

Board Voice Members and Community Leads Committee Report to 2016 Annual General Meeting

At the Board meeting following the 2015 AGM, the decision was made to combine the Membership Committee and the Community Leads (previously Regional Leads) Committees. The new committee, made up of the previous members of each committee and new volunteers, immediately created Terms of Reference and a Work Plan.

Committee membership: Judy Pollard (Co-Chair), Lynn Malinsky (Co-Chair), Rick Marshall, Terry Moist, Bill McMichael, Holly Kavanaugh

During the past year the committee has:

- Held six teleconference meetings
- Established Committee membership
- Reviewed recruitment materials for new Board Voice members
- Prepared a brief on why Members are not renewing membership
- Prepared a follow up letter to 2015 members who did not renew
- Sent out a letter to encourage renewal - “We Miss You” strategy
- Reviewed membership fees
- Developed a “Friends of Board Voice” recruitment drive (now 7 Friends)
- Updated the list of Community Leads
- Recruited new Community Leads
- Facilitated a conference call with all Community Leads (those who are Board members as well as the new recruits)
- Developed a process for orientation of new Board Voice Members, Friends and Community Leads

There are significant challenges for the work of the committee in the coming year.

Increasing membership in Board Voice: The issue of maintaining current Board Voice Members and recruiting new ones requires ongoing work by the committee and the Board.

Supporting the work of Community Leads throughout the province: The committee has had some success in recruiting new Community Leads in areas of the province that were not previously represented. It is hoped that the full group of Community Leads will coalesce and become a supporting network for Community Leads as the Social Policy Framework Initiative moves forward. In order to do the work of Community Leads further role clarification and support is required. Also resource materials need to be developed for Community Leads to use as a guide in their community/regional work.