Minutes of the Seniors Regional Planning Table (SRPT) Meeting
March 8, 2012 • 10 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Board Room, United Way of the Lower Mainland
4543 Canada Way, Burnaby

Attendees: Cheryl Ashlie, Councillor, Maple Ridge
Dr. Patricia Baird, UBC Centre for Health Services and Policy Research
Don Browning, Delta Seniors Planning Table
Chris Chan, on behalf of Rob Howard, MLA Richmond Centre
Deanna Charlton, Lionsview Seniors Planning Table (North Shore)
Andrea Droege, Comfort Keepers
Marilyn Fischer, Langley Seniors Planning Table
Mohinder Grewal, Richmond Seniors Planning Table/City of Richmond,
Seniors Advisory Committee, COSCO, Vancouver Cross Cultural
Seniors Network Society
Kara-Leigh Jameson, Seniors Services Society
Kenneth Jones, Semiahmoo Peninsula Seniors Planning Table, BC Tinnitus
Carole Kaye, Voices of Burnaby Seniors (VOBS)
Mariam Larson (Coordinator)
Lorraine Logan, SPAN
Annette Oakes, Seniors Planning & Action Network (SPAN), New West
Beverley Pitman, United Way of the Lower Mainland
Mohammad Rafiq, Surrey Seniors Planning Table
Wolf Strecko, LEADS, BC CEAS, SPAN
Susan Tatoosh, Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society
(18 attending: 10 seniors, 8 non-senior, including: 1 host agency, 1 funder, 1 councillor, 1 MLA rep, 1 for-profit service provider, 1 coordinator)

Regrets: Alice Edge, COSCO
Vicki Huntington, MLA, Delta
Judith McBride, South Surrey / White Rock Seniors Planning Table
Scott Ricker, West End Seniors Planning Table
Barbara Steele, City Councillor, Surrey
Lorna van Straaten, Whistler Community Services Society Mature
Action Committee
Val Windsor, Delta Seniors Planning Table

Chair: Carole Kaye
Facilitator: Mariam Larson
Recorder: Mariam Larson / Bev Pitman
1. Welcome
   a. Adoption of Agenda: Revised to move 3b to 2 b, and correct numbering. Adopted.

2. Extended introductions
   a. Members provided broad information about their background and expertise to build relationships in the context of membership criteria strategy:
      a) Engage the regional community in the work,
      b) Use or provide evidence-based research in planning and activities,
      c) Influence public policy, systems and attitudes, and
      d) Support services that serve seniors.

Mohammad Rafiq, Surrey Seniors Planning Table (a, c, d)
Language, intercultural communications

Ken Jones, Semiahmoo Peninsula Seniors Planning Table (a, b, c, d)
Founding member of Semiamhoo Table
Pres. of BC Tinnitus Association, on National Board for Tinnitus Assoc
33 years telecom / BC Tel
City Councils Port Hardy, White Rock
Opposition of Provincial Legislature
Federal Liberal Policy Dev't
Social services sector
Interest in technical - computer systems; have own earthquake preparedness company

Don Browning, Delta Seniors Planning Table (c)
Business - broadcasting, ad agency, brokerage
Delta Lodge and Kinsmen as volunteer
Communications chair with Delta Planning Table
Applied to launch Seniors Action Committee with Delta
Added: Served with N.A.I.M. (North American Indigenous Ministry) for fifteen years as International Chairman and Canadian President.

Deanna Charlton, Chair, Lionsview Seniors Planning Society (b, c, d)
www.pm-volunteers.org donated project management services
● Link to survey: www.lionsviewseniorsplanning.com
2011 Survey of seniors (1000+ replied), received award for project
Workshops with seniors - analyzing data
Research and education focus, no direct services
Director of Keep Well Society on North Shore (8 exercise classes)
Retired nurse

Lorraine Logan, SPAN (b, c, d)
Director of Seniors Services Society
Pres. of New Vista Society
Member of Access Transit Users Advisory Committee
Second VP of COSCO, transportation rep
Added: DriveAble concerns, meeting with Motor Vehicle to improve DriveAble Town Hall meeting w/Cathy Corrigan March 15 1 - 3 in Chilliwack

**Marilyn Fischer, Langley Seniors Action Table (a, c, d)**
Retired social worker, eight years acute and residential hospital work
Patient Voices network rep
Volunteer at Langley Seniors Centre
Advocacy, arranged for Ombudsperson to speak there in May
Former long distance caregiver (mother w/Alzheimer’s)
Walk for Memories coordinator (Langley Aldergrove) topped $40,000
Research geriatric care management field

**Annette Oakes, SPAN, LEADS (a, c, d)**
Retired laboratory tech, owned and operated business w/50 staff
Chair of SPAN
Agency Network Event
Senior’s Engagement Toolkit (delivering sessions in public) Nom. for planning award
Directory of Services for Seniors
IMBY Fairs
LEADS graduate
First VP on Century House Association Executive (1800 members)

**Susan Tatoosh, ED Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre (d)**
Aboriginal Executive Council, which has Elders' table
Friendship Centre, run Elders programs
Called from retirement to be ED, to revitalize Friendship Centre, with neglected seniors a first concern
- Arrived year of the apology, impact of making apology but government not following through with acknowledgement of opening of wounds, need for treatment
- Cultural sharing within centre and community, intergenerational
- Daily lunches for Elders, food bank, activity groups, Chronic Health Management Training Program
- Elder Abuse Awareness Training Program, funded by New Horizons - can now facilitate sessions.
- Active in fundraising (annual First Nations Elders Gathering)
- Note fundraising in small ways, not big galas

**Cheryl Ashlie, Maple Ridge City Councillor (a, b, c, d)**
Liaison to local seniors planning table and Ridge Meadows Seniors Centre
Youth as well - cross over
• Strength - engineered to adopt model of community solutions, grassroots, working with community to identify and develop solutions

**Andrea Droege, Comfort Keepers, Langley table and Maple Ridge table (d)**
Third company embarked upon
Financial management for housing and (AMSA), not for profits
Law courts education society (aboriginal, new immigrants)
Canadian television for 17 years; documentaries (lost ground to reality tv)
Mother lived with her family, 8 years (lived aging-in-place)
Comfort Keepers 2 years (Langley, Maple Ridge); frontline into seniors homes - find solutions if seniors cannot afford services
Volunteer at Langley Senior Centre
ISS open house - hired 3 Korean, 1 Cantonese speaking caregiver

Wolf Strecko, LEADS, BC CEAS (a)
Pres. of Neighbourhood House in Richmond
Delegate to city-wide council of community associations,
- Success - identifying projects that were working and expand on them
Driver for wellness program in Richmond, getting shut-ins to seniors' centre for learning, connections. Desire for constancy in program delivery and availability
Conduct board governance training for Volunteer Vancouver
BC CEAS - present fraud awareness workshops, on their seniors’ advisory task force
Member of LEADS (Learning, Educating And Developing Seniors, New Westminster)
Member of SPAN
Commercial marketing, executive coaching
Some success lobbying government for funding
- Interested in lobbying government for job programs for seniors
- PR programs to counter view of seniors as a drain on society (70 over 70 program!) to emphasize seniors as a resource vs. a drain

Dr. Patricia Baird, UBC Centre for Health Services and Policy Research (a, b, c, d)
Physician, research in genetic diseases
Faculty member UBC Centre for Policy Research
Science policy and development - social implications of applying technology
Chair national commission on new reproductive technologies
Interested in conflict of interest and science policy (big pharma and clinical trials)
Chaired Premier's Council on Aging and Seniors' Issues; report has made a difference.
Boards: United Way of LM, Pacific Parkinson's Research Institute, Cdn. Longitudinal study on aging...
Order of BC, Order of Canada

Chris Chan, on behalf of Rob Howard, MLA Richmond Centre (a, b, c, d)
Rep. him on Richmond Seniors Table
Diversity Committee
Chair of Transportation Subcommittee
Member on Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee (passion for intercultural harmony)

Mohinder Grewal, Richmond Seniors Planning Table (a, c, d)
Richmond Seniors Advisory Committee (City, appointed by Mayor and Council) since 1993
Richmond Intercultural Advisory Committee, citizen appointee
COSCO Board, 411 Seniors Centre Board
Vancouver Cross-Cultural Seniors Network Society, Intercultural Diversity Committee
Richmond Seniors Planning Table
BC Seniors Advisory Council (1995) 2 terms, vice chair
Premier’s Council on Aging and Seniors’ Issues
Involved in many aspects of seniors issues, esp. visible minority

**Kara-Leigh Jameson, ED, Seniors Services Society, Host agency (a, c, d)**
Policy development in Alberta, mainly research and policy dev’t on aging, U of A
Minor in gerontology
SSS four years (engaging region)
- Housing information programs and Directory of Housing
- Seniors outreach workers, working with homeless and at-risk seniors
- Seniors housing counsellor (BC Housing position)
- Temporary housing program (alt. to shelter, 15 units - preserve dignity, avoid shelter system)
- Community education: seniors housing, support services, housing counsellor training program, building managers that house seniors (esp. to prevent eviction)
- Dine out program (partner with restaurants, low-cost menu / reduced, approx. 100 participants)
- Meals on wheels (now partnering with Starlight Casino with great success), medical transportation, grocery shopping
Homelessness Count; on steering committee for regional table on homelessness
Member agency for New Westminster Homeless Coalition (treasurer)

**Bev Pitman, United Way of the Lower Mainland (a, b, c, d)**
Planning, PhD, SFU Geography, urban/regional development, cultural/ social geography
Seniors planning tables, forums, work with researchers
CASI - influence public policy
Transportation, work with Vancouver Foundation, VanCity, supporting dev’t. of STAR
Supporting services – grant management
Community of practice with seniors caregiver support and outreach programs
United Way annual report

**Carole Kaye, VOBS Chair (b, c)**
Survey in 2007 - addressing needs
Burnaby Seniors Interagency Society (profit, nfp orgs. that directly support seniors)
Recognize wide range of seniors needs
Retired principal

**2b. Review membership list and process**
- Membership will be fluid and flexible
- Membership will be held at current level until direction is further clarified
- Option for people serving in advisory role on shorter term basis (pro tem, not added as a member)
- Maintain 26 members, 13 (50%) seniors, with 10 representing community tables
- Guests allowed, 2 max per meeting
- If member misses two consecutive meetings and did not send a representative, will be asked about commitment and may step down from table
- Response to inquiry or request to be on table:
- Prospects should submit brief biography reflecting capacity to support criteria strategy as per Terms of Reference, Appendix C.
- Send Terms of Reference to prospect
- Invite to attend as an observer, can put on a waitlist
- Bring biography to group, stay in touch

Actions:
• Members will provide changes to Mariam for updating Membership List.
• At May 10 meeting, review who wants to remain on Table and consider prospect(s).
• Members will be added based on their fit to membership criteria strategy.

3. Governance
   a. Terms of Reference Ratification
      Amend 4.5 to read, “Term of service will be one year, from January to December, reviewed and renewable on an annual basis with about half the table normally being renewed two to three times.”
      Motion to adopt as amended: Mohinder, Ken, Carried (AIF).

4. Action Plan
   After extensive discussion (notes below), group divided into two subcommittees:
   a. Seniors Advocate: To influence provincial process in developing this office;
   b. Information: To develop ways to provide seniors, esp. vulnerable seniors, with information about available services and resources and how to access them

   Advocate group chair: Marilyn Fischer
   Ken, Lorraine, Mohinder, Don, Alice, Cheryl, with Dr. Baird in communication group
   • This action is time-sensitive, with 3 - 4 month window; the group will meet on April 2.

   Information group chair: Cheryl Ashlie
   Mohammad, Susan, Andrea, Annette, Wolf, Deanna, Rob (Chris)
   • This action timeline is 4 - 6 months; the group will organize a meeting.

Summary of flipchart notes:
• Identify areas for action
• Include Ombudsperson’s Report recommendations
• Consult regarding seniors advocate
• Address needs of visible minorities, immigrants
• Consider expanding successful community programs
• Provide information and education in strategic way throughout region
• Outreach to isolated seniors
• Local papers: seniors’ sections, radio, tv (including community and cultural)
• Prioritize then strategize
• Reach: Region and province, partnering with media company(ies), BC 211, social media, service providers, radio, newspapers (multi-language)
• Gov’t action plan: advocate and consultation
• Can influence advocate process and results
• Consider relevance of message(s)
• Market dynamics influence seniors’ choices (Canada Line resulted in increased
number of seniors moving into new housing along the Line)
• Maintain momentum and pressure on gov’t.
• Consider position of advocate in seniors’ infrastructure
• Work with seniors funders table
• Engage professionals in gerontology, health
• Engage ICBC, www.pm-volunteers.org, researchers

5. New Business

6. Announcements
Mariam is stepping down as SRPT Coordinator, effective March 15, 2012. Kara will work with Bev to hire replacement.

7. Next meeting
Next meeting is on Thursday, May 10, 10:00 2:00 in the Campaign Room at UWLM
Lorraine Logan will chair.
The following meeting is on Oct. 25, 10:00 - 2:00

Meeting adjourned at 2:00.