance.

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented

4. Review of Minutes: Meeting of September 16, 2009

The minutes were approved as presented

5. Business Arising

The Chair enquired about the prevalence of the flu (H1N1) in the community. There are reports of some absences at workplaces. Derek Lindsay said the airport was asked to install hand sanitizers for the benefit of the travelling public.

The Chair took the opportunity to thank outgoing Mayor Lindsay for his dedication to the work of the Interagency Committee. Mayor Lindsay was in regular attendance at Interagency meetings and contributed with updates and information on Council activities.

6. New Business

- i. Partnership meetings: The Interagency Chair and Coordinator have been meeting and sharing information with community partners in an effort to find ways to maintain its office operation in the new year.
- ii. Health Promotion Working Group: This group is made up of key health and wellness agencies who are members of the Interagency Committee. Presently the work of members is dedicated to the promotion of National Addictions Awareness Week. The Interagency Committee anticipates having a graduate student available to do a practicum that studies capacity building for achieving community wellness. The Health Promotion Working Group will be invited to be involved in this exercise.
- iii. NAAW 2009: Delores Harley and Alfred Moses gave an update on the program for the Week. Carol Benjamin spoke of the potential effectiveness of this initiative and the importance of youth and community involvement.

7. Agency Updates

Inuvik Community Counselling Program: Carol Benjamin said with the arrival of a new Counsellor by mid-November the program in Inuvik will be approaching full capacity. Inuvik based counselling staff now are dedicated to Inuvik and no travelling is required.

Floyd Roland, MLA: Joelene Donovan said Premier Roland will be visiting the area Nov. 6-7 and Nov. 10-12

Inuvik Justice Committee: Mabel Brown said she is busy doing community visits and meeting RCMP members.

Council for Persons with Disabilities: Patricia Davison said the local chapter is developing a work plan dealing with accessibility issues. Accessibility at the Inuvik airport is also being examined. The Chapter has a Power Point presentation available on disability awareness.

Childrens First Society: Patricia Davison advised that work is proceeding on technical details of this project, i.e. geotechnical work.
The Society is busy preparing for its Gala on November 7.
The Society will be having a children's play area during the upcoming Craft Fair in December.

Santa's Elves Project: Patricia Davison advised that the Santa's Elves project is in need of volunteers. This project is very helpful to local families at Christmas. The RCMP and Inuvik Fire Department lend valuable assistance.

PARTY program: Patricia Davison asked about the status of this youth-centered alcohol awareness program which held successful events in year's past. Patricia said she is willing to assist with coordination of another event.

Inuvik Community Corporation (Brighter Futures): Delores said a sewing program is about to begin for people aged 13-29 years. Also, another language class will start soon.

RCMP: S/Sgt Cliff McKay said the detachment is now fully staffed with 5 new members. A number of members have good experience.
Officers recently seized and shut down an illegal hydroponics operation. There are known suspects with charges pending.
A police car is now being used on a trial basis. A police car has safety and access advantages that are superior to existing vehicles.
DARE: this drug awareness program will be delivered to elementary students at SAMS this year.
In response to a question about the Special Constable Program, S/Sgt. McKay said the program is still being considered. Something more definitive should be known by April 2010.

MACA: Alfred Moses said the youth ambassadors are excited about attending the Olympics in Vancouver in March.
Budgets for some youth programs are depleted but clients are encouraged to contact the office for the latest information.
Work is underway in cooperation with BDEC and ITI for a hunting and trapping program.
Alfred is looking for a coordinator to handle the Relay for Life program which is a program targeted to cancer patients and cancer survivors.
Nordic Walking and circuit training continue with good participation.

Town of Inuvik: Tony Devlin reported on the following:

New programming is being developed at the Recreation Complex., i.e. kinder gym and highland dancing.

Pool programs have resumed. The complex is receiving new lighting and infrastructure upgrades.

After much planning the Olympic Torch Relay is set to go at Jim Koe Park. Participation will come from across the region. Fifty representatives from the international media will be here.

The Christmas Craft Fair takes place Nov. 27-29 at the MSC. There will be 75 tables. Proceeds go to the Inuvik Food Bank.

Mayor Derek Lindsay spoke on the following:

-Space Contact (International Space Station) presentation at SHSS on Oct. 23.

-The Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk highway consultations are continuing.

-The Inuvik Youth Centre relocation project is proceeding.

-Inuvik Works has relocated to Veteran's Way.

-The Food Bank is now located to Next to New.

Inuvik Youth Centre: Julain Ichim is the new Program Coordinator. A number of program areas are being developed, i.e. lunch program, Delta Girls, on-the-land trips, Cuba visit, drug users group, healthy relationships and re-establishing the Youth Council.

Gwich'in Tribal Council: Mary Ann Ross reported that the Gwich'in Wellness Camp is being winterized for seasonal shut down. A new Executive Director for Wellness is to be hired as well as a Camp Manger which is a new position.

Mary Ann said that she would like to see money available from the Mackenzie Gas Project Impact Fund so that communities can prepare in advance of project activity.

As Co-chair of the Youth Sub-committee Mary Ann said the group is now setting new priorities.

Aurora Research Institute: Alan Mero said the design of the new building for the Institute is just about complete. The Institute will promote social science and health research in addition to the regular "hard" science fields.

Inuvik Youth Centre: As a Director of the Youth Centre Board Sue said the Youth Centre is undertaking a strategic planning process. The Centre is also working with the Arctic Youth Leadership program. It is also making efforts to improve the link between the school and Youth Centre.

Probation Services: Nancy McInnis said her unit is now fully staffed. Nancy no longer has responsibility for the Sahtu. Probation Services is now in a position to continuous service over the Christmas period.

Nancy said Hip Hop Dancing sessions take place 3 times week which is an exciting outlet for local youth.

Inuvik Grenhouse: Jennifer Cockney said the greenhouse is now winterized and shut down for the season. It is hoped to have an earlier start up next year.

Healthy Foods North: Jennifer Cockney said the research program has started data collection in the three communities that are part of the project, Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk and Ulahoktok.

Inuvik Food Bank: Jennifer Cockney said that a new Board of Directors has been elected with the elections of officers being the next step. The Food Bank needs ongoing financial support. Currently it is completing a Lottery License application.

Gwich'in Tribal Council: Karen Mitchell said she is active assisting Gwich'in clientele in the residential school process. She works in cooperation with Resolution Health Support Workers at the NWT Training Centre. The Training Centre offers a program that runs until 8:30 PM in the evening. Clinical psychology support is available in Yellowknife but there is backlog in order that people be seen.

7. Date of Next Meeting

November 18