



Board of Directors' Meeting

MINUTES

**Wednesday, September 19, 2018
4:30 p.m.**

**BGCFS Walkerton Office
5 McGivern Street West, Walkerton**

Present: Dr. George Sanz (Chair), James McKinnon, Gord Hammer, Tim Nicol, Christine John, Linda Van Sligtenhorst and Dave Wyles

Staff: Phyllis Lovell, Deb Pope, Julie Lipsett, Anne Bester and Jeff Nickel

Guests: George Mackowski (new board member) and Francesca Dobbyn, United Way BG, Nancy Craig, Foster Parent Association

Regrets: Donald Porterfield, Christena Dawson, Renee Abram, Marie Tudor, Selwyn (Buck) Hicks and Julie Lawrence

Recorder: Kim Fleming

1. Welcome / Opening Remarks

George Sanz welcomed everyone to the meeting. He also welcomed George Mackowski to the Board.

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT Bruce Grey Child and Family Services Board of Directors welcome George Mackowski to the Board.

MOVED by Gord Hammer; SECONDED by Linda Van Sligtenhorst

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Agenda / Conflict of Interest Declaration

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board accepts the agenda as presented.

MOVED by Dave Wyles; SECONDED by Jamie McKinnon

CARRIED

No Conflict of Interest Declared.

3. Approval of the Minutes from June 20, 2018 & Business Arising

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board accepts the minutes from June 20, 2018 meeting as presented.

MOVED by Christine John; SECONDED by Tim Nicol

CARRIED

4. **Presentation – Local Poverty & the Work of the Coalition – Francesca Dobbyn, United Way BG**

Francesca Dobbyn, Executive Director of Bruce Grey United Way presented.

Francesca shared the 2018 backpack program report. This is the 14th year for United Way collecting backpacks for children going back to school in September. A total of 23,633 backpacks were given out over the 14 years. Numbers were up by 400 kids from last year. 2,456 full stocked backpacks were distributed this year.

The Poverty Task Force is a major project run through the United Way. The funding for this project comes from the two counties (Bruce & Grey). Francesca shared the history of how this task force came to be beginning in the summer of 2012.

Basic needs are increasingly out of reach for people living on low-income and people with insufficient income face impossible choices every single day. For people living with disabilities, further barriers related to employment, social exclusion, and higher cost of living make it even more difficult to thrive without comprehensive supports. On an average, 1,949 households per month access Ontario Works in Grey and Bruce counties in 2018.

The Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force has become a recognized advocate for change in our community in the last 5 years. Working in partnership with over 52 agencies, community groups and policy-makers, the task force has created a structure that allows for meaningful dialogue, education and purposeful partnerships that address the root causes of poverty in our community. The United Way and the Poverty Task Force look forward to working with the new provincial government on addressing rural poverty needs.

In Owen Sound, there have been community connections and support. Some of the support comes from:

- Bridges out of Poverty Training (was presented to the Board and Senior Team on September 14th, 2018)
- Getting Ahead
- Healthy Community Partnership Table
- Grey Bruce Children's Alliance
- Community Foundation Grey Bruce Vital Signs
- Home and Community Support Services MOVING'GB Transportation
- United Way Bruce Grey that offers food bank summits and financial literacy program
- RentSafe Above Standards Housing Roundtable
- Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force
- Bruce Grey Data Information Sharing Collaborative
- The Salvation Army Food Bank
- OShaRE
- Safe N Sound
- Resource Centres for low income neighbourhoods
- The Good Food Box

5. Reports

- **Board Chair**

George Sanz and Phyllis Lovell attended the 'Learning Together to Bring Indigenous Children Home' event at Rama on September 16-18, 2018. This OACAS event was a follow up from the Apology and Acknowledgement event that took place last year. Representatives from Chippewas of Nawash, M'wikwedong Cultural Centre and Saugeen First Nation were there as well as representatives from Inuit communities. The Metis were not represented as they had declined their invitation to participate in the gathering. They made it clear that their conversation with child welfare was very different and their wish is to meet in the near future to have those conversations. Last year, the Gathering was the sectors opportunity to apologize for the harm done to Indigenous people by child welfare practice and policy. This year, child welfare organizations were to report on the progress they have made with respect to the commitments to Indigenous people and to address the challenges of 'bringing children home'. The progress reports for BGCFS and the province will be shared with the Service & Quality Committee in October.

Dr. Sanz talked about all of the activities that took place over the summer beginning with the interview of our new board member, George Mackowski. Mr. Mackowski brings years of volunteering and expertise from his time as a volunteer for both BGCFS and Keystone to the Board and we are happy to have him on our board. On August 14th, a telephone meeting with our new Ministry Program Supervisor, Shaun Cassar took place to discuss the Quality Improvement Plan report and the new reporting timelines. On September 8th, a historical story-telling play called 'Pane Jaagide Everlasting Fire' was presented to the public at the Nawash Community Centre in Neyaashiinigmiing. And on September 14th, Jill Umbach from the Children's Alliance came to present on 'Bridges out of Poverty training' to the Board and the Senior Team.

- **Foster Parent Association**

Nancy Craig presented from the Foster Parent Association. There was a meeting last night and a brand new foster parent attended. Over the summer, a pool/pizza party took place and now the planning begins for the Children's Christmas party scheduled for December 1st. The association is also working on renting out the Roxy Theatre in Owen Sound for the showing of the movie 'Instant Family'. The annual trip to Great Wolf Lodge in Niagara Falls has been booked for January 31st to February 2nd, 2019. Foster parents also commented positively on the support they received over the summer from the organization.

- **Chief Executive Officer**

Phyllis Lovell presented on her report. Ms. Lovell introduced Deborah Pope to the Board as the newly hired Director of Service. Ms. Lovell also alerted the Board to the unprecedented accessing of our provincial data base (CPIN). There have been significantly higher numbers of outages in the last little while and normally when there is an outage, the practice has been that the Ministry would provide organizations with a report that would indicate information about the outage. There has been a change with the Ministry's practice as there has been reluctance in their response when an outage takes place. Ms. Lovell has notified our Program Supervisor of this issue and he has been aware of this problem and

wishes to be briefed on future outages and response time from the Ministry. There needs to be a sector unified message to the Ministry around child safety. Ms. Lovell will continue to provide updates to the Board.

• **Finance, Risk Management and Audit Committee**

Gord Hammer presented the report from the September 12th, 2018 meeting.

Jeff Nickel reported on the financial statement. We have not received our funding allocation for this year.

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board of Directors accept the FRMA report as presented.

MOVED by Gord Hammer; SECONDED by Dave Wyles

CARRIED

• **Community, Governance and Stakeholder Relations Committee**

In Christena Dawson's absence, George Sanz presented the report from the September 12th, 2018 meeting.

The committee reviewed the board survey results from June and it appeared that one board member – selected the rating of 'disagree' for most of the questions. The committee was unclear if this was caused by a flaw in the survey or if this was a true rating. Dr. Sanz indicated to the board that if this was a true rating by a board member, he would like to encourage this person to get in touch with him privately to provide feedback.

The Committee would like to proceed this Christmas with the Board/Youth Christmas dinner in December.

The Committee will lead the process of the creation of a new Strategic Plan and recommends a 5-year strategic plan to align with the OACAS strategic plan. The release of the request for proposal will go out this week.

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board approve the recommendation from the Community, Governance and Stakeholder Relations Committee for the development of a new Strategic Plan.

MOVED by Christine John; SECONDED by George Mackowski

CARRIED

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board accept the CGSR report as presented.

MOVED by Christine John; SECONDED by Linda Van Sligtenhorst

CARRIED

6. **New Business**

George Sanz is currently the liaison to the United Way Board of Directors and would like to step down from this position and asked if there would be someone interested in taking over this position.

7. **In-Camera (required)**

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board move in-camera at 6:43 p.m. regarding a personnel issue.

MOVED by George Sanz; SECONDED by Dave Wyles

CARRIED

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Board move out of camera at 7:00 p.m.

MOVED by Dave Wyles; SECONDED by Gord Hammer

CARRIED

8. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

MOVED by Linda Van Slichtenhorst; SECONDED by Christine John

CARRIED

9. **Next Meeting – Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 4:30.**