



CITY OF DUNCAN

January 22, 2014

0230-20 AVICC

Via E-mail: avicc@ubcm.ca

AVICC

Local Government House
525 Government Street
Victoria, BC V8W 0A8

Attn: Ms. Iris Hesketh-Boles, Executive Coordinator

Dear Ms. Hesketh-Boles:

RE: AVICC Resolution – Social Policy Framework

Please be advised that Council, at its January 20, 2014 regular meeting, unanimously passed the following resolution for consideration at the 2014 AVICC Conference:

Social Policy Framework

WHEREAS every British Columbian depends on social services, health care, justice and education services;

AND WHEREAS our communities are partners in the delivery of many of these services and are facing increasingly complex social challenges requiring coordination between multiple social ministries of government, municipalities and the community agencies and organizations that deliver services to the public;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the municipal governments of British Columbia call upon the Premier to begin a consultation with British Columbians to initiate the development of a Social Policy Framework that will set out key policy directions, values, priorities, roles and expectations, and guide the creation of public policy to meet our social needs now and into the future.

As noted in the submission requirements, a hard copy of this letter will follow by mail and additional background information to accompany the resolution.

Should you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me at (250) 746-6126.

Sincerely

Karen Burley,

Director of Corporate Services

/kb

PO BOX 820 200 Craig Street, Duncan, BC V9L 3Y2

Tel: (250) 746-6126 Fax: (250) 746-6129 E-mail: duncan@duncan.ca Web: www.duncan.ca

Social Policy Presentation Outline

Background

The Board Voice Society of B.C. is seeking support for the development of a social policy framework for the province. We ask that municipalities support a resolution to the provincial government to initiate a province-wide consultation leading to the development of such a framework.

- Board Voice represents more than 70 boards of community social service agencies across the province. It exists to advise governments on issues of concern to community benefit organizations, to improve governance and to bring boards together locally and provincially in the desire to create strong, vibrant communities. We believe a social policy framework will improve the lives of all BCers. www.boardvoice.ca
- The community social services sector: Helps people: find employment, find housing, deal with addictions, escape abuse; Provides services for sexually abused children, seniors needing in home support, persons with developmental and other disabilities, families and children in the protection system, and for children and adults living on the street; Creates child care and early learning services, safe houses, detox programs, language programs, transition services, skills training, immigrant programs.
- Other provinces, most recently Alberta <http://socialpolicyframework.alberta.ca/files/documents/ahs-nonannotatedfrmwrk-webfinal.pdf>, and some municipalities have created social policy frameworks.

What's the Issue to be Resolved?

- Our population is growing and becoming more diverse. Housing, jobs, education, health, public spaces, recreation facilities are all affected. Issues are getting more complex.
- There is an increasing gap between the rich and the poor in our communities. We know social and health problems are connected to growing inequalities.
- Currently in B.C. there is no overarching framework to guide the work of social ministries and related community organizations in the province - no all-embracing vision, goals, and accountabilities, which could assist in bringing new approaches to difficult to solve issues.
- While collaboration is recognized as critically important to ensure the best and most efficient use of resources, there are few mechanisms either at a provincial or community level to bring this about.
- Broad ministry plans, which drive change, are often not well linked to other plans and most ministries continue to operate largely in silos. Horizontal leadership is not focused.
- At a community level, there are few planning mechanisms that bring organizations together within their sector or across sector boundaries and those that do exist are often ad hoc.
- Few resources exist to support this type of work within agency or municipal budgets.
- Linkages between social policies and economic policies are difficult to discern, although upon reflection, are obvious and need to be understood and managed.

What is a social policy framework?

Social policy is about the things that affect the quality of day-to-day life - the values, strategies, plans, and actions that affect people most directly — individually and in their relationships and networks with their friends, families, and communities. **Policy frameworks** are tools that can guide decision making, set future direction, identify important connections, and support the alignment of policies and practices both inside and outside an organization.

Why are we coming to you?

Municipal governments see first hand the day-to-day results of systemic failure on their neighbours and communities. A broad consultation process to generate a social policy framework is critical and local governments through the BC Healthy Communities initiative are already involved in conversations and actions. The community social service sector delivers programs and services through local agencies. As a result, there is an alliance between local government and agencies. We need to come together to build the capacities of local government and agencies to come to terms with the very real social problems facing citizens by asking the Premier to undertake the development of a social policy framework for British Columbia.

The Board Voice Society of BC: An Idea Whose Time Has Come



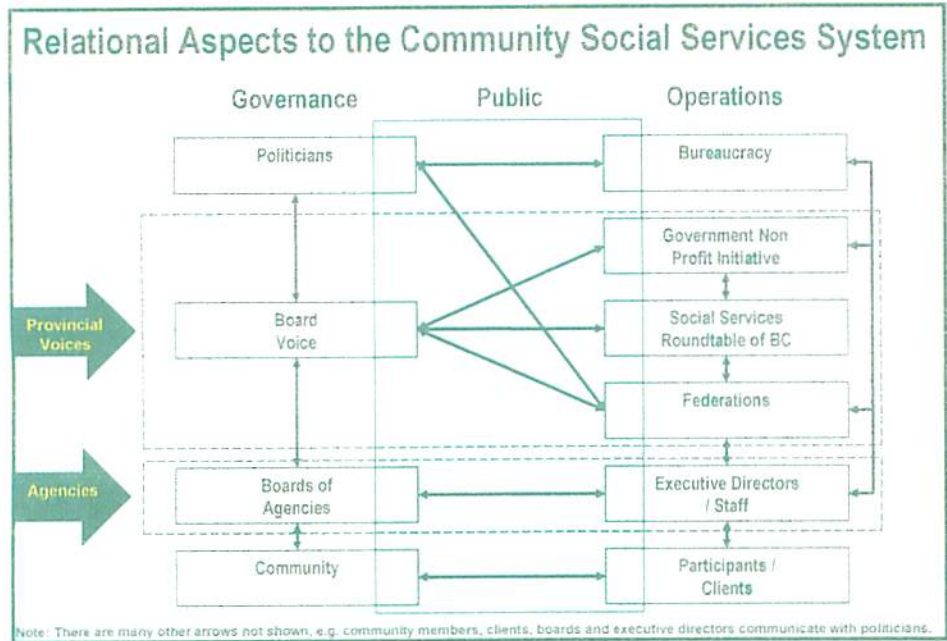
Vision: A clear and effective voice for volunteer community-based boards supporting high quality social services and strong vibrant communities.

Mission Statement: The members of Board Voice are provincial champions of healthy communities who promote the value of collaborative high quality community-based social services through:

1. Advising governments concerning the aspirations and concerns of the sector from a community perspective.
2. Strengthening the governance capacity of boards;
3. Promoting collaborative cross-sectoral thinking, innovation and planning at the community and provincial levels;
4. Promoting community social services to the general public as critical to the social fabric of our communities.

Founding Principles:

1. Respectful
2. Collaborative
3. Transparent
4. Responsive
5. Timely & Appropriate
6. Inclusive & Balanced
7. Accessible
8. Accountable
9. Innovative



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The Federation of
Community Social Services of BC

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Victoria, BC V8V 1S2

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Email:
DHayman@boardvoice.ca

Join Now!

Now is the time to make a difference. Download an application form at:

www.boardvoice.ca

and become a part of something new.

Help to make it happen!

Who can join Board Voice?

Boards of non profit agencies which deliver social services in BC can become full members of Board Voice. Other categories of membership may be considered.

Why Board Voice?

Thousands of board directors across this province give back in ways that make their community healthier and more resilient. The value of their work is incalculable. It's a level of governance across the province that has low visibility, but at the same time high impact on the vitality and strength of our communities. It is time for this voice to be heard.

Get Onboard!

Why Now?

- Community social services are under great stress. Global economic issues have led to increased demand for service while agencies face cutbacks and decreases in funding.
- Social services support hundreds of thousands of people each year, keeping people out of more expensive options in the health and corrections systems.
- The 65,000 staff in this sector contribute significantly to the economy. Many are leaving the sector due to wage issues and cutbacks. Recruitment and retention will become a big issue soon.
- There are many different voices in social services. Board Voice will speak on behalf of the whole sector.

Five Key Goals for 2013/14

- Governments are advised about the aspirations and concerns of the sector from a community perspective.
- A Social Policy Framework for B.C. is seen as an important initiative for the province to pursue.
- The governance capacity of boards is strengthened.
- Collaborative cross-sectoral thinking, innovation and planning at the community and provincial levels are evident across the province.
- Board Voice is a financially sustainable organization, widely known and respected for its support of the community social services sector.

What's in it for your Board and Agency?

- The opportunity to build an innovative new organization, the first of its kind in North America (that we know of).
- A chance to contribute to developing a better climate for social services in British Columbia.
- An organizational structure through which to influence public policy.
- An opportunity to collaborate with other governors at the provincial and community level.
- Access to reliable information on the state of social services in the province.
- Board training opportunities and an opportunity to improve governance.
- Better governance outcomes for your agency.

Let's talk.

Contact us to have a Board Voice representative talk to your agency.

Email: admin@boardvoice.ca

Phone: 250.480.7387

Board Executive:

- Chair - Michael Davis, Board Member, Family Services of Greater Vancouver
- Past Chair – Carol Matusicky, Board Member, Burnaby Family Life
- Vice Chair – Leslie Welin, Board Chair, Clements Centre, Duncan
- Treasurer – Craig East, Board Member Options Community Services Society, Surrey
- Secretary – Alyson Hagen-Johnson, North Island Community Services Society

Board Members:

- Ron Birch, Board Member, North Okanagan Youth and Family Services Society
- Lynn Carter, Board Chair, Greater Vancouver Community Services Society
- Judy Hayes, Board Member, PLEA Community Services Society of BC, Vancouver
- Dawn Hemingway, Board Member, Intersect Youth and Family Services Society, Prince George
- Lynn Malinski, Board Member, The Bridge, Kelowna
- Rick Marshall, Board Member, Victoria Cool Aid Society
- Terry Moist, Board President, John Howard Society of North Island
- Kerry Pateman, Board Member, Association Advocating for Women and children, Prince George
- Lyn Policha, Board Secretary, Options Community Services Society, Surrey
- Judy Pollard, Chair, Kootenay Boundary Community Services Co-operative

Social Policy Framework – Resolution for Consideration at the 2014 AVICC

Submitted by: City of Duncan

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AND WHEREAS our communities are partners in the delivery of many of these services and are facing increasingly complex social challenges requiring coordination between multiple social ministries of government, municipalities and the community agencies and organizations that deliver services to the public;

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