

Fall Meeting Reporting Back: The Importance of Effective Boards to the Profession of Social Work



June Preston, Boards Together Lead and Dr. Jacquie Green, Guest Speaker

BIO: Kundoqk (Jacquie Green) PhD is from the Haisla Nation, Northwestern Canada. She is the Director in the School of Social Work. Her scholarship is embedded in Indigenous and Anti Oppressive knowledge and philosophies, thus looking at histories, identities, place and language through storytelling. Her pedagogy includes methods to center marginalized groups, peoples and communities and is inclusive of Indigenous livelihoods. She focuses her research, writing and teaching to include critical theories to inform Indigenous and social justice epistemologies, pedagogies and philosophies.

Dr. Green gave an overview of planning and goals of the School of Social Work with recognition of importance of students adequacy in understanding social policy and governance in agencies, and shared her own interesting experience as a board member as she addressed her topic. She began by having us consider “What is board effectiveness?” and how to identify an effective board thus considering various board models, how board members know they are delivering their goals and how to benchmark board work?

Discussion reflected on the importance of boards working for creativity and working collaboratively with other boards as well as boards reviewing their board membership to consider how “inclusion” to assure views from members who could represent the complexity of cultures in our community membership, and for example, do “homeless” individual have a voice?

Leadership from effective boards important toward enhancing services to children and families the social service sector. Dr. Green expressed an interest in continuing association with Boards Together.

5th Annual Board Voice Conference and AGM - Vancouver, BC

Please visit boardvoice.ca for more information

Board Voice Members of Greater Victoria

BC Families in Transition

Big Brothers & Big Sisters

Bridges for Women
Society

Community Living
Victoria

Community Options for
Children

Community Social
Planning Council

Esquimalt Neighborhood
House Society

Foster Parents Support
Services Society

Greater Victoria Citizens'
Counselling Centre

The Cridge Centre for the
Family

Victoria Cool Aid Society

Victoria Single Parent
Resource Centre

October 10, 2013 Boards Together Meeting

June Preston, Victoria Lead for Board Voice and a Board Member, BC Families in Transition opened with thanks to members of the First Nations Community for meeting on their traditional territory. The meeting began with dinner hosted by staff and Board Members of **James Bay New Horizons**. Many thanks to them for organizing the space and arranging for the delicious food. Attendance included 20 representatives from 11 social service agencies. Please note that the 5th Annual Board Voice BC Conference and AGM is on November 22-23, 2013 at the Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel. Please see boardvoice.ca for more information.

Announcing New Website Under Construction:

boardstogether.ca

Community Boards in Action Update

This pilot project will be led by Boards Together and will run in collaboration with Volunteer Victoria. The project recognizes that including young people under the age of 35 (young community leaders) allows for greater interagency collaboration and improved governance for social service agencies in the greater Victoria area.

Through a series of workshops, events and an online platform of resources, Boards Together Victoria will provide an opportunity for 10 Victoria-based social service agencies to achieve the following:

- Promote strategic succession planning for non-profit Boards through educational workshops on youth engagement.
- Increase board governance age diversity by matching them with motivated young leaders.

This Winter, Boards Together is offering free workshops for Board of Directors on youth engagement for Boards. In the Spring, Boards Together will host an event where emerging leaders will have the opportunity to meet non-profit Board of Directors. This facilitated networking mixer will be an opportunity for Board Development Committees to do outreach with young people already interested in pursuing leadership opportunities in the community.

We look forward to both providing workshops to Board Directors on the value of including emerging leaders on Board of Directors and matching ambitious young people with vibrant non-profits. If you have any further questions, please contact Board Together Project Coordinator, Linley Faulkner at linley@boardstogether.ca or 250-893-5747.

Secretariat Updates

Doug Hayman discussed the Board Voice initiative promoting a Social Policy Framework for B.C. Documents were distributed (attached) explaining the initiative. Doug related that Board Voice board members had briefed MCFD Minister Stephanie Cadieux about the framework idea earlier in the day. Doug noted that boards around the province are being asked to endorse the idea of a Social Policy Framework for B.C. and let Board Voice know this as they are keeping a list of endorsers. Please discuss this idea with your board and let Doug know if they want to endorse. Doug can be reached at dhayman@boardvoice.ca.

Doug also discussed the upcoming Board Voice conference coming November 22/23. Politicians from the three elected parties will be speaking, including Hon. Stephanie Cadieux, Michelle Mungall, NDP MSD critic and Andrew Weaver of the Green Party. Hildy Gottlieb of Creating the Future will be the major workshop provider this year. Check out Hildy's website at: <http://www.creatingthefuture.org/About/AboutUs.htm>. Also speaking at the conference will be Faye Wightman, CEO of the Vancouver Foundation, Steve MacDonald, Deputy Minister of Human Services from Alberta and our own, Linley Faulkner. Doug thinks that this will be the best conference ever, so make sure that you send someone from your board!

**Victoria Boards Together working in
affiliation and with the support of**

