

# 2008 – 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

*Stopping Adult Abuse and Neglect...Together*



BC Association of  
Community Response  
Networks

*Stopping Adult Abuse and Neglect ...Together*

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See separate document

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS**  
**OF**  
**THE BC ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY RESPONSE NETWORKS**

The Board of Directors of the Association hereby gives notice that the Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at **10:30 a.m. on the day of Friday, June 26, 2009**, at 700 – 808 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC and via teleconference for the following purposes:

1. To receive the report of the Directors to the Members.
2. To receive and approve the financial statements of the Association for the period ended March 31, 2009.
3. To appoint an Auditor for the Association for the ensuing year.
4. To elect Directors of the Association to hold office until the next annual general meeting following the conclusion of their term of office
5. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

DATED the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2009.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Leanne Lange  
Secretary

# BC Association of Community Response Networks

## Annual General Meeting Agenda

**DATE:** Friday, June 26, 2009  
**TIME:** 10:30 to 12:00 noon  
**PLACE:** By Teleconference or in person (please RSVP)  
700-808 West Hastings Street  
Vancouver, BC

**10:30**

### **Welcome**

- Introduction of current Board Members
- Roll call of voting members and other participants

**Report of the Board to the Members – Debb Enyinnah**

**Report of the Executive Director – Alison Leaney**

**Financial Report – Jim Poole**

- Audited Financial Statements for 2008/2009
- Appointment of the Auditor

**Report of the Nominating Committee – - Debb Enyinnah**

- Election of Directors

**World Elder Abuse Awareness Day**

- Reports on Activities – Globally, Nationally, Locally

**Other**

**12:00**

**Adjournment**



**BC Association of Community Response Networks  
Meeting Minutes  
Annual General Meeting  
June 26, 2008**

**Voting Members Present in Person or By Teleconference**

Chris Dunlop – Quesnel	Mary Gradnitzer – Quesnel
Jennifer Neubeck – Revelstoke	Georgia Ross – Kamloops
Brenda Prevost – Kamloops	Christina Ragneborg – Abbotsford
John Oostenbrink - Abbotsford	Randy Goosen – Abbotsford
Rosalie Goldstein – Victoria	Sandra Jean Jackson – Castlegar
Kathy Millar – Vernon	Dolly Cartwright – North Shore
Mary-Lou McCausland – Surrey	Gladys Schmidt – Summerland
Maryanne Decolle – Summerland	Dayle Drury – Vernon
Elsie Gerdes – Vernon/Armstrong	Amanda Brown – VCH
Debb Enyinnah – Penticton	Jim Poole – Delta
Leanne Lange – FHA	Linda Derkach

**Regrets**

Sue Thomson – White Rock	Alana Abramson – North Shore
Stan Rule – Kelowna	Marlene Swift – Prince Rupert

**Other Participants in Person or by Teleconference**

Marlene Allan – Summerland	Marge Donevan – Penticton
Anne Reimer – Penticton	Pat Petrala – White Rock
Jane Osborne – North Shore	Sylvie Lear – Chilliwack
Susan Barr – Comox Valley	Ray Koehler – Castlegar
Elaine Smith – Kaslo	Elaine Gallacher - Vernon
Heather Von Ilberg – Nelson (Mentor)	
Heather Archer – Kamloops (Mentor)	
Georgina Martin – Prince George (Mentor)	
Yvonne Kennedy – Penticton (Mentor)	
Dianne de Champlain – Victoria	
Kathy Doerksen – Abbotsford (Mentor)	
Alison Leaney – Executive Director	

**Recorder:** Leanne Lange

**Co Chairs:** Debb Enyinnah & Amanda Brown

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

Alison Leaney took roll call for all participants separating voting from non-voting participants. Some were present by teleconference and some were present in person.

### Quorum

Alison Leaney confirmed that a quorum was obtained for today's meeting

## 2. Approval of the Minutes of the Last AGM – June 26, 2007

### Motion #1

Elsie Gerdes moved to accept the previous AGM Minutes, which are dated June 26, 2007. Carried unanimously.

## 3. Report from the Co-Chairs from the Board to the Members – Debb Enyinnah & Amanda Brown – presented by Debb Enyinnah

- Another exciting year
- It has been interesting sharing the chairing duties
- The highlights included regional CRN gatherings held in 5 areas and the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and the Second Annual Province-wide Online Auction - Elaine and her team at Etc. Consulting have done a fabulous job. The Auction closes on June 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm
- Our Executive Director, Alison, was awarded the Abuse Awareness Action Award in November 2007
- Alison also presented at three World Elder Abuse Awareness Day events earlier this month in Ottawa
- Alison continues to promote Community Response Networks provincially, nationally, and internationally.
- Debb acknowledged the hard work of Alison, Marlyn, and the CRN Mentors Team
- There are lots of unrecognized hours and another thank-you to the contractors and everyone who has contributed

### Motion #2

Dolly Cartwright moved to accept the report from the Co-Chairs. Carried unanimously.

## 4. Summary of the Executive Director's Report – Alison

- The details are contained in the written report but here are some of the highlights for last year, April 2007 to March 31, 2008
- There are approximately 30 to 35 active CRNs in BC
- Sixty people are expected to attend the Fifth Anniversary World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Celebration this evening
- World Elder Abuse Awareness Day was recognized by twenty CRNs earlier this month

- Alison is amazed that new CRNs are developing in communities such as Comox, Campbell River, and Summerland (last year)
- Thank you to the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General who provided First Nations Mentoring Funds and the Gaming Policy Enforcement Branch for Direct Access Gaming funds
- BCACRN continue to build relationships with First Nations Communities
- Communities are still innovating with limited financial resources – innovations include: use of theatre, Gate Keepers, and Support the Supporters
- Alison made a presentation to the Senate Committee on Aging with Charmaine Spencer of the Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (CNPEA) and made recommendations which include the need to support network building at all levels – local, provincial, national
- Alison met with the National Seniors Council and made the same recommendation
- BCACRN was invited to attend the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Forum held in Vancouver in November and was one of three presenters from across Canada on coordinated community approaches
- BCACRN worked with Amanda Brown from Vancouver Coastal Health to develop a First Nations Re:act Tool which contains a CRN component
- The Board of Directors has taken time to think about the role of the organization with respect to the issue of systemic advocacy. The Board will consider draft materials in the fall to determine the direction the organization needs to take on this issue
- Alison is continuing to work on media relations
- Alison stepped down from the Board of the CNPEA in June 2007 after supervising a contract voluntarily between CNPEA and April Struthers, CRN Mentor, Witworks Ltd. The CNPEA hired April Struthers to create two documents – a beginning framework for a national strategy to address and prevent abuse of seniors in Canada and a document providing a national snapshot of promising approaches for addressing/preventing senior abuse in Canada.
- Alison acknowledged the hard work done by all CRN members, coordinators, most of whom are now all volunteering.
- Alison acknowledged the work of the Mentors Team and welcomed Georgina Martin from Prince George as the newest member of the Team
- Thanks to the Board of Directors, Marlyn (Admin Assistant), Dorothy (Financial Advisor), Janice (Bookkeeper), Rick (Printer), Norm (Auditor)
- BCACRN is looking at establishing a Legacy Giving Program
- BCACRN continues to be interested in pursuing the integral model of community building

### **Motion #3**

Pat Petrala moved to accept the Report of the Executive Director – Alison Leaney  
Passed unanimously.

## 5. Financial Report

### Report from the Auditor

- Jim Poole – Treasurer - stated that the Board of Directors does not have any concerns about the results of the Audit. Jim welcomed Norm from Morrow & Company to present the report from the Auditor
- Norm states the management letter which was issued did not identify any significant issues. The management letter was reviewed at the Board level
- Norm reviewed the Table of Contents of the Audited Statements for the year April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008
- Norm advised that over the years there have been changes in ways to prepare financial statements for non-profit organization (restricted funds vs. non-restricted funds)
- The Audit report was clean and was signed off on May 23, 2008
- Norm stated that it has been a good year and we should be proud of the work we do

### Motion #4

Pat Petrala moved to accept the financial statements as circulated. Elsie Gerdes seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously by all voting members in attendance.

### Appointment of Auditor for 2008-2009

#### Motion #5

Jim moved to retain Morrow & Company as the Auditor for the 2008/2009 fiscal year subject to receiving a fair and reasonable quote. Jennifer Neubeck seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

Jim thanked Norm, Alison, and Marlyn for their work in getting the financial information ready for the Audit.

## 6. Special Resolutions – Proposed Bylaw Changes

**Special Resolution #1-** Alison explained the history and purpose behind the proposal to change voting members from three year terms to one year terms

- Each CRN could name up to 3 voting members which would be named for one year at a time
- Each CRN must advise each year who their voting members are

### Motion #6

Dolly moved to put Special Resolution #1 on the floor. Amanda seconded this motion.



- Rosa asked: “What are the obligations of a voting member?”
- Alison clarified that voting members need to attend the AGM, other members meetings where votes are required by the Society Act and it is beneficial if they are involved in the local CRN because when they vote they are voting on behalf of the CRN
- Marge from Penticton felt it is an unfair expectation for voting members to move to a position on the Board of Directors
- Alison clarified that this is not an expectation but an opportunity if someone wants to take it and an attempt to keep the BCACRN government by a majority of Board members who come from CRNs.
- Kathy Doerksen & Heather Von Ilberg advised that this is the standard process – i.e. that voting members must renew their membership once per year and that memberships expire at the close of the AGM
- Mary-Lou McCausland expressed concern about losing members at the end of the AGM

The motion to adopt Special Resolution #1 was passed unanimously with Mary-Lou McCausland abstaining from the vote

**Special Resolution #2** - Alison explained the history and purpose behind the proposal to delete reference in the current bylaws that limits the number of consecutive terms a board member can serve to three two-year terms. BCACRN would like to be able to retain hardworking board members that want to continue and that are doing a good job. Alison commented that the Board still wants to be committed to adding new people and not becoming stagnant and that this could be done by policy.

### **Motion #7**

Christina Ragneborg moved to put Resolution #2 on the floor. John Oostenbrink seconded the motion.

- A lengthy discussion took place about the purpose of this resolution. Specifically, the current Treasurer, Jim Poole, will not be able to continue on the Board as Treasurer unless the Bylaw is amended to allow him to continue, resulting in there being no willing treasurer on the Board
- Some possible amendments were discussed.
- Alison asked people to vote on the original motion in order to get an answer about it should amendments need to be considered. The vote was taken and 6 people were opposed. The following people were not in favour of Bylaw Amendment #2: Pat Petrala, Mary-Lou McCausland, Mary Gradnitzer, Chris Dunlop, Brenda Prevost and Dale Drury.
- 14 people voted in favour of Special Resolution #2 which did not constitute the 75% of voting members present. This resolution **did not** pass but because

everyone did not recognize the need for the 75% majority, no amendments were considered as we thought mistakenly, that the motion **did** pass.

## **7. Report of the Nominating Committee**

### **Motion #8**

Debb E. of the Nominating Committee highlighted the slate of individuals running for election to the board for the upcoming year – Amanda Brown (returning), Debb Enyinnah (returning), Elsie Gerdes (new), Jim Poole (returning), Marlene Swift (new), and Sue Thomson (returning).

Jim moved to adopt the Report of the Nominating Committee. Mary-Lou seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by the voting members with the above mentioned individuals being elected as director for the next two years. They join continuing directors Alana Abramson, Leanne Lange and Stan Rule.

Because of the confusion about Special Resolution #2 – thinking it passed when it did not, Jim Poole has not been elected to the Board as he has served three consecutive two-year terms.

## **8. Reports from Communities - World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Activities**

- Mary-Lou reported on the Focus on Seniors event took place on June 14<sup>th</sup> in Surrey
- Elsie reported that BCOAPO forwarded information to their 55 branches about the Online Auction
- Jennifer from Revelstoke reported that they had a father's day presentation and honoured centurions in the area
- Pat Petrala reported that 40 people attended an event in White Rock
- In Penticton, 1000 pamphlets on Elder Abuse were distributed at the Mall
- Elaine G. reported that in Vernon a booth was set up at the Focus on Seniors event and 300 people were in attendance. Elsie Gerdes did a presentation which was very well received
- There were also events in Castlegar, Kaslo, Salmo, and Nelson
- In Victoria and Sidney Target Theatre did a play focusing on caregiver abuse in the residential setting. A resource card was developed and handed out.
- Kathy reported that an Information fair was held in Hope. A Multicultural lunch was held in Abbotsford. The Police and a Bank Manager participated in a presentation, which was held in Chilliwack.
- Alison will organize a teleconference in the fall to tell everyone about what occurred at the 3 WEAAD events in Ottawa

## **9. Motion for Adjournment**

Jim Poole moved the adjournment of the AGM at 3:07 pm. Passed unanimously.

## **BC Association of Community Response Networks**

### **Report of the Chairperson, Board of Directors**

#### **To the Sixth Annual General Meeting**

**June 26, 2009**

Here we are at the end of another year where the local CRNs have been very faithful at keeping things going in their communities both with their CRN meetings and their World Elder Abuse Awareness Day events. We know they get called upon locally and provincially by us and we really appreciate the ongoing passion and responsiveness.

Global World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2008 was held in Ottawa and our organization was well represented there by Alison Leaney and Amanda Brown. They presented at WEAAD a talk called “The Best of the West” in which the CRN Movement, the accomplishments of health authorities and the BC Model figured prominently. We are so fortunate to be so well represented – thank you ladies.

Fun was had by all as we celebrated our 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a silent auction, wonderful guests and fabulous food including a beautiful anniversary cake. For a fairly new organization we have many accomplishments under our belts. The anniversary event in Vancouver highlighted stories of the difference CRNs make, which are now captured in raw video format just waiting to be edited. We also have an Anniversary power point presentation full of photos of many of you/us in the Movement that will be posted on our website shortly.

It has been an exciting year with the federal government announcing a national Senior Abuse Strategy. Thus far the strategy includes Public Service Announcements to raise awareness across Canada, training materials for members of professional associations who may meet seniors who are abused but who may not be the primary responders, support for an upcoming national conference to be held in Toronto this coming November, training for specific professional groups and a project the BCACRN has been contracted to do to gather and share promising approaches for addressing and preventing abuse/neglect in First Nations communities across Canada.

We were involved in two national projects this year. The first was the Seniors Learning and Knowledge Exchange Project funded by the Canadian Council on Learning which shed light on seniors learning and its relevance to our work. It helped lay the groundwork for the development of a national police network/community of practice. The second is the project just begun on collecting promising approaches in First Nations communities.

As we continue to be active in our province and share our experiences across Canada we are increasingly being called upon by federal government senior abuse strategy partners to do work and to consult. The CRN Movement is achieving a higher and higher profile across Canada, which is also being evidenced by our Executive Director being a keynote speaker at inaugural provincial senior abuse conferences in both Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Another accomplishment this year has been making a presentation to the Ombudsman as part of her Systemic Review about the difference CRNs can make to help safeguard seniors and other adults who may be vulnerable in various types of housing situations. It is also exciting to begin implementing the Vanguard Project with funds provided early this year by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

Once again many thanks to the other Executive members, our Treasurer and Secretary who help keep us informed and moving forward. Special thanks also to the directors that will be leaving us this year, Stan Rule and Alana Abramson; your contributions have been very much appreciated. In conclusion many thanks to all the staff that keep our BCACRN up and running; we could not do it without you. On behalf of Amanda and I, thank you for the support and we look forward to serving you for another year.

Amanda Brown and Debora Enyinnah Co-Chairs

**Report of the Executive Director  
To the Sixth Annual General Meeting  
Of the BC Association of CRNs - June 26, 2009**

**Report of the Executive Director  
To the Sixth Annual General Meeting  
Of the BC Association of CRNs - June 26, 2009**

**1. Overall Highlights**

- There are still 30 communities/CRNs in B.C., undertaking abuse response/awareness raising activities
- Celebration, through a series of regional CRN gatherings, and an event in Vancouver, the BCACRN's 5th anniversary
- A number of CRNs are getting re-activated including Sea-to-Sky and Port Hardy. There continues to be a growing interest in the CRN model in First Nations reserve communities
- Presentation to the Ombudsman in regard to her 'Systemic Review' regarding services for seniors
- Development of a new and improved Business Case to better position our organization for funding success
- Presentation at global WEAAD in Ottawa on the "Best of the West", the video is available on the web and we'll add a link to it from our website
- ED a keynote speaker at Manitoba's first ever provincial senior abuse conference and facilitator for the first ever provincial senior abuse gathering in Saskatchewan
- First ever contract at the provincial level with the federal government – Health Canada's Home and Community Care Program in the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch
- Undertaking a national Seniors Learning and Knowledge Exchange Project funded by the Canadian Council on Learning that identified many important factors to consider related to how seniors learn relevant to our field and laid the groundwork for the development of a national Police Network/community of practice
- Being consulted by the three of the four federal government partners in the National Senior Abuse Strategy about training modules, promising approaches, development of knowledge exchange frameworks, etc.
- Our Third Annual Province Wide Online Auction supported this year by a direct mail campaign to 20,000 households in targeted communities in BC
- Joining the National Initiative for the Care of Elderly's Senior Abuse Theme Team and proposing the implementation nationwide of BC's Ideal Coordinated Community Response Model

## 2. Local CRN Activity Update

### On the Bright Side...

Throughout the last year there have been approximately 30 active CRNs in BC. Thank you all for reporting on your activities over the last year using our new reporting form developed by Assistant Executive Director Jane Osborne.

We have thus far collated the data with regard to volunteer hours, estimated value of in-kind supports contributed at the local level and funds raised locally as being able to do this helps us with our Gaming funding applications because of the maximum percentage government funds (which includes Gaming funds) can be comprise any organization's budget when Gaming is a funder. Conservatively and with a huge amount of confidence based on CRN Use of Funds and Activity Reports, these three contributions taken together can be valued at \$150,000. This helped us surpass our \$75,000 threshold in Gaming funds, raising an extra \$25,000 this year.

Although we haven't yet collated the data with regard to CRN activities here is a sampling of what you all did last year:

- Multicultural seniors' luncheon which included both education and networking activities & translated materials (3 hours long), attended by 85
- 60 packages of awareness materials distributed to seniors' centres, pharmacies, medical offices, grocery stores & individual seniors
- Seniors fair included in-kind contributions & diverse attendance of community members & agencies
- Flooded town with posters, pamphlets, bookmarks, sponsored an event for the general public of dramatizations & speaker/discussions which was taped and aired on Cable TV
- Dialogue - Abuse & Neglect in Care Facilities –Attendance by 33. Spawned a follow-up project & an awareness campaign
- Mall booth exhibits & distribution of 800 pamphlets, posters in business areas, letter to the Editor in 2 local papers, & a silent auction raising \$559
- Open House (56 people) with media, a Friendly Phones Tea (30 there) with the Community Policing Elder Abuse Program.
- Library display & newspaper article
- Presentations over lunch (40 there), Certificates of Appreciation for CRN volunteers, & networking
- Breakfast meeting (10 people) describing structure & process of a CRN
- Forum for seniors, caregivers & adult children. Rafe Mair keynote. Panel discussions & information booths. 96 people
- COSCO workshop on abuse prevention (200 people). Resulted in 6 individual follow-ups.

- Target Theatre showing “If I’m Still Here” followed by a facilitated discussion. 25 people

With all the ongoing changes that continue incessantly in communities and with limited funding, this is an impressive accomplishment of which you should all be very proud. Thank you all so much.

#### On the Not so Bright Side...

In the past I have only written about all the positive things, the accomplishments that CRNs continue to deliver because to do otherwise seems deflating and my job is to lead from an inspired place. However, this approach hasn’t markedly improved our financial situation. So I think it’s now time to note what we as a Movement/Community of Practice, are unable to accomplish with our current levels of funding.

Due to a lack of modest, but consistent funding we have lost more than 40 CRNs over the last five years because without funds CRNs cannot voluntarily do enough of the above mentioned activities or the following things that are a regular part of a CRN’s work:

- Planning meetings to assess and then deliver what communities need
- Respond to queries and calls – make referrals
- Ongoing outreach to continuously reach more and more members of the community
- More CRN based & community education and collaborating with community agencies on improving prevention and responses
- Update joint RCMP and Designated Agency and community protocols
- Keep track of how the community’s response is working
- Coordinate more volunteer resources more effectively

This is having a definite impact on morale, and resultantly, I believe, the safety of the most vulnerable people in communities in BC. I think I would be remiss in not pointing this out.

### **3. Activity at the Provincial Level**

#### On the Bright Side...

Over the last year we have:

- Maintained email and phone communication with local CRNs – via a six-person mentors team, our Executive Director, provincial teleconferences
- Held monthly Regional Mentors Team Teleconferences to coordinate supports to CRNs
- Held regional gatherings and one in Vancouver to celebrate 5 years as an organization

- Maintained a provincial website to some degree
- Undertaken specialized outreach to aboriginal communities
- Addressed funding raising, planning, provision, and accountability priorities
- Supported implementation of our annual WEAAD public awareness campaign
- Increased our profile as an organization and a Movement across Canada

#### On the Not So Bright Side...

Our Mentors Team are working on average less than 10 hours a month, so what they can accomplish is limited by time. Your half-time Executive Director either barely meets deadlines or doesn't meet them soon enough to have the intended impact.

Website updating and other ways of sharing the learning re: promising approaches in the field at local, regional, provincial and national levels hasn't been possible keeping our Movement a bit stuck and unable to move forward simply due to a lack of resources.

CRNs have been asking for a conference to gather as a province-wide community of practice since the last conference seven years ago. The one CRN conference we had galvanized and energized folks in our Movement for many years, resulting in many local initiatives to make our communities safer and more welcoming.

#### **4. BCACRN Resource Development Activities**

The Association continues to use a multi-pronged approach to raising funds to finance the CRN supports outlined above.

- Building Relationships with Provincial and Federal Ministries
- Third Annual Province-Wide Online Auction
- Funds Applied for/ Raised:
  - The BCACRN is grateful to the BC Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch and the Victim Services and Community Programs Division of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General for First Nations Mentoring and most recently for a Provincial Education Campaign based on content that will be forthcoming from the BC Adult Abuse/Neglect Prevention Collaborative's Vanguard Project. Thank you to **Susanne Dahlin** and **Andrea Rolls** for their support in these regards.
  - We are also continually appreciative of the very generous in kind support of office space, meeting space, unlimited toll free teleconferencing and long distance calling, as well as photocopying that we receive from the Public Guardian and Trustee of BC Thanks again **Jay Chalke!!!**



- **Upcoming Opportunities**

- In addition to our usual groups of funders we pursue:

- We have once again applied for the special New Horizons Senior Abuse funding call on network building and information sharing with many of you and our colleagues at the provincial and national levels providing very moving letters of support. We should know the results of this effort in October/November which would enable us to have larger regional conferences inviting many new folks into our Movement
- We will be attending a workshop on how to apply for Community/University Research Alliance grants – large research grants are available for community based research that would assist us to get funds to CRNs

## 5. Thank You...

- To local CRN folks who continue to hang in with us
- To our CRN Mentors Team – Georgina, April, Kathy, Heather A., Heather V. and Yvonne
- To our Assistant ED Jane Osborne who undertook a number of specialized projects noted throughout this report while your ED worked 4 days a week for the Public Guardian and Trustee for six months this year
- Dorothy Buckland and Janice Dack our account and bookkeeper who keep our numbers crunched right
- To Norm, Joan and David of Morrow and Co. who review our financial statements so we can say we're well run financially
- To Rick Leong and his team at Precision Graphics who were even more generous than usual this year by making a sizable donation to cover the cost of our direct mail marketing campaign to Promote the Online Auction
- To Elaine Gallacher of ETC Consulting for hosting and organizing the Third Annual Province Wide Online Auction

## 6. My PGT Related Activities That are Supportive to CRNs

I continue to:

- Convene the BC Adult Abuse and Neglect Prevention Collaborative, of which the Association is a member and through this mechanism support ongoing implementation of the 17 Recommendations in the Vanguard Project Report
- Hold teleconferences with clinicians in designated agencies from throughout BC to share what is happening and to help address systemic issues.
- Do outreach to First Nations on Reserve re: the protections available under Part 3 of the Adult Guardianship Act: Support and Assistance for Abused and Neglected Adults

- Prepare for the proclamation of Bills 26 and 29 with a proclamation date still unknown

## **7. The Year Ahead**

The BCACRN's priorities for the next year are the same as last year and include:

- Raising funds including core funds for CRNs locally and provincially using a diverse array of strategies (including from government)
- Using the Theory of Change Process and the need to evaluate CRNs and locate them solidly on the promising approaches/best practices continuum to give this work the profile it deserves and to fund it properly
- Maintaining and strengthening the relationship between the BCACRN provincially, CRNs locally, and First Nations communities interested in capacity building
- Reviewing our provincial/local communications to see how they can be improved
- Exploring technological improvements to better electronically connect all CRNs with the BCACRN
- Continuing to build partnerships and raise the profile of the CRN movement on the national and international stage through moving to the role of Past Chair of the Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse
- Launching a Legacy Program through beneficiary designations in wills and possibly a life insurance policy program developed specifically for non—profits

## **8. A Final Note of Appreciation...**

This year two amazing women in the CRN Movement died – Helen Kuhn from Quesnel and Marge Donovan from Penticton. They both played vital roles in their communities and their local CRNs. While memories of them will sustain us, we will miss them both deeply. Blessings to their friends and loved ones.

The last year has been exciting, challenging, a time of ever emerging opportunities and constant building. We wouldn't all have accomplished as much as we have without the strong leadership provided by our Board of Directors who are of course also all volunteers. Thanks to Debb and Amanda our co-chairs, Leanne our Secretary, and Jim our Treasurer. They have been a solid and passionate Executive. Thanks also to Elsie Gerdes, Sue Thomson, Alana Abramson, Stan Rule, and Marlene Swift.

Stan and Alana are finishing their two-year terms on the Board this year and I just want to thank them for their interest and commitment.

This year saw some staffing changes in our organization. Our founding admin assistant Marlyn Ferguson left after 5 years to pursue her passion more fully in the grief recovery realm. Thanks Marlyn for getting us established. We miss you.

I am pleased that we have had Ros Hansen join our team as our new admin assistant. She too brings a huge amount of energy, passion, as well as excellent organizational and people skills and immense creativity.

And it has been great to work with Jane Osborne, a local CRN gal who joined our ranks to share the leadership load.

### **9. On a Positive Note, Because I'm Basically an Optimist...**

I wanted to leave you with a few thoughts from others about the value of what the CRN Movement and what you do....

#### **Kari Chambers, Elders Coordinator, Tsleil-Waututh Nation...**

“The Tsleil-Waututh Nation Elders Department has also been considering creating its own Community Response Network within the Nation and the District of North Vancouver...Working with the BCACRN for the past three years, I realize how essential a Community Response Network is to the ability to provide a rapid response to our community, our families, and our Elders in their time of need.”

#### **Elsie Gerdes, President, B.C. Old Age Pensioner's Organization...**

“On behalf of the BC Old Age Pensioner's Organization, I would like to indicate our full support of the BC Association of Community Response Networks in their application for a grant from the New Horizon's for Seniors Program, in their dealing with Elder Abuse information sharing and participation. We have 4800 members and 48 branches throughout the province: they will be invited to take part in the regional conferences.”

#### **Ann Henderson, Mayor, Salmo...**

“Since we are a very small community, we require the support of the BCACRN in the presentation of workshops and in the attendance of training seminars. It is only through education that we can be of assistance to our seniors. Our members who have previously attended provincial conferences have found the information and training invaluable and it renewed their enthusiasm for the cause that they work so hard to promote.”

#### **Mamie Hutt-Temoana, CEO, Vancouver Association of Neighborhood Houses...**

“We are very pleased to have the opportunity to support and work with the BCACRN as this organization is committed to the grassroots involvement of people who are personally impacted by senior abuse...consistent with the Association's mission ‘to make neighborhoods better places to live to enable people to embrace their lives’, the BCACRN brings expertise to the senior abuse prevention field.”

**Sylvia MacLeay, President of Council of Senior Citizens' Organization of BC ...**

“COSCO (membership of 70,000 seniors) endorses the grant proposal of the BCACRN for the New Horizons Elder Abuse Funding Call. Abuse of seniors is a subject that is too often not addressed with serious consequences. COSCO knows that funds received by this organization will be carefully administered and used to help seniors in the province.”

**Deborah O'Connor, Director, Centre for Research on Personhood in Dementia, UBC...**

“The BCACRN has been playing a pivotal role in BC developing community awareness and support for older adults who are victims of abuse. The inroads they have been making are especially impressive, given the very limited budget; alas however despite heroic efforts to stretch limited resources to their fullest, there remain huge gaps in BC around insuring effective knowledge, advocacy and skill building in this area.... I am aware that BC has taken a leadership role in the area of Elder Abuse, largely due to the impressive efforts of the BCACRN.”

**Andrea Rolls, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Victim Services and Crime Prevention Division...**

“...this Division has a history of collaboration with the BCACRN, recognizing its unique role in bringing together concerned individuals, seniors' service providers, health agencies and the justice system together to address abuse and neglect of older people...I endorse this application unequivocally...I look forward to working with BCACRN on this ambitious project.”

**Charmaine Spencer, Research Associate, Gerontology Research Centre & Adjunct Professor, Department of Gerontology, SFU...**

“On a personal and professional note, I have known and admired the work of the BC Association of Community Response Networks for many years and have been pleased by its highly principled approach to the issues, the strength of the organization, and its ability to carry out challenging tasks.”

**Laura Watts, National Director, The Canadian Centre for Elder Law...**

“The (CCEL) has worked in strategic partnership with the BCACRN for years, and this working relationship has included the development of the Vanguard Project materials...the BCACRN is the key organization with the capacity to implement this elder abuse awareness...They have a strong and consistent track record of achieving goals in time and within grant perimeters...”

Respectfully Submitted by

Alison Leaney - Executive Director

BC Association of Community Response Networks

**Report of the Nominating Committee  
Of the BC Association of Community Response Networks  
Regarding the Next Year's Board of Directors  
June 11, 2009**

Possible Slate for Board of Directors  
2009 – 2010

**There are:**

- 2 possible directors running as a slate for election to this next year's Board, and
- 6 current directors completing the second year of their two year terms  
for a total of 8 directors in all.

Proposed New Directors to be Elected

The following have agreed to stand for election as new directors or for a new two-year term:

1. Margaret Easton

Margaret Easton has over 30 years experience in Financial Institutions working with Canadian Chartered Banks, Trust Companies and Credit Unions. In addition, Margaret has obtained her Bachelor of General Studies, a Baccalaureate of Women's Studies, a BC Instructors Certificate, her Master's in Liberal Studies and her Elder Planning Certificate. Margaret's experience with her customers over the years has increased her awareness of the importance of providing education, policies, and appropriate products to meet the evolving needs of Canadians for tools that will address life planning issues, fraud prevention, capacity issues, and assisted decision making. Margaret has worked with a number of community agencies to provide public awareness seminars, has worked closely with the Canadian Center for Elder Law Studies, and has been accepted into SFU's Gerontology degree program commencing in 2009.

2. Leanne Lange

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Leanne assumed the role of Clinical Specialist, Adult Abuse and Neglect at Fraser Health. In this position she leads the organization in its delivery of care to vulnerable and incapable adults who may be experiencing abuse and neglect. Previously she worked in Assessment and Investigation Services at the Public Guardian and Trustee of BC. In this role she provided education, consultation and has taken action to protect the interests of vulnerable adults who are being abused or neglected. She has a variety of skills to bring to the Board of Directors of the BCACRN including having already served on full term, and her interest in learning more about fundraising. When not working, she enjoys living on the north shore of Port Moody with her husband and two active daughters.

Continuing Directors

The following 6 Board Directors have one year left in their two year terms of office and are therefore continuing on the Board:

1. Amanda Brown - Amanda co-chaired the Board of Directors of the BC Association of CRNs this last year, and one term previously, with Debb Enyinnah. BCACRN's link to Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, Amanda, a social worker, is Vancouver Coastal Health Authority's regional lead on issues related to the Adult Guardianship Act and abuse, neglect and self-neglect of vulnerable adults. Her role is to support staff, provide education, develop and roll out materials related to VCH responsibilities and to work and partner with community agencies working in this area. Amanda was one of the founding members of the North Shore's CRN, and was their co-chair from 2001 – 2004. Amanda has a particular interest in integrating less formal supports into community responses in keeping with the spirit of least intrusive most effective in the legislation so that all resources are used most appropriately. Amanda lives on the North Shore with her husband and two young sons.
2. Debb Enyinnah – CRN member from Penticton  
Debb co-chaired the Board of Directors of the BC Association of CRNs this last year, and one term previously with Amanda Brown. She has recently moved into a new position at CMHA in Penticton where she was the Coordinator of their Crisis Line in since the year 2000. She has a background in education, first working at the College level, and now enjoys providing training for volunteers. She has been involved in many community activities over the years and has participated enthusiastically in the Penticton Community Response Network, seeing the Network as vital to the work of the Crisis Line and the community. Debb looks forward to continuing on the provincial Board.
3. Elsie Gerdes – Armstrong/Vernon  
Dr. Elsie Gerdes is President of the BC Old Age Pensioners Organization (BCOAPO). In this capacity she served as a member of the Premier's Senior's Council from Oct/ '05 to Nov '06 at which time the Council presented its report, 'Aging Well in BC' to the provincial government. Since then, she has tried to keep the Council's 16 main recommendations in the public forum, working through the BCOAPO to promote and defend the best interests of elder citizens of BC. She is a member of the Lumby/Vernon/Armstrong Community Response Network, a former municipal councilor and previous chair of the North Okanagan Regional Health board. With over 36 years of community health experience, Elsie has received many awards, including a UNBC honorary doctoral degree of laws from the UNBC, where she played an instrumental role in bringing to fruition and the James Robinson Memorial award from UBC for 'significant contributions' to Public Health. During her public health nursing experience she was regional rep to the Registered Nurses Association of BC, a board member of the BC Public Health Association, and the BC Healthy Communities Association. In all these capacities she developed collaborative relationships with many diverse players.

4. Jim Poole – CRN member from Delta

Jim is a member of the current BC Association of CRNs Board and has acted in the role of founding treasurer and ongoing treasurer to the BC CRN Foundation/BC Association of CRNs Board giving excellent guidance and support throughout. Jim has served as chairperson of the Delta CRN, since its inception in 1997 until 2003. He is now a community member of the Delta CRN. As well as his work with the Delta CRN Jim, along with others, helped revitalize the Surrey CRN. Jim has been involved in social services for all of his working career and has been involved in various aspects of fundraising, public relations and other related activities

5. Marlene Swift - Prince Rupert

Marlene has worked with North Coast Victim Services for the past 10 years. She has been the Program Coordinator since 2002. Prior to that she worked as an Addictions Counselor at a men's treatment facility. Being part Tsmishian and Ukrainian, her family heritage has permitted a great rapport with First Nations People. She often travels into reserve communities promoting awareness on various topics, particularly Elder Abuse. Marlene became involved with the Community Response Network through the former Coordinator Pat Russell. They strived together with agencies providing education and awareness on a variety of topics such as "Bullying" and "What's Age Got To Do With It?" As in all communities there are many issues, but the North lacks a lot of resources to fulfill the needs. Through Victim Services, Marlene does here best to inform, educate and provide emotional support for all victims.

6. Sue Thomson – White Rock

Sue is standing for election for a second year term to the BCACRN board. She has 28 years experience as an administrator working with a non-profit society to address the changing and growing needs of seniors in the White Rock community. She has a degree in Sociology/Psychology and helped write a training course for Care Aides with the Vancouver Vocational Institute. She has also completed training in Labour Relations and a variety of communication courses. Sue has been concerned about the rights of seniors throughout her 28 years of service in White Rock, sees that issues of abuse and neglect are still a concern and is passionate about working hard on the Board to help bring about further improvements. She identifies skills in "developing grant applications, organizational issues, education and a passion to go beyond the status quo". She has been working to re-establish the local CRN over the last year. In her off time, Sue is a member of Backroads Hiking Club, Langley Garden Club and she enjoys hiking, skiing, scuba diving, gardening, winemaking, traveling and reading.