



# MAC Annual General Meeting

Our Lady of the Mountains Roman Catholic Church Hall  
Whistler, British Columbia  
April 7, 2014

## 1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Bruce Hawkshaw called the 19th Annual General Meeting of the Mature Action Committee of Whistler to order at 6:30 PM. Vice-Pres. Hawkshaw as the facilitator of the AGM, welcomed members to the meeting and introduced the Executive Members at the table: Stacey Murl (Membership & Nominating Chair), Rosemary Cook (Treasurer) and Sue Lawther (President).

## 2.0 APOLOGIES

None

## 3.0 VALIDATION AND QUORUM

Vice-Pres. Hawkshaw confirmed notice of the meeting was posted in local newspapers and the notice and agenda were circulated to MAC members and placed on the MAC website in compliance with requirements.

Membership Chair confirmed attendance was 12 members over the required quorum of 20% and the meeting lawfully opened.

## 4.0 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – April 8, 2013

It was moved by M. Pallot, Seconded by G. Leidal that the Minutes be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

## 5.0 REPORTS

### 5.1 President's Report (S. Lawther)

Our path remains much the same, as we progress towards our long term goal – that is making Whistler a place where seniors can 'age comfortably in-place' - and our focus includes both the creation of more affordable housing for seniors, and meeting the health and social needs of seniors in our community

- Our **SENIOR'S NEEDS ASSESSMENT GROUP** remains active, and they ARE finding ways to ensure active ageing here in Whistler ... here is a look at the status of their goals for 2013 as outlined at last year's AGM ...

2012 Goal	Status
1. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reprint of Access Guide for Seniors	☑Completed
2. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Seniors' Lifestyle Expo and Flu Clinic	☑Completed
3. Advocate for senior's housing opportunities for Whistler seniors	☑Ongoing: WHA, RMOW, private developers
4. Implementation of our New Horizon's for Seniors grant (\$16,000) to outfit a seniors meeting place at the Whistler Blackcomb Foundation Social Services Centre in partnership with Whistler Community Services Society and to startup intergenerational programming between seniors and youth	☑Completed
5. Rebranding	☑Completed
6. Re-instatement of seniors column in The Question	☑Completed
7. Redesign of MAC website	☑Completed

- The following projects are underway for 2014:
  - ☐ Cultivate a more inclusive senior image. MAC is not just housing.
  - ☐ Advocate for a senior's advisory committee at Municipal level or a Municipal representative at MAC Board level
  - ☐ Work with RMOW to strengthen ties between MAC and RMOW (bring awareness of what MAC is doing and Melissa is achieving)
  - ☐ Continue to work with Squamish and Pemberton Seniors on Transportation Initiative
  - ☐ Develop a stronger volunteer program (e.g. Seniors Supporting Seniors)
  - ☐ Expand our relationship with VCH and our own local doctors and health care providers
  - ☐ Liaise with the local medical/health care community
  - ☐ Identify community issues and work to include seniors in solutions
  - ☐ Promote advanced care planning – this year's insert in Savvy Whistler
  - ☐ Continue fundraising \$\$'s to support seniors advocacy and programming
  - ☐ Support the seniors' centre and work with SNAP to develop programming
  - ☐ Work with Better at Home to ensure maximum benefit to the community
  - Jane Ballance, Better at Home Coordinator, gave a short presentation about the Better@Home program and the next steps for Whistler. This is a BC Provincial Government funded program that relies on volunteers to provide support services for local seniors. Jane is currently recruiting Whistler volunteers for simple home repairs, light housekeeping/grocery shopping, snow shoveling and transportation (through WCSS Helping Hands). Jane answered questions from the floor and provided her contact details for further follow-up:
    - Box 949-38144 2nd Avenue,
    - Squamish BC V8B 0A7
    - T: 604-892-5796
    - 1-877-892-2022
    - F: 604-892-2267
    - E: [jane.ballance@sscs.ca](mailto:jane.ballance@sscs.ca)

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Town Hall Meeting was held on January 13, 2014. The meeting was an opportunity to sit down with invited representatives from various community groups and members at large from the seniors' community. We asked them to tell us:
  - 1) What does 'ageing in place' mean to you or someone you know in terms of your current or future needs?
  - 2) What issues are currently a problem or obstacle to those needs? In other words, what prevents you from considering staying in Whistler for the long term?
  - 3) How do you see these issues or obstacles being resolved?
  - 4) What role do you see MAC and/or WCSS taking in assisting with these solutions?
  - 5) How do we engage more of Whistler's 50+ demographic?

- The attendees provided amazing feedback and lively discussion as summarized in the following table:

Question	Feedback Summary
What does 'ageing in place' mean to you or someone you know in terms of your current or future needs?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transportation</li> <li>2. Home Support</li> <li>3. Medical Care specific to demographic</li> </ol>
What issues are currently a problem or obstacle to those needs? In other words, what prevents you from considering staying in Whistler for the long term?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transportation</li> <li>2. Services</li> <li>3. Housing (assisted living, full care facility)</li> </ol>
How do you see these issues or obstacles being resolved?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Transportation               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Taxi Saver, Handi Dart, smaller buses</li> <li>b. Specialists come to Whistler</li> <li>c. Transport to specialists in Lower Mainland</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Services               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Accommodate different income levels</li> <li>b. Raising money for MAC to develop services</li> <li>c. Need numbers – collect hard data to use in advocacy and lobbying efforts</li> <li>d. Alliances – Develop them more strategically taking services that are already existing and building upon those – Use the community's assets</li> <li>e. Food services (meals on wheels equivalent)</li> <li>f. RMOW – Having an advocate for "people that are aging"</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Housing (assisted living, full care facility)               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. RMOW – Having an advocate for "people that are aging"</li> <li>b. research on housing, gathering information and data</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Other               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Patience – Dealing with a social headset that "we aren't seniors" – We are the foundation to create an infrastructure for seniors 10 years from now</li> <li>b. More regular meetings – to develop a stronger sense of community</li> <li>c. Advertisements – For volunteers in help wanted format</li> <li>d. Council members becoming MAC members</li> <li>e. Council getting on board with MAC and WCSS</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

<p>What role do you see MAC and/or WCSS taking in assisting with these solutions?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MAC card availability at Nesters to encourage donations</li> <li>2. Social aspect – Removing isolation &amp; creating community</li> <li>3. Advocating to the RMOW to keep the momentum going</li> <li>4. Encouraging voter turnout at elections – i.e., rides to the polls</li> <li>5. The organization of political meeting with the candidates and council members</li> <li>6. The creation of a voice on council and/or Seniors Advisory Board</li> <li>7. Celebration of Seniors Day – Plan events – seniors’ games, July 1st parade, a flag?</li> <li>8. Sponsorship – For local charities in order to be seen as a group raising money for other causes</li> <li>9. Sports Events – Bike race, swim, ski day – Develop a meeting place for seniors on the mountains</li> <li>10. Guest Speakers</li> <li>11. Focus group expansion – Establish goals and expand jobs</li> <li>12. MAC looking into homecare possibilities – Research</li> <li>13. Surveys</li> <li>14. Statistics from MAC – Both long and short term</li> </ol>
<p>How do we engage more of Whistler’s 50+ demographic?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Word of mouth with friends and family members</li> <li>2. Surveys</li> <li>3. Culture – Picnics, BBQ’S, game nights, arts</li> <li>4. Initiative to work towards housing – i.e. Look into the use of local B&amp;B’s for seniors housing</li> <li>5. Be able to give memberships as gifts</li> <li>6. WCSS accessibility – too far out of town</li> <li>7. Earlier start times for Town Hall meetings</li> <li>8. Networking with high school students to create advertisements such as YouTube videos</li> </ol>

**Next Steps:**

1. Prioritize suggested solutions
2. Identify agency ownership (MAC / WCSS)
3. Meet with respective Boards to determine action plan going forward

✓ Sea to Sky Transportation Initiative: MAC committee representatives Phil Mitchell and Sue Lawther, along with SNAP Melissa Deller, have been active stakeholders in the ad hoc committee of Sea to Sky Corridor participants under the leadership of Vancouver Coastal Health’s Community Development Director, Karen Clarke. Transportation is a corridor-wide barrier to ageing which is difficult to resolve within each community independently. This group feels that solutions will be economic if applied to the corridor as a whole and have come together to share expertise and design solutions. A brochure has been produced summarizing the current transportation opportunities in each participating community. This brochure will be distributed throughout the medical community, support community, and participating agencies as well as First Nations communities. Sadly, Karen Clarke’s position has been eliminated in the latest round of VCH’s budget cuts, but Sea to Sky Community Services has kindly taken the committee under its wing and will be driving the next steps agreed upon. The first step will be to replicate Whistler Community Service Society’s Volunteer Driver Program in Pemberton and Squamish. The Committee will continue to meet as needed to review the initiative progress and to design further solutions as needed.

- o President Lawther asked MAC members to recognize the hard work of the Focus Group members Kathy Macalister, Linda McKean, Freda Cook, Phil Mitchell, Jan Mitchell, Deborah Eaton-Kent, Judy Gaudin-Riese, Michelle Cary-Bernard, Celia Brooks, and Linda Jenkinson.

It was moved by B. Calladine and Seconded by B. Mathews to accept the President's Report as given. Motion carried.

For full report, please refer to website.

## 5.2 Treasurer's Report (Rosemary Cook)

Treasurer Cook provided a review of the revenue and expenses for 2013:

MATURE ACTIVE COMMUNITY WHISTLER, BC Fund Statement For the period February 1 – January 31	Year end 2013	2014
Bank balance Feb 1	\$2,897	\$3,365
Cash operations during year		
<u>Receipts:</u>		
Membership dues-current year	1983	3660.75
Donations		1000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1983	4661
<u>Expenditures:</u>		
AGM	562	273.85
Society Act registration fee	25	25
MAC website, development & maint.	292	0
Senior's Town Hall	80	427.73
Board Sundries	45	0
Postage/box rental	157	157.5
Access/Savvy guide costs (printing/advertising)	335	2129.11
Bank charges	18	149.76
Vision strategy		168
PR/Misc		230.41
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1514	3561
Net receipts (Expenditures)	468	1099
Bank balance	\$3,365	\$4,465

It was moved by K. Macalister, seconded by L. Lawther, that the Financial Report be approved as circulated and presented. Motion carried.

### **5.3 Nominating Committee Report (Stacey Murl)**

Director Murl reported a good response for nominations in response to the invitation circulated to all members. Nominations for a three year term are as follows:

Page | 6

- ✓ Joan Pitman
- ✓ Mike Winter
- ✓ Linda Winter

Returning Board Members are as follows:

- a) Two Year Term: Stacey Murl, Rosemary Cook
- b) One Year Term: Garry Watson, Bob Calladine, Gord Leidal, Sue Lawther

It was moved by G. Watson and Seconded by D. Armour that the nominations be approved. Motion carried.

The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will be appointed at the next Board meeting. Thanks again to our retiring Board of Directors Freda Cook, Bruce Hawkshaw and Bobbi Sandkuhl for their dedication and support over the past year.

### **5.4 Membership Committee Report (Stacey Murl)**

It was reported that we currently have 201 paid up members and still increasing. Number of paid members in April 2013 was 99.

It was moved by I. Grunwell and Seconded by L. Lawther to accept the Membership Committee Report as given. Motion carried.

### **5.5 Housing Committee Report (Gord Leidal)**

Three locations are presently provided for seniors housing:

- (1) Cheakamus Crossing located at the South end of Whistler across Hwy 99 from Function Junction;
- (2) Rainbow Lands located immediately North of Alpine Meadows; and
- (3) Holborn Property located on Northlands Boulevard across Lorimer Road from Village North.

- 1) Cheakamus Crossing
  - a. 24 units (6 at The Rise and 18 at The Falls)
- 2) Rainbow
  - a. Rainbow - Lot 9 above the Rainbow Commercial Strata Lots with 48 units, mostly rental, some of which will be available to seniors
  - b. Lots 10, owned by RMOW, will be developed for seniors' housing once there is sufficient demonstrated demand and commitment for a maximum of 20 units
  - c. Lot 11, "SOLANA" to start construction on 20 single level units in June 2014.
- 3) Holborn – is a very low priority at this time, no interest for seniors housing from the owners.

- All units are presently designated and/or owned and occupied by Whistler resident MAC seniors. All seniors housing for re-sale is offered to MAC members and adaptive needs persons first and finally to the general WHA wait list. The Rise #45 will soon be offered for resale.
- Seniors Housing Needs Assessment Survey - February 2014
  - distributed to the full MAC membership 200+ and to the WHA purchase wait list (age 50 +)
  - it addressed both short term and long term housing needs
  - indicates senior housing demand increased over the past few years, with a relatively strong preference for the Rainbow location , and an increasing demand for rentals
  - the current and increasing demand may now be strong enough to justify exploring again a seniors housing project for Lot 10 at Rainbow
- Gord thanked Garry Watson for his continued assistance with the Seniors Housing Committee.

It was moved by B. Calladine and Seconded by M. Blacksland to accept the Housing Committee Report as given. Motion carried.

For full report, please see website.

## **5.6 Senior Needs Action Planner Report (Sue Lawther for Melissa Deller)**

Melissa Deller is currently on her homeward bound flight after a well-earned vacation. She prepared a great PowerPoint presentation for her report to MAC which will be on our website along with our minutes. Sue provided a quick overview of the presentation as follows:

- Melissa's job description reads as follows:
  - Support and enhance the quality of Whistler senior residents
  - Improve community linkages within health and social services
  - Develop and deliver opportunities for social interaction
  - Foster partnerships with other community and health resources
  - Act as an advocate and visionary information provider while lobbying for seniors needsWhich translates into actions such as:
  - Meeting older adults 1:1 to provide a confidential listening ear with anyone experiencing challenges with aging or in need of resources.
  - Referring individuals to services that they might not be aware of both in Whistler and outside of our community.
  - Call doctors' offices to set up medical appointments.
  - Support older adults to find transportation to medical appointments
  - Provide some basic financial literacy, when are you able to access your CPP and how will that affect you, then direct you to the professionals
  - Support older adults who are looking for housing
  - Support older adults who would like to move into an retirement or assisted living facility
  - Create & Plan programs and special eventsWhich in turn looked like this in numbers:  
Over 12 months (April 2013-March 2014)
  - 1:1 meetings with seniors= **154**
  - Walking & Snow shoe participants= **488**

- Drop In "The Club" participants= **223**
- Senior Expo & Flu Clinic participants= **100**
- What's To Come:
  - Thursday's Drop In time has changed it will be from 2pm-4pm
  - Stay tuned for more guest speakers on Thursdays
  - Monthly DIY Craft Projects at the Re-Build It
  - Monthly movies @ the Drop In Space
  - Bi-monthly Silver Lining column
  - Walking group every Wednesday
- And last but not least, Melissa sent her thanks in her own special words ...

*Thank you*

*I'm blessed to have a job that I truly love. For each and every person in this room has supported me as the SNAP coordinator and I'm truly grateful to collaborate with MAC and each individual that is here.*

Garry Watson stood to thank Melisa for all the amazing work she does with Whistler's seniors.

It was moved by I. Grunwell and Seconded by M. B. Instance to accept the SNAP Report as given. Motion carried.

## **6.0 GENERAL DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS**

None

## **7.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Pres. Hawkshaw thanked the assembly for attending the meeting, acknowledged the retiring Directors for their contributions over the past years and welcomed the new Directors. The 19th meeting of the Mature Action Committee of Whistler was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

It was moved by B. Mathews and Seconded by L. Lawther that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION BY CANADIAN AUTHOR, LYND SAY GREEN

"A PERFECT HOME FOR A LONG LIFE"