



Board Voice Strategic Plan – 2021-22

Our purposes:

To champion the health and well-being of the people of B.C. through:

- a) Advocating with respect to issues that are of concern to communities and the not-for-profit community services sector;
- b) Promoting the value of collaborative, high quality not-for-profit community-based social services;
- c) Promoting public participation through engaging not-for-profit boards in projects and activities at the community, regional and provincial levels;
- d) Promoting volunteerism and good governance by providing training and resources to volunteer boards operating in the not-for-profit community services sector.

Goal: Advocacy

To champion members' priorities, of import to good governance and healthy communities, in the context of provincial, municipal and federal consultations, legislation and regulations.

Strategic Initiatives (Priorities):

Initiatives	Who	When
Through our presence on the BC Social Services Roundtable, to continue advocacy with respect to the sustainability and strength of non-profit community social benefit organizations as a gold standard for social care. This work includes an emphasis on wage equity, contracting issues, human resources, procurement methods and other barriers to maintaining a strong workforce and sustainable, well-functioning community social services sector.	Jody and Terry Anne	Ongoing
Maintain a watching brief for emerging legislation, regulations and consultations in which advocacy and/or participation of the sector is important. Liaise with members, partners and officials as relevant and necessary, and seek to participate at relevant tables of influence, online consultations, open letters, etc.	Advocacy committee, senior staff, and board of directors as appropriate	Ongoing
Seek and act on any opportunities to meet with decision-makers to educate, influence and support policies and processes that strengthen and sustain social care in BC and the community-based non-profit sector in its delivery of that care	Jody and board of directors	Ongoing. Roundtable work this fiscal year includes participation on a procurement and contracting working group; human resources; and a sector compensation plan. We will continue to organize virtual dialogues with BC advocates including Jennifer Charlesworth,

		Isobel Mackenzie, and Jay Chalke, as well as relevant MLAs/MPs
Take all opportunities to connect with other BC non-profits providing social services in order to identify and pursue our shared concerns around how best to strengthen social care in BC and the functioning of the sector as critical providers of that care, and to build the membership of Board Voice for greater influence and increased strategic capability	Jody and board of directors; membership committee	Ongoing. Our provincial project “Building Better Boards” is a key opportunity for doing more of this work, as is the 2022 conference and our weekly/monthly communiques out to members

Goal: Ongoing Advocacy for a Social Policy Framework for BC

To support the member organizations throughout BC as they seek to use the results of the There is a Better Way project and other Board Voice efforts since then aimed at building collaboration and connection among community-based non-profits providing social services; enhancing the well-being of our communities through better social care; and supporting boards and communities to develop approaches in their regions.

Strategic Initiatives (Priorities):

Initiatives	Who	When
Seek all opportunities to work toward and continue to highlight the need for an overarching social-care plan for BC that is strategic, sustainable, community- and outcomes-based, and non-partisan.	Jody and Board of Directors	Ongoing. The Social Services Roundtable is an excellent avenue for this work. We will also be raising this at the Funders and Umbrella

		Organization Roundtable with Parliamentary Secretary Niki Sharma (July 7)
Maintain strong messaging about a plan for social care in social media posts, letters to influencers and policy makers, presentations, submissions, opinion pieces, conversations, etc	Jody and Board of Directors	Ongoing.
Continue the work of identifying, highlighting and sharing examples of collaboration and new ways of doing things in our sector that demonstrate the development of new strategies for collaboration across issues and agencies at the community and regional levels.	Jody in conjunction with member organizations	
Identify opportunities to present, support, engage in conversations in communities and with allies on the importance of social policy	Jody and Board of Directors	Ongoing

Goal: Member Development and Knowledge Sharing		
To lead activities, and establish communication approaches, to foster capacity development, information dissemination, and networking amongst Board Voice member boards and their respective individual members.		
Strategic Initiatives (Priorities):		
Initiatives	Who	When
<p>Host an annual conference designed for members to inform on areas of emergent priority for the community social-benefit sector; workshops on governance and other key topics; and to provide opportunities for networking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite government officials, influencers and partners, ensuring opportunities for sharing/engaging with attendees • Promote the conference to members directly, and at meetings of other provincial organizations such as the Federation of Community Social Service Organizations, The CEO Network, First Call etc. (seek to promote in their respective communication vehicles) 	<p>Conf Committee & senior staff</p> <p>Conf Committee, board and senior staff</p> <p>Conf Committee, board and senior staff</p>	<p>Planning for May 27-28, 2022 at Kwantlen</p>

Continue weekly e-blasts to members on issues facing the sector and engagement for advocacy purposes	Jody	Ongoing
Seek opportunities to bring together community-based non-profits in regional workshops and virtual dialogues aimed at building board capacity and functioning of the organization around issues such as recruitment and retention, board responsibilities, and local social needs.	Jody and Leslie	Building Better Boards project; virtual dialogue sessions with advocates and key decision-makers
<p>Seek opportunities to sit at relevant working tables, advisory bodies and on committees that keep Board Voice informed and participating in all the issues of social care and non-profit issues in BC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Services Sector Roundtable • Leading Indigenous Social Services Training Program, advisory committee (under BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres) • Low-Barrier Employment Provincial Network • Emerging efforts to bring together BC non-profits for unified voice (Third Voice, Third Sector, Vantage Point/Vancouver Foundation, etc) 	<p>Jody, Terry Anne</p> <p>Jody</p> <p>Jody</p> <p>Jody and other directors as needed.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Quarterly</p> <p>Periodically – useful for BV work on procurement and contracting</p> <p>These movements come and go and we reach out to engage but can't be active on every initiative. Vantage Point has pulled back in its efforts on this front and at the moment, earlier efforts appear to</p>

		have stalled out.
Monthly newsletters	Senior Staff	Ongoing
Maintain updated and useful posts and board governance resources on website	Senior Staff	Ongoing
Follow developments on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People and seek opportunities to further build on this work within the community-based non-profit sector and among these organizations' boards	Board, senior staff	Ongoing

Goal - Sustainability

To ensure attention to providing value added to members and to ensuring the financial and reputational sustainability of the organization

Strategic Initiatives (Priorities):

Initiatives	Who	When
Maintain adequate financial resources for existing initiatives and services by ensuring Board Voice delivers value to its members and constantly strives to recruit new members.	Board & senior staff, conference committee, membership committee	Ongoing
Invoicing and follow-up		March-September
Seek in-kind contributions from larger member agencies to assist in the achievement of Board Voice priorities.	BV board and senior staff	In 2021-22 we secured \$21,000 from The Cridge Centre for the Family to expand our advocacy into intimate partner violence and brain injury. Depending on

		funding availability, The Cridge Centre has signed a contract with Board Voice to continue this support in 2022-23 and 2023-24.
Seek ways to make additional revenue through annual conference by keeping expenses low and identifying sponsors or other revenue-generating activities.	Conference committee, senior staff	Ongoing in months leading into conference
Ensure compliance with federal and provincial legislation, regulations and reporting requirements	BV Board and senior staff	Annually as per fiscal and other required deadlines
Seek all opportunities to present or speak with non-members about the benefits of joining Board Voice	Jody and Board of Directors	Ongoing
Conduct Annual General Meeting, including election of Board Members	BV Board	AGM to be held Sept. 27, 2021
Hold annual Board Voice Board planning session, ideally in person	BV Board and Senior Staff	Usually in March. Dependent on sufficient funding, as it requires about \$9000
Try again for charitable status, which will allow Board Voice to apply for one-time foundation funds for efforts such as helping boards build capacity, supporting members to travel to the Lower Mainland for our conference, and furthering our goals around social policy planning through the ability to do occasional regional workshops.	Senior Staff	We will reapply when our purposes and bylaws have been revised and approved.
Ensure a diverse and skilled board through well-planned and strategic recruitment	Nominations Committee	Ongoing, but particularly in months leading into AGM