

# Meeting Record

## Senior's Needs Assessment Focus Group Meeting


Wednesday, February 29, 2012

6:30 p.m.

Facilitator and note taker:	Sue Lawther
Attendees:	Barb Instance, Kathy Macalister, Sue Lawther, Celia Brooks, Melissa Deller, Linda McKean, Mark Watson, Michelle Cary-Barnard
Regrets:	Barb Instance, Celia Brooks, Michelle Cary-Barnard
Guests:	none

Issue	Discussion	Action:
Opening Remarks	Sue welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.	
Review of Last Meeting's Action Steps	Review Action Steps from last meeting: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Draft Whistler Senior's Voice project intro letter/provide feedback</li> <li>2. Contact stakeholders as noted above</li> <li>3. Bring further discussion topics for Town Hall Meeting to next meeting</li> </ol>	Sue/All All All
SNAP update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Surgery date scheduled for March 23<sup>rd</sup> ... 1<sup>st</sup> week will be off work; second week will be working from home; 3<sup>rd</sup> week will be back at work</li> <li>✓ Vicky Crompton approached Melissa with regards to writing a monthly (?) article for The Question on seniors' issues in the community. She feels there is a need for such a communication and she has a good relationship with The Question who she feels would be interested in this initiative. She used to write for the Museum paper, and misses the community involvement now that SNAP is no longer being printed. She would volunteer her time, and be guided by topics discussed with Melissa each month. Sounds like a win-win for us and we will hear back from her once she has spoken to The Question.</li> <li>✓ Kurt Mueller contacted Melissa with regards to hiking for seniors in Whistler. He is chairing a group to revitalize the hiking trails in the area, and wants to make the trails accessible to all. He will keep in touch with Melissa to see if there are any mutual areas of interest for seniors.</li> <li>✓ One of the pharmacists at Rexall, Jennifer, contacted Melissa with regards to doing a presentation at a Seniors' Drop In Session. Melissa will work with her to come once she starts up the drop in sessions after her surgery.</li> <li>✓ The walking group will start up again in June.</li> <li>✓ Drop in sessions will start in late Spring / early summer with venue yet to be confirmed</li> </ul>	
Whistler Seniors' Voice Meeting Prep	Volunteers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refreshments: MAC to supply goodies; WCSS to supply tea and coffee</li> <li>• Photographer : Jan Mitchell</li> <li>• Recorder : Barb? Kathy?</li> </ul>	Sue to purchase goodies and bring to discussion meeting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration : Judy and Kathy</li> <li>• Set up / clean up : Mark/Phil</li> </ul> <p>Outreach and PR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radio / news spots : Linda</li> <li>• Newspaper Community Listings : Sue</li> <li>• Flyers : All (Sue to draft)</li> <li>• Websites : MAC, WCSS, RMOW</li> <li>• Flow Mail : MAC, WCSS</li> <li>• Press Release : Sue / Lorna</li> </ul> <p>Review expressions of interest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone to contact their contacts again with the confirmed date and time of the informal discussion</li> <li>• Send e-mail addresses of contacts to Sue</li> <li>• Send out formal invitation to all those who expressed interest</li> </ul> <p>Review Questions for discussion:</p> <p>There was general discussion regarding what information we would like to glean from this gathering, and what our definition of a successful meeting would be. Highlights of the discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Do we “build it and they will come” or do we “program to the stated need”?</li> <li>➤ Must address the "What's In It For Me" issue</li> <li>➤ Need to romance the participants</li> <li>➤ A successful meeting result would be the opening of a dialogue within the senior community between various groups who may share similar concerns and see value in working together to enable everyone to stay in the community as they age. The emergence of an affiliate uber organization representing a greater percentage of seniors in the community would be a very successful meeting result.</li> <li>➤ Questions to be used as a guide to exploring this strong common voice concept could be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How do we speak with a common voice?</li> <li>○ Do you see a benefit to a strong voice for seniors in the community?</li> <li>○ How do you see your group engaging?</li> <li>○ What does an 'uber seniors' organization' look like?</li> <li>○ How do we help seniors in Whistler to take an active role bringing needed services and activities to the community?</li> <li>○ A "Seniors Voice" organization could simply be a representative group of older people with an active interest in the issues relating to seniors and a commitment to ensuring that seniors have a strong voice in the community.</li> <li>○ How do we develop and sustain channels for liaison and dialogue with individual and organizational senior members about seniors' issues in Whistler?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Because we don't want to frighten people away on first meeting, it was felt that time would only permit 4 topics of discussion ... 15 minutes each ... and the 4 highlighted topics would likely yield the best discussion.</p> <p>Draft Agenda:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Opening Remarks (20 min) : Lorna and Sue</li> <li>2. Break out groups to discuss topics (60 min)</li> </ol>	<p>Linda to contact radio and news outlets  All to post flyers  Sue to design flyer and press release</p> <p>Stakeholder contact – All  Sue</p>
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Community Enrichment Grant Application Update	The Community Enrichment Grant was submitted on time and we now await word from the RMOW. Next step will be a presentation to Council.	
Seniors' Centre Update	<p>We now have 3 potential seniors' activity centre locations under consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Spruce Grove (an RMOW site)</li> <li>b. Millennium Place (an Arts Council site)</li> <li>c. Whistler Blackcomb Foundation Social Services Centre (a WCSS site)</li> </ol> <p>General discussion took place on the merits of each location, and it was generally agreed that the WBFSSC location and a partnership with WCSS would likely be the best partnership for seniors in the long run and provide the best integration into the community.</p>	
Action Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Touch base with each stakeholder contact to verbally confirm date and time of informal discussion meeting</li> <li>2. Obtain e-mail address for each stakeholder</li> <li>3. Offer transportation</li> <li>4. Outreach and PR as noted above</li> <li>5. Keep reviewing seniors' centre opportunities</li> <li>6. Advise team of Community Enrichment Grant presentation date</li> <li>7. Issue Press Release</li> <li>8. Design flyer and distribute for posting</li> </ol>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p> <p>All</p> <p>All</p> <p>Sue/Melissa</p> <p>Sue</p> <p>Sue/Lorna</p> <p>Sue</p>
Set Next Meeting Date	The next meeting date was set for <b>Wednesday, April 04, 2012</b> in the Small Community Room at the Whistler Medical Clinic at 6:30 p.m.	Kim to make booking.
		
1.	Nurse Practitioners in Whistler – a new model for gerontology?	
2.	How do Seniors age in place in a virtual community?	
3.	Is there a role for the group as a catalyst for support groups?	
4.	Library partnership potential?	
5.	Squamish Seniors Centre website model <a href="http://squamishseniorscentre.com/">http://squamishseniorscentre.com/</a>	
6.	Vehicle sharing of Adaptive Sports van	
7.	Access Whistler Guide for Seniors production timing and funding for future publications	
8.		

**Next Meeting Takes Place....**

<b>Date</b> 04 April 2012	<b>Start</b> 6:30 p.m.	<b>End</b> 8:00 p.m.	<b>Location</b> Small community room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor, Whistler Medical Clinic
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