

2007 – 2008 ANNUAL REPORT



Stopping Adult Abuse and Neglect...Together



Stopping Adult Abuse and Neglect ...Together

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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 **1:00 p.m. on the day of Thursday, June 26, 2008**, 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, 2008.
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 11th day of June, 2008.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Leanne Lange
Secretary

BC Association of Community Response Networks

Annual General Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, June 26, 2008
TIME: 1:00 to 3:00 pm
PLACE: By Teleconference or in person (please RSVP)
700-808 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC

Agenda

- 1:00** **Welcome**
- Introduction of current Board Members
 - Roll call of voting members and other participants
- 1:15** **Report of the Board to the Members – Debb Enyinnah**
- 1:25** **Report of the Executive Director – Alison Leaney**
- 1:45** **Financial Report – Jim Poole**
- Audited Financial Statements for 2007/2008
 - Appointment of the Auditor
- 2:00** **Special Resolutions – Proposed Bylaw Amendments**
- 2:15** **Report of the Nominating Committee – - Debb Enyinnah**
- Election of Directors
- 2:30** **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day**
- Reports on Activities – Globally, Nationally, Locally
- 3:00** **Adjournment**

BC Association of Community Response Networks AGM Tuesday, June 26, 2007 - Minutes

Voting Members Present:

Raymond Koehler - Castlegar
Brenda Prevost - Kamloops
Gail Russell - Nelson
Chris Dunlop - Quesnel
Sheila McIntyre - Quesnel
Jennifer Neubeck - Revelstoke
Georgina Ross - Kamloops
Stan Rule - Kelowna
Alana Abramson - North Shore
Sue Thomson - White Rock
Christine Ragneborg - Abbotsford

Dolly Cartwright - North Vancouver
Carol-Joy Kaill- Nelson
Mary Gradnitzer - Quesnel
Debora Enyinnah - Penticton
Randy Goosen - Abbotsford
Theresa Nielsen - Fort St. John
Leanne Lange - Fraser Health
Jim Poole - Delta
Amanda Brown - Vancouver Coastal Health.

Others Present:

Elaine Smith - Kaslo
Joanne Crawford - Armstrong/Enderby
Daphne Wilson - Powell River
April Struthers - CRN Mentor
Anne Reimer - Penticton
Elsie Gerdes - Armstrong/Enderby
Yvonne Kennedy - CRN Mentor
Keith Miller - Hope
Moir Banman - Summerland
Marlyn Ferguson - Admin Assistant

Sandi McCreight - Castlegar
Marlene Allen - Summerland
Heather Von Ilberg - CRN Mentor
Carol McFadyen - Kelowna
Pat Petrala - White Rock
Heather Archer - CRN Mentor
Jane Osborne - North Shore
Marge Donovan - Penticton
Alison Leaney - Executive Director

Regrets: Clarice Caywood & Marion Stewart - Kaslo, Bev Hurd, Oceanside, Joan Reichardt - Board Member, Linda Derkach, Board Member
Roll Call completed by Alison Leaney to establish quorum.

1. Welcome by Amanda Brown who agreed to chair the meeting

Motion #1

Pat Petrala moved to accept the minutes of the 2006 AGM as corrected by spelling her name correctly. Seconded by Sue Thomson. Carried unanimously.

2. Report of the Board

Alison Leaney read the Report of the Board and Farewell from Linda Derkach and thanked her for the wonderful work she has done for the Association..

Motion #2

Jennifer Neubeck moved and Pat Petrala seconded acceptance of the Report of the Board. Carried unanimously.

Motion #3

Dolly Cartwright moved and Pat Petrala seconded acceptance of the Executive Directors Report. Carried unanimously.

3. Financial Report

Discussion arose regarding the difference of opinion due to accounting style between Dorothy Buckland (Financial Advisor) and Morrow & Co (Auditor) re: Financial Statements.

Motion #4

Moved by Pat Petrala and seconded by Jennifer Neubeck that the Audited Statements be deferred for consideration to the Fall. Carried unanimously.

4. Report of the Nominating Committee

Debb Enyinnah presented the report of the Nominating Committee as circulated. She presented the following slate for election for two year terms:

Alana Abramson - North Shore - new

Leanne Lange - Fraser Health - new

Joan Reichardt - Nelson - returning

Stan Rule - Kelowna - new

Motion #5

Moved by Pat Petrala and seconded by Marlene Allan to adopt the slate of directors as presented. Carried unanimously.

Motion #6

Jim Poole moved that the meeting be adjourned and Pat Petrala seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

Amanda Brown recognized Dolly Cartwright as an Octogenarian who received the Volunteer of the Year for BC Award.

With the business part of the meeting over we shared what we did in each community For WEAAD.

Kaslo: Held reception at the Credit Union. Solicited photocopying of the "Fact Sheets" from many businesses who were very happy to help.

Penticton: Local information table, silent auction raised some money, many other organizations took part in the displays.

Revelstoke: Took part in putting on skits in the seniors center around Elder Abuse and Financial Abuse (ad lib) very well received. They may get funding through

Hydro to record them on DVD. Will keep us posted.

North Shore: Had display tables at Lions Gate Hospital with bookmarks. Tied in with what Amanda Brown did with RE-ACT.

White Rock: Had displays with many service providers. It was well attended with volunteers and general public. The Mayor attended and read the Declaration and presented it to the CRN in a frame. Joyce Schmalz was interviewed by Shaw Cable. They also showed the video "Finding a Future for Ellen." A woman came to J. Schmalz and thanked her for making a difference. She had watched the movie with her young daughter and they both found it very moving.

Summerland: Gave presentations at 2 seniors residences. Handed out bookmarks and posters and brochures in Dr. offices and on Bulletin boards al over town.

Castlegar: Recently there have been three articles in the newspapers about CRNs. They received funding from the Castlegar United Way and from Castlegar City to host WEAAD - a Silent Auction and 2 presentations.

Nelson: They presented "Ellen's Story" 3 days in the mall and also held a silent auction.

Quesnel: Held a Financial Crimes Workshop on June 7th
Article appeared in the local paper and had a library display.

BC Association of Community Response Networks

Report of the Chairperson, Board of Directors

To the Fifth Annual General Meeting

June 26, 2008

It has been an interesting and exciting year for Amanda Brown and I as we worked our way through as co-chairs of the BCACRN board. It was wonderful to be able to divide the responsibilities and work together with Alison Leaney, our Executive Director.

One of the highlights in the Penticton region this year was the Regional CRN Gathering, one of 5 such gatherings the BCACRN has been hosting around BC to celebrate our 5th anniversary and therefore, the contributions of many supporters of the CRN Movement. It was great to have members of 9 CRNs meet together and share what was going on in their area as well as be introduced to new members. The CRN timeline we produced was impressive to see where we had come from and what has been accomplished over the years in the formation of the Association. Alison did a great introduction to the CRN Movement for the new members as well as updates for the changes in legislation for all. It was great to connect with the other CRNs!

We are now in the midst of our Second Annual Online Auction running from June 1 – 30. We would like to take a minute to publicly thank all of the businesses and individuals who have so generously given to this event. We would like to acknowledge all the CRNs who have made plans for WEAAD and the time and energy that is being invested in our communities around world elder abuse awareness and the community resources that are available for addressing it.

We are excited to have both the AGM and 5th Anniversary event happening in Vancouver on June 26th, 2008. It will be an event where both the media and a few political leaders have been invited to help raise our profile in the community. It is the greatest effort yet to attract media attention to the important work you all do, and we are looking forward to the results. We remain committed and completely convinced of the need for core funding to support BC's CRN Movement and continue to make decisions that we hope will further this endeavour.

The fact that our Executive Director was awarded one of two, Abuse Awareness to Action Awards at the November 2007 Canadian Centre for Elder Conference, by the Gerontology Research Centre at SFU along with pioneer CRN leader Mike Vanderbeck from Vernon, and that she has been specifically invited to contribute and present at three World Elder Abuse Awareness Day related events in Ottawa are concrete actions or decisions the Board has made over the last year to support our ED and BC's CRN

Movement. We have a nationwide profile and numerous relationships across the country that we hope will lead also to financial benefit.

We would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Alison, Marlyn and each of the mentors and coordinators of CRNs. There are a lot of unrecognized hours that go into each of these positions. It is only by us all working together that the BC Association of CRNs can go forward to make the changes in communities that need to be addressed - together we can prevent abuse of vulnerable adults. Thank you so much to each of our contractors for their contributions.

On behalf of Amanda Brown and myself, I would also like to thank the rest of the board not only for their support but also for the many hours of work that they have so willingly contributed to make this year a success. The diversity of ideas and approaches that lead to interesting conversations have helped us deal with everything from the auction, to program support, to budgets to bylaw amendments. Many thanks to each and every one of you for your uniqueness and willingness to serve.

Debora Enyinnah
Co-Chair
BCACRN Board
June 11, 2008

Report of the Executive Director To the Fifth Annual General Meeting Of the BC Association of CRNs - June 26, 2008

1. CRN Activity Update

Throughout the last year there have been approximately 30 – 35 active CRNs in BC. With all the ongoing changes that continue incessantly in communities and limited funding, this is an impressive accomplishment. And as many of you know, 20 CRNs hosted World Elder Abuse Awareness Day events last year and the same promises to be true this year. Thank you all so much.

2. Key Highlights

- A number of CRNs are getting re-activated including Nanaimo, the Comox Valley and Campbell River. There continues to be a growing interest in the CRN model in First Nations reserve communities
- CRNs continue to innovate – for example by developing a new Support the Supporters Program and a pilot restorative response to adult abuse and neglect project (North Shore)
- Presentations to the Senate Committee on Aging and the National Seniors Council on the importance of BC's CRN model, the need to fund networks at all levels and the need to open up funding calls to include groups like BCACRN
- Also were a by invitation presenter on Coordinated Community Responses – Local and Provincial for the FPT Senior Abuse Forum
- Collaboration with Vancouver Coastal Health's Re:Act Abuse Response Resource on the development of an e-learning tool for use by service providers in First Nations communities
- The issue of systemic advocacy and keeping track of how the response is working was the subject of a great deal of discussion this year with the Board poised to establish a policy on it in addition to the approach being taken by local CRNs
- Began to celebrate, through a series of regional CRN gatherings, the BCACRN 5th anniversary and the people who have supported the Movement
- We have pursued a focused media relations strategy this year.
- Voluntary supervision of the contract on behalf of the Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, (completed by Witworks Ltd.) for the production of Outlook 2007: Promising Approaches in Addressing Senior Abuse in Canada in which the BC Association of CRNs shared t BC's CRN Model and a Draft Framework for a National Strategy to Address and Prevent Abuse of Seniors

3. Provincial Supports to CRNs by BCACRN

Direct Funding Support to CRNs

Approximately \$15,000 were provided this last March to approximately 25 CRNs based on funding applications received for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day activities. At the same time, as direct contributions to CRNs were even more modest than last year, a number of CRNs have raised money locally through local and regional channels such as financial institutions, health authorities, community foundations, United Way, with countless other in kind contributions in every community. Thank you for this initiative. We acknowledge this in our budgets for all funding applications.

Provincial CRN Teleconferences

These were held bi-monthly over the last year on topics such as First Nations Outreach, the 6 Hats Evaluation Process, Systemic Advocacy, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Planning, Orientation to the CRN Movement for New Folks, and a General Update

CRN Mentors Team

The team met via teleconference on a monthly basis to coordinate information sharing and supports to local CRNs. This year we expanded our CRN Mentors team to include **Georgina Martin**, the new CRN Mentor for the North. Georgina joins our team of **Heather Archer** (Thomson, Cariboo, Shuswap), **Heather von Ilberg** (Kootenays), **April Struthers** (Island/Sunshine Coast), **Yvonne Kennedy** (Okanagan), **Kathy Doerksen** (Fraser Valley, Lower Mainland). This team stays in touch with local CRNs, provides community development consultation and generally helps keep the Movement alive at the local level. Thank you to the Team for another year of excellent service.

Connecting with First Nations Communities

FN communities continue to be interested in the CRN Model. Our collaboration with Vancouver Coastal Health on their E-tool Project has resulted in more joint visits to FN communities and a new First Nations specific CRN chapter for the VCH Designated Responders manual. Check out the new tools at

http://www.vchreact.ca/aboriginal_manual.htm

Special thanks to **Amanda Brown** for this amazing opportunity.

Provincial Public Awareness Campaign and Raising the Profile of CRNs and the BCACRN –

- **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2007** – More than 20 CRNs held events for the World Day last year as outlined in the World Day edition of our Bulletin. tions, more than 30 communities proclaimed the World Day in 2006. The BCACRN's World Day bulletin was posted on the Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (CNPEA) website for people from far and wide to see. Many communities are once again mobilizing for the World Day with

access to national posters, tool kits and BCACRN brochures and Online Auction promotional bookmarks as resources.

- **Prime-Time Airing of PSAs** - For the first time ever Global TV here in BC aired - during the noon and dinnertime news - three Public Service Announcements tailored to the BC context before, during and after World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 2007. The PSAs cover financial, emotional and physical abuse of seniors. I am told the PSAs are already airing again leading up to World Day this year. Thank you so much to **John Ridley**, Director of Marketing and Community Relations for Global TV in BC
- **Website Updating** - The BCACRN website has become a site of greater use to both CRNs as well as others from across Canada who may be interested in the CRN Movement, and possibly developing a Movement of their own. Stats indicate that our website has had over 32,500 visitors over the last year. This represents a very significant increase possibly in part due to our First Annual Online Auction. Thanks to **Heather von Ilberg** and the Website Task Group, and **Clint** and **Inge** of Ingenius Webdesign for your continued work on adding the wealth of resources being developed to our website.
- **Outreach to External Audiences** – Over the last year we have continued to work hard to expand our existing database of friends of the CRN Movement. New contacts include the many businesses that donated items to last year's Online Auction as well as many individual bidders on the Online Auction.
- **An Active Presence at Conferences** - Over the last year the BCACRN has made presentations and/or hosted booths at the following provincial conferences: Canadian Conference for Elder Law Studies, Interior Health Aboriginal Health Conference, 3 Conferences convened by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada with their Family Violence Prevention Program Coordinators, and 3 conferences hosted by Northern Health's Aboriginal Health Executive Director. A number of sessions were also held locally in First Nations communities regarding abuse prevention in relation to the Indian Residential School Settlement process.

BCACRN Resource Development Activities -

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

- **Building Relationships with Elected Provincial Officials**
Following meetings with 4 Ministers about BC's CRN Movement, we submitted our business case for core funding for their consideration. All responded saying we do excellent work but thus far there has been no movement on the core funding front. However, we haven't given up, and our 5th Anniversary celebration scheduled for June 26th here in Vancouver is

among other things an attempt to involve political leaders in learning more about our organization and the important work that CRNs do.

- **Submission to the Premier’s Council on Aging** – the BCACRN made a submission to this Council at the recommendation of local CRN leadership. Our submission resulted in the following recommendation appearing in the “Aging Well in BC” Report prepared by Dr Patricia Baird: “Volunteer organizations such as BCCEAS and CRNs play an important role in raising awareness and preventing and acting against abuse. These are examples of valuable volunteer delivered services at the community level which should be actively supported by government” We will be following up on this with the various Ministers and implementation team.
- **First Ever Provincial Online Auction** – We are very grateful to Elaine Gallacher, Tara Greening and Colleen McKenna of Etc. Consulting for their very able convening of this new and innovative initiative now in it’s second year. Last year a huge amount of groundwork was laid. This year we started preparations much earlier and the more than 100 items on the site is evidence of this initiative just getting better and better. I would like to acknowledge all individuals and businesses which have donated to the Provincial Online Auction. Please check out the Auction for details – www.bccrns.ca
- **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. The PGTBC also provided another grant for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Thanks again **Jay Chalke!!!**

Unsuccessful funding submissions in the last year include: Ashoka, the Civil Forfeiture Program and Hydrecs. For the first time we made a submission in response to an RFP call; the call was issued by the Ministry of Health for the Age Friendly Communities initiative. We are still waiting anxiously to hear about our submission for \$100,000 for each of 3 years from the New Horizons “Elder Abuse” call. For many of these submissions I have requested letters of support from CRN members. I can’t tell you how great it feels to get thirty letters from people outlining the importance of the work you all do. It has been very moving. Thank you to all the support letter writers.

Other Supports to the BCACRN -

Thanks so much to **Marlyn Ferguson** who provides our Association with administrative support and is the hub who keeps us all connected and in touch. Her can- do attitude makes everything possible!!!

At this time I would also like to acknowledge our community conscious accountant, **Dorothy Buckland, CGA** and **Janice Dack**, our efficient and precise bookkeeper. Together they have been instrumental in helping us refine our budget and financial statement formats with more suggestions for improvement being suggested by our Auditor **Norm** of Morrow and Co. Thanks Norm for your great ideas

Rick Leong and his team at Precision Graphics have continued to be incredibly generous and ever so quickly responsive to our printing needs.

4. My PGT Related Activities That are Supportive to CRNs

The following initiatives have taken place over the last year:

- I still convene the BC Adult Abuse and Neglect Prevention Collaborative, of which the Association is a member. The Collaborative meets approximately 6 times a year to identify projects for further work to facilitate a coordinated provincial approach to addressing adult abuse and neglect. The Collaborative is about 18 months into a Law Foundation of BC funded project to collect detailed data that will enable it to take action and make recommendations on a variety of issues impacting adults who are, or are at risk of being abused – immigration/sponsorship, lack of access to justice, confusion regarding various tests of incapability among diverse professions, to name a few. The results of this work will be reflected in a Provincial Education Campaign referenced earlier.
- I continue to hold teleconferences with clinicians in designated agencies from throughout BC to share what is happening and to help address systemic issues. In addition, all 7 designated agencies have identified point people for their organizations to make liaising and working together easier. A second smaller group of DA Key Contacts (1 rep from each DA plus the PGT) continues to meet to maximize most efficient use of resources, facilitate information sharing and create a more consistent approach throughout the province.
- Outreach to First Nations on Reserve and Part 3 of the Adult Guardianship Act: Support and Assistance for Abused and Neglected Adults –FN Service Providers Gathering – the first event of this type was held last September. CRN Mentors were involved in this session where we learned a lot about supports available to respond and prevent abuse in FN communities

- Bills 26 and 29 were passed by the BC Legislature this Spring. I am now very involved in preliminary implementation of the new adult guardianship legislation that may come into force sometime in 2009.

5. The Year Ahead

The BCACRN's priorities for the next year 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

A Final Note of Appreciation.....

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 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 Sue Thomson, Alana Abramson, Stan Rule, and Joan Reichardt.

Respectfully Submitted by

Alison Leaney
Executive Director
BC Association of Community Response Networks
June 2008

Special Resolutions – Proposed Bylaw Changes

1. Special Resolution #1

Purpose of the Resolution – to change the term of membership of voting members from three years to one year.

Last year we changed our bylaws to enable CRNs to name up to three voting members to the BCACRN for Annual General Meetings. The purpose of doing this was to accommodate CRNs whose only voting member might be on vacation, leaving that CRN without a vote. To make it easier we suggested that they could name up to three members for three year terms each so we wouldn't all have to keep checking who the voting members are from each CRN. To accomplish this people were encouraged to stagger their members for one, two and three year terms so they would only have to replace one person each year.

This has proven to be confusing and cumbersome and we need to check with CRNs about who their voting members are each year anyway.

We are therefore suggesting that CRNs name their up to three voting members for one year terms every year as close to the adjournment of the AGM as possible.

Current Wording of Relevant Bylaws

2.1 Network Nominations

Each network will annually nominate at least one representative to apply for admission as a member of the Association for a three year term.

2.2 Admission to Membership

Membership in the Association shall be restricted to the applicants for incorporation and those persons whose application for admission as a member of the Association has been accepted by the directors. All memberships shall be for three year terms and members may apply to renew their membership for successive three year terms.

2.4 Cessation of Membership

A person will immediately cease to be a member of the Association:

(a) upon the close of the annual general meeting in the year in which his or her term of membership expires

BE IT RESOLVED AS A SPECIAL RESOLUTION THAT:

2.1 Network Nominations

Each network may annually nominate up to three representatives to apply for admission as a member of the Association for a one year term.

2.2 Admission to Membership

Membership in the Association shall be restricted to the applicants for incorporation and those persons whose application for admission as a member of the Association has been accepted by the directors. All memberships shall be for one year terms and members may apply to renew their membership for successive one year terms.

2.4 Cessation of Membership

A person will immediately cease to be a member of the Association:

(a) upon the close of the annual general meeting

2. Special Resolution #2

Purpose of the Resolution – to have more freedom to keep hardworking committed board members on the Board

Our current Treasurer has served 3 consecutive terms and according to the current bylaws, must leave the Board. We have thus far been unable to find a replacement and our current Treasurer is willing and able to stay. We want to be able to keep such effective, hardworking people on the board who want to be able to stay past three consecutive terms of two years each. We also agree though it is good to have turn over in Board members as well as continuity and will address this balance needed by policy.

Current Wording of Relevant Bylaw

5.7 Term Limit

A director may serve for no more than 3 consecutive terms.

BE IT RESOLVED AS A SPECIAL RESOLUTION THAT:

s. 5.7 be deleted from the bylaws

**Report of the Nominating Committee
Of the BC Association of Community Response Networks
Regarding the Next Year's Board of Directors
June 11, 2008**

There are:

- **6 possible directors running as a slate for election to this next year's Board, and**
- **3 current directors completing the second year of their two year terms**

for a total of 9 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 to the Board at this AGM

1. Amanda Brown - Amanda co-chaired the Board of Directors of the BC Association of CRNs this last year 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 with Amanda Brown. She has been the Coordinator of the Crisis Line in Penticton 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. 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 councillor 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 which 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 – **who will only be on the slate of directors for election if the proposed bylaw change to eliminate the limit on the number of consecutive terms a Board member can serve is passed by the members at the AGM.** 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 Tsimshian 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 her 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, wine-making, traveling and reading.

Continuing Directors

The following 3 Board directors have one year left in their two year terms of office and are therefore continuing on the Board:

1. Alana Abramson – North Shore CRN Leadership Team
Alana Abramson is a passionate advocate, researcher, practitioner and trainer in the area of restorative justice. She completed her Masters at Simon Fraser University in 2005 in the area of community and restorative justice. With a background in crisis intervention and suicide awareness in schools and community, she now works to improve the lives of those impacted by crime and conflict. Alana also teaches Criminology at Kwantlen University College and is involved in many non-project initiatives within community and prison settings. She cares deeply about social justice and peacemaking and has a lot of energy to advance the causes she stands behind.

2. Leanne Lange
For the past ten years Leanne has 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. During this time she also had the opportunity to offer information and support to former residents of Woodlands School. Last year she completed a temporary assignment with Vancouver Coastal Health. She worked on the front lines in two Community Health Centres in Vancouver. On June 25th, 2007 she 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. She has a variety of skills to bring to the Board of Directors of the BCACRN including 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.

3. Stan Rule
Stan is a lawyer at the law firm of Tinker, Churchill, & Rule who works with people, assisting them with estate planning, probate and estate administration. He also assists people in resolving disputes about wills and estates. He has a blog, where he writes about some of the legal topics that he deals with in his law practice, and about other legal issues that interest him. In doing so, he hopes to help others learn more about law, and to encourage discussion about law and law reform.