



## DRAFT Forum for persons living with HIV/AIDS Minutes

Fall 2014

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:45 pm to 8:30 pm

**Location:** Vancouver Airport Marriott Hotel, 7571 Westminster Highway, Richmond, BC

**The Forum is for persons living with HIV/AIDS**

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**5:45-6:00** Dinner: Delegates serve themselves and get settled

**6:00-6:15**

- 1. Welcome & Call to Order, PHA Forum**
- 2. Introductions:** Chairs (Darren L.), Time-keeper (Monique D.), and Minute Taker (Joanna M.)
- 3. Housekeeping Items:** Andrew B.
- 4. Discussion regarding non-PHA delegates in the room**
  - Minute taker (Joanna M.) is approved to be in the room.
  - Leah S. identifies herself as the Coordinator from Vancouver Native Health Society – coordinating a peer-led HIV self-management program and is welcomed to the room and supporting delegates from Vancouver Native Health
- 5. Roundtable introduction of Delegates (name, region, PAN organization)**
  - Bud B. (Living Positive Resource Centre)
  - Monique D. (Positive Women's Network)
  - Christina T. (Prince George – Needle Exchange)
  - Claudette C. (Positive Women's Network)
  - Wayne C. (Positive Living BC)
  - Dakota D. (PLDI, Pacific AIDS Network)
  - Belinda J. (Blood ties Four Directions)
  - Michelle S. (Positive Living North)
  - Dennis E. (Blood ties Four Directions)
  - Ray S. (Positive Living BC)
  - Sue B. (Positive Leadership Development Institute)

- Sandy L. (Red Road HIV/AIDS Network)
- Piotr B. (Vancouver Island Persons Living with AIDS Society)
- Mark S. (Southern Gulf Islands AIDS Society)
- Mike S. (Friends For Life)
- Craig D. (Vancouver Island People Living with AIDS Society)
- Andrew B. (AIDS Vancouver Island)
- Janet W. (Abbotsford – Positive Living Fraser Valley)
- Dale N. (ASK Wellness)
- Charlene A. (Canadian HIV/AIDS Treatment Action Council)
- Bev O. (Positive Women’s Network)
- Jestina K. (Positive Leadership Development Institute)
- Heidi S. (Positive Women’s Network)
- Kath W. (Positive Leadership Development Institute)
- Val N. (Positive Leadership Development Institute)
- Hesham A. (Keys: Housing and Health Solutions)
- Allan M. (Positive Living North)
- Al H. (Heart of Richmond AIDS Society)
- Chuck O. (PAN, Centre for Excellence)
- Brent S. (AIDS Vancouver)
- Patience C. (Canadian HIV Women’s Sexual and Reproductive Health Cohort Study)
- Elina C. (Carnegie Community Centre - AIDS Support Group)
- Corrina G. (Vancouver Native Health)
- Ralph B. (Vancouver Native Health)
- Leah S. (Vancouver Native Health)
- Charles C. (DTES HIV/IDU Consumers’ Board)
- John C. (Carnegie Community Centre -AIDS Support Group)
- Gary C. (DTES HIV/IDU Consumers’ Board)

**6:15-6:20**

- 6. Review and Adoption of PHA Forum Agenda 2014 (Motion)** by Chuck O.
  - So moved by Monique D., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Claudette C. - Carried
- 7. Review and Adoption of Draft Minutes from Fall 2013 Forum (Motion)** by Chuck O.
  - So moved by Hesham A., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Claudette C. - Carried

**6:20-6:40**

- 8. Brief highlights of PAN’s progress in addressing priority issues previously identified at past PHA Forums**
  - 1) Stigma – Institutional vs Personal** – Andrew B.
    - Stigma has been identified as a PAN priority for the last couple years. PAN will be acting as the provincial coordinator and rolling out in BC, the Global Stigma Index Project for which funding has been received from the Vancouver Foundation and the CIHR Centre for REACH. In

terms of national roll-out, the first CIHR operating grant application was unsuccessful but is being re-submitted this month. PAN has also been working with the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network and a number of PAN member and allied organizations around criminalization of HIV non-disclosure.

**2) End of AIDS Exceptionalism or the Normalization of AIDS – Hesham A.**

- PAN is collaborating with AIDS service organizations and researchers in Atlantic Canada on the *Rethinking ASOs?* Project. This project is in the planning stage for a larger research project and is working to create a safe place to discuss changes in policy and shifts in expanding HIV services to include related conditions.

**3) Continuing Education – Darren L.**

- PLDI: The Positive Leadership Development Institute is ongoing in offering three levels of leadership training (Core Leadership training, Communication Skills training, and Board Governance (Bored? Get on Board!) training). PLDI has partnered with the Positive Women’s Network to engage more women in PLDI, and through funding from the MAC AIDS Fund were able to host a reunion event for PLDI grads “You’re a Leader! Now What?”. Congratulations to Dakota D. who is now a full certified PLDI trainer, and to Valerie N. and John D. who are trainers-in-training!
- Other trainings coming up: PAN will be hosting a workforce development conference for people working in Frontline Support. The program will include a session with Yvette Perreault from the AIDS Bereavement and Resiliency Program of Ontario; Province –Wide Service Providers Education Initiative that will be exploring the challenges of working with clients around HIV criminalization and non-disclosure – including a presentation by Micheal Vonn from the BC Civil Liberties Association; and other pieces still tbd.
- PAN is also working with CATIE on their Blended Learning Initiative.

6:40-8:10

**9. Priority and Governance Pieces:** Facilitated by Dakota D.

**a) New priority for PAN from Forum, a question to the Forum Floor, what should be the priority for PAN in the coming year?**

- Small group work: each table generates a list of possible priorities for PAN to work on; then identify one priority
- Whole group work: All the small groups come together and come up with a single priority that they agree on from the Forum.

### **Top Priorities Identified by tables**

**Table 1:** (Leah S.) Having more public awareness and education throughout BC and Yukon including on and off reserve, and through many other diverse cultural groups in a culturally competent manor. Be able to share our cultural competency from Vancouver, with other regions across the province.

*Votes: 4*

**Table 2:** (Chuck O.) Reaching non-engaged or hard to reach individuals through innovate initiatives such as moving the language away from HIV to undetectable, or any other programs to engage these people.

*Votes: 6*

**Table 3:** (Piotr B.) Aging and HIV and the complexities with health care, food and housing security, and finances.

*Votes: 17*

**Table 4:** (Claudette C.) The need for the New Charge Assessment Guidelines around HIV Non-disclosure.

*Votes (table 4 and 5): 5*

**Table 5:** (Charlene A.) PAN to spearhead the province coming together cohesively to have one unified voice from all the ASOs across Canada with regards to HIV Nondisclosure and the New Charge Guidelines. Making the provincial government accountable and then extending across the country.

*Votes (table 4 and 5): 5*

**Table 6:** (Ray S.) Create a province wide “Peer Navigation” support program (buddy system where newly diagnosed people or anyone living with HIV who are unable to navigate the system are paired with peers to assist them in this challenge).

*Votes: 4*

**Group Consensus Priority:** Aging and HIV and the complexities with health care, food and housing security, and finances.

#### **b) PAN Governance Dialogue**

- **Board composition:** Should PAN create a designated seat on the PAN board for a person who is hepatitis C positive (versus co-infected)?

Questions and comments from the room:

- How does the First Nations Health Authority fit within the current board structure? I.e. Someone who may fit within VCH and the FNHA?
  - Endorse having 6 seats reserved for people living with HIV, but mixed feelings about representation having to be by health authority regions since there are more people with HIV in some health authorities.
  - At the same time, it is important for the various health authorities to be represented since every region has unique challenges.
  - As a group we are okay that PAN looks at this further, it is not set in stone, but some feelings of “if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it”(John C.).
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- **Board election process 1:** Should part of the requirements of becoming a member of the PAN board for one of the positive designate seats, be that the person have to have taken the Core Training of the *Positive Leadership Development Institute* (PLDI)?
  - **Board election process 2:** Does the regional approach to PAN Board elections still serve PAN well – (right now we have 2 board seats from each health authority region, not including First Nations Health Authority) – could we perhaps look at changing that so only ½ are regionally specific and the rest are “floating seats”? Or make all floating seats, but with clearer job descriptions/expectation of board members including that they have to connect with regions on a regular basis, report on their concerns and are accountable to those regions? How do we ensure sufficient regional representation yet at the same time ensure that those elected to the PAN board have capacity; and also that board seats are filled (e.g. sometimes some seats sit empty depending on the region).

Questions and comments from the room:

- Conundrum: if there is no interest from one region that seat remains open and the board will work throughout the year to fill that seat, but in PAN’s history, there have been some period where board seats have gone empty for years.
- Part of the reason for opening up the forum to people other than PAN member delegates is to increase interest in these types of positions – at the same time, in order to be elected to the board, as it currently stands, someone needs to be the official representative of a PAN member organization.
- Forum agreed that it is alright for PAN to explore options.

- **Timing of Forum:** Should we eliminate the requirement that the Forum needs to precede the AGM by 24 hours (is a greater amount of time okay?)

Questions and comments from the room:

- Currently this forum must take place within 24 hours of the AGM.
- Forum agrees there should be wiggle room.

**10. Motion by the Forum, to bring forward the priority to the floor of the 2014 AGM**  
(Chuck O.)

- So moved by Hesham A., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Claudette C. – Carried

**8:10-8:20**

**11. Election of designated PHA seats to the PAN Board: 1 designated seat in the Island (Andrew B running as an incumbent)** Conducted by Chuck O. and Darren L. Darren L. calls 3 times for any nominations from the floor – none come forward.

**12. Results:** Andrew B. is re-elected for the Island

**8:20**

**13. Close the Meeting (motion)**

- So moved by Wayne C., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Claudette C. - Carried

**8:20-8:45**

**14. Optional: Positive Leadership Development Institute – Positive Women’s Leadership Initiative Evaluation Videos:** Presented by Val N. and Kath W.