



## HIV Forum October 15, 2007

### Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

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**Facilitator:** Michael Yoder

**Minutes:** Jeff Dywelska

*Call to Order at 1:05pm.*

- 1) Welcome & Overview
  - a. Introduction to consensus.
  - b. Introduction to the Forum.
  - c. Round of Introductions
  
- 2) Invitation of Guests: Miriam Martin, Jeff Dywelska  
Consensus reached.
  
- 3) Moment of silence led by Gary F.
  
- 4) Announcements
  - a. If you haven't checked into your hotel room, do so now.
  - b. Parking: register your plate number at the PAN registration table.
  - c. Fire drill taking place at 2pm, we will take a 5 minute break.
  
- 5) Board seats open to positive Directors only:
  - a. Provincial Health Authority: 1 year term
  - b. Vancouver Coastal: 2 year term
  - c. Fraser: 2 year term
  - d. Northern: 1 year term
  - e. Vancouver Island: 2 year term
  
- 6) Creation of Forum Agenda
  
- 7) Mayor Sullivan's drug policy, CAST, Dale.
  - a. Mayors plan to substitute drugs to heroin and crack cocaine users (repeat offenders), complications with Stephen Harpers drug policy. Previous plans have proven ineffective in terms of delivery.

## Action

Invite mayor or rep. (Donald McPhearson) to talk about drug substitution plan, Federal plan to remove Insite and replace with methadone programme. Miriam will ensure that Insite mission statement is posted on website.

- 8) Game: What is this?
- 9) Red Zones
  - a. In Nanaimo, Victoria and Kelowna red zone often includes many service agencies.
- 10) Review of minutes from last forum, March 6-7 2007
  - a. Note that Orientations for new delegates are not “mandatory”.
  - b. Bottled water required
  - c. Orientation for delegates, information package for delegates
  - d. Re-create e-mail list, include personal information ex. email address. Chris will be responsible for maintaining and updating list
  - e. Glyn will bring Libby Davies’ Letter of support of Insite tomorrow for approval
  - f. Bring forth ideas for workshops for the skills building conference
  - g. Proposal for a half day diversity session at the next forum

Motion to adopt minutes from March 6-7, 2007 Forum.

*Moved BCPWA; Seconded Friends for life: Carried.*

- 11) Michael introduces open space discussion format
- 12) Chris, review of Board application process
  - a. Review of bylaw amendments
    - i. is a board member required to reside in the geographical location they were elected to represent? No, see bylaw amendment B from last AGM. Look at the best solution for that area or agency.
- 13) PAN Attendance
  - a. Discussion of decreasing attendance at positive forum.
  - b. Agencies have to be increasingly sought after to confirm attendance and make sure forms were completed.
  - c. Agencies should be choosing proper delegates.
  - d. Enforce attendance at PAN conference as a mandatory part of PAN membership.
  - e. Clarifying the role of the delegates would increase incentive to attend.
  - f. Find out what are we to take back to our respective agencies
  - g. Try to recruit and act as mentors within our communities.
- 14) ACAP petition
  - a. ACAP petition is ready to go
  - b. Getting these back to the agencies as fast as possible, make sure there are no redundancies,

- c. Must find out whether the government is truly dedicated to ACAP funding.
- d. Must let government know that these programs are relevant and necessary as well as educate people as to the goals of ACAP.
- e. May disappear if education is not properly distributed.
  - i. Elaborate on the danger to Insite and other harm reduction programs in the event of a possible Conservative majority. Aim of petition to keep these issues in the media spotlight.

15) E-Health, Glyn

- a. No result yet on “masking” medical records, raises privacy concerns.
- b. Movement to amendment to health act required.
  - i. Ex those receiving HIV medications will now be listed.
- c. Problems stem from privatization of these processes in the Health system. Boarder crossing difficulties for positive people.

16) Skills wish list posted, delegates invited to write topics they feel relevant

17) Break out session, Brainstorming: Why Am I Here, What is my role as a delegate?

- a. “Sticking it out”. To keep the organization alive and moving forward.
- b. Knowledge of PAN and how valuable it is to others.
- c. Networking, share ideas, seek peer support.
- d. Give voice to our own causes, challenging barriers and trends.
- e. Representatives of “ourselves” at the forum (rep. of positive people).
- f. Not only what does PAN offer us, but what can we offer PAN?
- g. Seek information and insights on emerging trends and problems (occurring in other regions, experienced by various economic, geographic and age groups)
- h. To report back when I get back to my agency.
- i. Positive hope for change.
- j. Seek a foundation of voices for solidarity, especially in advocacy and support.
- k. Feel a sense of accomplishment, personal self goals.
- l. Help contribute and promote awareness of issues facing aboriginals with HIV.
- m. Learning about resources around the province.
- n. Inspiration

*Adjourned 4:30*

# HIV Forum October 16, 2007

## Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

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**Facilitator:** Michael Yoder

**Minutes:** Jeff

*Call to order 9:30*

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Creation of the agenda
  - a. Additions to agenda items from October 15.
- 3) Miriam Presentation of Strategic Plan
  - a. Discussion about the lack of representation from the north of the province. Concern expressed around the lack of members willing/able to bring these issues forward.
    - i. There is a need to address geographical concerns as well as those around addiction. PAN to provide better communication and support for rural communities.
    - ii. Teleconference meetings could increase access to meetings.
    - iii. Is there a breakdown of the funds being distributed to different regions?
    - iv. PAN should support Indexing projects and encourage strategic planning specific to each region.
    - v. Regional meetings would begin to address the concerns raised.
    - vi. Suggestions that we consider extra representation for underrepresented regions like the north.
  - b. Concerns about the Strategic Plan & Regional Meetings
    - i. Was the money spent on the strategic plan well-spent?
    - ii. Concerns expressed regarding possible by-law conflicts in carrying out Regional Meetings. Bylaw states that two semi annual meetings must occur, logistical and bylaw concerns would need to be addressed to facilitate mini conferences.
    - iii. Regional meetings a pilot project at this point, bylaw changes pending approval of the effectiveness of regional meetings
    - iv. Invitation to propose changes to the introduced strategic plan.
  - c. Proposal to accept non ASO members, could increase flexibility and increase recruitment into PAN. Bylaws state that to be a member, agencies must be AIDS specific organizations or projects.
  - d. Suggestion to invite two positive delegates rather than one to PAN conferences. Discussion of feasibility.
  - e. Strategic plan does not adequately address the needs of people who are HIV positive.

- f. “Rural outreach strategy”, what is this? Upon approval more concrete definition of the terms will come forth once committees have been struck. Committees should.
  - i. Assess needs community by community
  - ii. Address concerns about confidentiality in rural communities
  - iii. Address the logistical concerns

4) Regional Meeting Proposal

- a. Chris presents proposal.
- b. How do regional meetings report back to the larger organization and distribute information amongst other regions?
- c. Regional meetings can incorporate a “report back mechanism”. Information from regional meetings could be posted on E-news. Teleconferencing provides a certain amount of anonymity.

Action:

After every conference, PAN will send a letter to each health region reiterating the issues and requesting more funding.

5) By-law amendments

Motion that the Forum request a by-law amendment to restrict board tenure to three consecutive terms.

Amendment to the proposed by-law amendment: if there is no new candidate for the seat in question, the incumbent may sit for another term.

*Out of order.*

- a. Question about the legality of this amendment. It would not pass the government requirements, as it is “conditional”.

Amendment: following a tenure of three consecutive terms, a Board member will be asked to retire from the Board for one term.

*Friendly.*

Suggestion to table motion for later discussion.

*Consensus reached.*

Motion that the two seats (1 positive, 1 other) held by the PHSA be voted upon by all voting delegates at the forum and general assembly respectively (rather than by the PHSA caucus at the forum and general assembly respectively).

*Carried.*

6) Health items

- a. Medicinal Marijuana
  - i. Letter was sent to Tony Clement to have Medical Marijuana covered like other prescription drugs.
  - ii. Board working with Green Cross Society.

- iii. 25% of compassion club members are HIV positive. Research into the most effective strains of marijuana as well as other method of delivery, ex. pills.
- iv. Does PAN need to draft another letter regarding the legal issues? PAN would seek clarification around the legal issues, bring those issues up to the General Assembly

Action:

Gary to draft letter regarding medical marijuana for Tony Clement.

- b. Employment issues
  - i. Unpaid work in the AIDS community. Sense of self worth received by knowing that you are contributing to your community in a positive way.
  - ii. Those who are on Disability produce a significant amount of volunteer labour. Some allowance to receive a minimum compensation for volunteer hours
  - iii. People are afraid to rejoin the work force, PWA honorarium system, how do we get people back to work? What are the safety nets in place for people coming off CPP?
- c. Access to treatment
  - i. There are large numbers of people who qualify for treatment who are not receiving it. Information should be distributed to the media that this treatment is missing the mark.
  - ii. PAN should support programs like MAT which aim to make treatment more accessible

Action

PAN will call the government on their lack of action on housing, treatment and psych services.

- d. Lipoatrophy
  - i. Ontario covers cosmetic surgery for lipo-atrophy and dystrophy. Try to implement this here?

Action

Board of PAN to draft a letter to the OAN regarding coverage of lipo-atrophy and dystrophy and their subsidy process for information to be used in BC

- e. Lack of specialists in the North and other regions.
- f. Housing and homelessness and housing issues in the North
  - i. There is a real need for safe long term housing and centers beyond 24 hour drop in centers.
  - ii. Portable housing subsidies are not enough. More affordable housing is needed.
  - iii. The government needs to ask more of private development firms.

- iv. Options for social housing/affordable housing must be flexible and varied, including financing for purchase of affordable homes.

Action

Research the Benny Farm, a Green housing development in Montreal as well as Developments outside Washington DC which are socially diverse.

- g. Government funding
  - i. Provincial health authorities need to be more transparent and accountable. Funding announced for health care was not used for HIV initiatives.
  - ii. Federal funding, government is re-profiling funding, movement of 1 million dollars in funding from ACAP to vaccine initiatives.
- h. Federal Drug Strategy
  - i. The Harper government has removed any mention of Harm Reduction from the Federal Drug policy.
  - ii. This is really not acceptable and must be actively opposed by PAN and member agencies.

Actions

Daryle will send list of acronyms to Miriam.

- 7) Announcement of new board members
  - a. Provincial-Ken Ward
  - b. Vancouver Coastal-Dirceu Campos
  - c. Fraser-Gary Ferguson
  - d. Interior-Chris Mackenzie (staying on)
  - e. North-Tammy Leiterman
  - f. Island-Liz Stratulat
- 8) Breakout session to draft letter about key issues.
  - a. Each group to draft sections of a letter to present to the general assembly.
  - b. Who to send the letter to?
    - i. Premier and Minister of Health
    - ii. Minister of housing-Rich Colman
    - iii. Attorney General-Wally Opal
    - iv. Minister of Education
    - v. Aboriginal Affairs
    - vi. Health Canada
    - vii. Minister of municipal affairs
    - viii. NDP-Adrian Dix
    - ix. Carole James
    - x. Katrina Conroy
    - xi. Other critics
    - xii. CAS

- xiii. CATIE
  - xiv. CTAC
  - xv. CAAN
- Health Authorities C.E.O.s