

**Kootenay Lake District Parents' Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday November 26, 2009**

Nelson Board office, video conferencing to Creston Education Centre

**Attendance :**

Brian Bell – Creston Homelinks DPAC Rep  
Retha Marsden – DPAC Vice Chair  
Jenni Henri – DPAC Chair, Mt. Sentinel DPAC Rep  
Kendra Mann – DPAC Secretary  
Susan Wilson – Past DPAC Chair, WEG DPAC Rep  
Laurie Langill – South Nelson DPAC Rep  
Katia Dolan – Mount Sentinel PAC Chair  
Roger Luscombe – Blewett DPAC Rep  
Jen Smith – CEC DPAC rep  
Tiffany Gorham – Canyon Lister DPAC Rep

**Regrets:**

Glenda Passutti, Rosemont DPAC Rep  
Lenora Trenaman, Trustee

**Special Guests:** Bonnie Lundmark – Freedom Quest Pilot Project

- 1. Welcome/Call to Order 6:22pm**
- 2. Approval of Agenda by consensus**
- 3. Acceptance of September minutes, circulation of October 22 notes approved by consensus**
- 4. Freedom Quest Pilot Project: Bonnie Lundmark**

In 2008 Freedom Quest developed and administered a survey about youth (grade 7-12) tobacco, alcohol and drug use in the Kootenay Boundary region. This survey showed that the highest substance use was alcohol at 64.1 %, tobacco use at 62.3 % and marijuana at 39.1 %. This exceeds the provincial average. The provincial average exceeds the Canadian average. The need for a specific Kootenay based prevention work is obvious in the diverse and unique setting of the Kootenay boundary. Some of the issues that are found in rural areas are lack of taxi and public transit, lack of cell phone coverage, bush parties being out of emergency service range (cell phones, police, people being lost, passing out, overdose, etc).

The first onset of tobacco, alcohol and drug use was about the age of 13-14 (ages 15-16 for cocaine and ecstasy). This proved that prevention at a younger age is necessary for our youth. The pilot program hopes to empower youth to make the best decision they can for themselves with the most education and information possible. We want to do this by involving everyone in the community (parents, teachers, service providers, and youth) to have input in the development and assessment of this project so the Kootenay Boundary region will have sustainable and consistent prevention program.

Freedom Quest has developed a Drug and Alcohol prevention pilot project for children and youth grade 5-6 throughout the Kootenay Boundary Region (School Districts 8, 10, 20). Starting in January the pilot project is hoping to reach 4 classes per district. There will be 1 parent meeting, 3 workshops with the youth and 1 parent and youth workshop so the youth can show what they know. For more information Contact – Bonnie Lundmark - [bonniefq@shaw.ca](mailto:bonniefq@shaw.ca) – office (250) 304-2676 or cell (250) 368-1244

## 5. Correspondence

- a.) Business arising from Correspondence
  - Board Meeting - December 15,2009 5pm

## 6. Discussion Items

- a.) BCCPAC – will email out some notes on BCCPAC conference.
- b.) DPAC Vision/Mission statement –
  - DPAC Vision** - To enhance parental vision for their children in public education.
  - DPAC Mission**
    - DPAC is recognized by the School Act to be the officially accountable body of PAC representation in SD#8.
    - DPAC increases parental opportunity and capacity to support their children with communication and collaboration to: connect PAC's, district management, BCCPAC., government and community.
    - DPAC functions in a context of leadership, personal contact, parental education, and advocacy to ensure that public education in SD8 serves the best interests of students.
- c.) DPAC Budget 2009-10
  - gaming funding was cut in half from \$2500 to \$1250.00
  - \$3950.00 from district
  - Major expenses from last year: Pay BCCPAC membership fees on behalf on PACs, retreats, a little bit on advertising and parent travel and childcare costs.

We will be Sending out a DPAC questionnaire on what parents want from their DPAC.

Budget Priorities: - parent education on PAC executive positions and duties/tips?, supporting Freedom Quest drug and alcohol education and awareness?

- d.) DPAC Christmas Party December 17,2009 motion by Susan Wilson to spend \$300.00 on Christmas party seconded by Katia Dolan - carried

## 7. Committee Reports

- a.) Treasurer
- b.) DPAC Executive
- c.) Education – Jenny Henri will send out minutes
- d.) Finance
- e.) Healthy Lifestyles
- f.) Policy

## 8. School Reports

- a. Mount Sentinel – poinsettia fundraiser, just had a dance
- b. CEC - fairly good turnout at PAC meetings
- c. Blewett – just finished Halloween party
- d. Homelinks – Took field trip from Idaho to Seattle with 80 students and parents in September, 2 new students got bikes stolen and the parents raised money with a pie sale and raised 2000.00 to buy bikes for the children. Teacher last year started a basketball team for the area, they are keeping this on.
- e. Erikson – Purdys chocolate fundraising, turkey bingo fundraiser, purchased tumble books for online learning, audio system. Purchased new PA systems for the school. Organizing an area wide children show and silent auction with the help of other DPAC reps from the area. Contest to pick a name for the show and send in artwork for the show. All money raised for putting in new playground equipment in local park and to help with the water park that the rotary just installed this past spring.
- f. Canyon – lots of fundraising, preparing for ski trip in February.
- g. Mount Sentinel – reformatted vision and mission statement and out of the discussion they have chosen Communication as a goal for this year. They are using email lists. They did parent teacher appreciation to improve parent teacher relationships. Quest program is a community program that has just recently started. New alternative education program running – program of choice for students who don't fit into the regular classrooms.
- h. South Nelson – H1N1 the absentee rates have not been over 10% and their hasn't been any confirmed cases as of yet. Poinsettia fundraiser, school logo t-shirt donation, penny ride for hospital, and cookie dough fundraiser.
- i. WE Graham – has lost alternate Education program and had .4 of a teacher removed from school a few weeks ago. 4<sup>th</sup> restructure this year. The kindergarten class is on its own with the principal and the 1-5 yrs are in one classroom. Spaghetti dinner and Christmas concert fundraiser. Inviting entire community of Slocan.
- j. Rosemont – some fundraising going on and preparing for the Christmas Concert.

## Adjournment at 8:10 pm

### Meeting Schedule:

December 17, 5:00 (6:00 pm Creston) - Christmas Party

January 28, 2010 6:00 (7:00 pm Creston)

February 25, 2010 6:00 (7:00 pm Creston)