



CASTLEGAR CRN NEWSLETTER

A Community Information Source

December 2004

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Castlegar CRN Meetings are held monthly from September to November and January to June annually. Membership is open to any person, community or professional group, or government agency that currently respond to, or are affected by, abuse, neglect, and self-neglect of vulnerable adults.

Community CRN Team Members: Castlegar Community Services, Kootenay Savings Credit Union, Castlevue Care Center, Interior Health, Hawk Employment, Smum lem Society, Hospice, Victim's Assistance, RCMP, Brain Injury Association, United Way, Salvation Army, Blueberry Creek Community School, Ministry of Children & Family Development, Mental Health Clubhouse, and Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

For More Information on how you can become involved in the Castlegar Community Response Network, please call Eileen MacLeod at 365-2104.

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!!



SNAPSHOT OF NEW ACTIVITIES ...

◆ SEPTEMBER 2004

- ⇒ Co-Hosted Castlegar Health & Wellness Event at the United Way Kick-Off Celebrations.
- ⇒ Facilitated a Community Protocol Workshop for responding to abuse, neglect, and self-neglect of adults.
- ⇒ Developed foundation Document of Castlegar Community Protocols for Responding to Incidents of Vulnerable Adult Abuse, Neglect, and Self-neglect.

◆ OCTOBER 2004

- ⇒ Hosted a Breakfast Meeting to discuss Working Together to Prevent the Financial Abuse of Seniors.

◆ NOVEMBER 2004

- ⇒ Hosted an Open House to explore strategies for Working Collaboratively as a Team.



UPCOMING MEETING TO WATCH FOR ...

When: January 30, 2005 1:30 — 3:30 pm

Where: Castlegar Community Services



CASTLEGAR CRN COMMUNITY PROTOCOL STATES ...

The opportunity to talk to an adult about abuse, neglect, or self-neglect is extremely difficult and for that reason, we may only have one (1) opportunity to interact with an individual to support and assistance.

We assume that every adult is “capable” of making decisions surrounding the support and assistance they require, including the right to “live at risk” without any supports.

Talking to the adult in a “face to face” interview is preferable but any means by which the adult can communicate with you is acceptable and essential to getting the foundation of the situation and “real picture”.

A “face to face” or telephone interview will be conducted in an environment and manner that is:

- ◆ Open
- ◆ Respectful
- ◆ Friendly
- ◆ Inviting environment

We will provide available community options that will support and assist the adult whenever possible. Ask the adult “how would you like to be assisted” given the information you have. Reassure that information will be kept confidential.

If impossible (ie: due to lack of access, adult refusing or unable to communicate), we will then contact, if appropriate, the R.C.M.P., or Designated Agency on behalf of the adult.

THE FOUR COMMANDMENTS OF COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

(From the book, The Burrefly Factor by Trish Gauntlett (Regional Mentor)

1. Community people have the capacity to identify key community issues.
2. Community people have the capacity to find solutions.
3. Community people have the capacity to work on those solutions.
4. Community people have the capacity to create lasting, positive change.

People closest to the issue are the “experts.”



TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!