

Draft Meeting Minutes
CBR in BC Quarterly
September 5, 2012 1-3:30pm

Location: Tom Cox Room (2nd Floor) in the BC Centre for Disease Control, 655 12th Ave W, Vancouver, BC.

Participants: Jaime Forrest, Patrick McDougall, Sarah Evans, Brian Chittock, Darren Lauscher, Angela Kaida, Janice Duddy, Andrea Langlois, Stacy Leblanc, Andrea Langlois

By teleconference: Elisabeth Marks, Surita Parashar, Cheryl Dowden, Cathy Worthington, Terry Howard

Regrets: Ross Harvey, Valerie Nicholson, Marcie Summers, Heather Peters, Sean Rourke, Bernie Pauly

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- 1) Previous Minutes Approved
 - 2) Current Project Updates

a) PLPH – Andrea Langlois and Cathy Worthington

- i) This study will help us understand the processes through which PHAs navigate the policies and programs that impact the availability and quality of housing in BC and the successes and challenges of ASOs in their efforts to assist with this process. The study is going to focus on policies and programs with the goal of understanding barriers and enabling factors around suitable housing.
- ii) The project will also have a strong focus on building the capacity of the HIV sector throughout the province so that all regions are better able to advocate for change. We are going to accomplish the above using a methodology that includes comparing 3 communities in BC, where we will analyze existing policies, and where we will interview PHAs and service providers over a period of 3 years. Additional funding for other sites may be sought and there is broad support for this within the Team.
- iii) We are currently writing the funding proposal for submission to the CIHR HIV CBR Operating grant in the fall.

b) Food Security – Brian Chittock

- i) They have completed 320 surveys to date, here is the breakdown:

Region	Sample in Food Security	On treatment by health authority
Fraser Health Authority	47 (14.7%)	20%
Interior Health Authority	35 (10.9%)	6%
Northern Health Authority	30 (9.3%)	3%
Vancouver Health Authority	157 (49%)	55%
Vancouver Island Health	51 (15.9%)	11%

Authority		
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- ii) Initial goal was 800 and even though they later revised to 500, they are content with this amount of participation. The surveys have been sent to Toronto for analysis.
- iii) The next phase is analysis and dissemination.

c) CHIWOS – Angela Kaida

- i) The second Community Advisory Board will be meeting on Oct. 11th to deliver the 1 year update. Looking to review the survey instrument before beginning data collection in May 2013. Team feels that there will be enough time to incorporate feedback into the survey instrument before that time.
- ii) Engaged in the formative research process, and have submitted a paper, and have completed the analysis of the focus group data.
- iii) CHIWOS has developed a profile of women living with HIV in BC and are working towards sharing this information in a PAN webinar and in another webinar on bringing research back to community.
- iv) Hoping to use an online data capture tool that will be PRA administered for the survey.

d) Momentum – Jaime Forrest

- i) The Momentum Health Study is a new sexual health study of gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men in Greater Vancouver. Momentum aims to report new estimates of HIV prevalence among men who have sex with men (MSM) in the region. It is not CBR but attending meeting to make some connections.
- ii) 60-minute online, self-administered survey, with STI test, 125 people enrolled to date, working towards 1000, using respondent-driven sampling (RDS). Thus far 95% identify as gay, 60% are from Vancouver's West End.
- iii) Looking for a new strategy to increase the Seed Selection demographic, "cast a wider net," looking at using social media and expanding into more networks
- iv) Finding that there is no real key demographic for SEEDS that actively participate, participants just need to be self-motivated to recruit their friends and networks.
- v) Created a form on their website to put forward recommended individuals for SEEDS, and are going to circulate this link widely, currently broadcasting on Grindr. Request for those attending this meeting to forward this onto our contacts.

Discussion: communities and resources that Momentum could potentially utilize

- vi) Jaime feels that this new approach will help in gaining more participants.
- vii) Incentives/compensation: seeds were compensated \$30 initially and study is working with ethics to increase to \$50, plus \$10 for every person they recruit up to 6.
- viii) Andrea: Would it be useful to the group to put together a guide of what incentives groups are offering as compensation?

ACTION: Andrea to start working on putting together a resource for researchers to outline what various projects are offering as incentives and compensation, for both PRA compensation and research participant compensation.

e) Positive Living BC projects – Terry Howard

- i) Facilitation funding has ceased and is being continued by PLSBC. Terry will be the Director – setting up an administration and getting a Steering Committee together. There isn't enough funding to begin working as of yet but it is in the works.
- ii) Attended the REACH 100 meetings and looking forward to working with newly funded CBR Collaborative Centre. Meetings led to new partnership - working on a new project with Alan Li on intervention evaluation
- iii) Conducted the mid-term evaluation for the Quesnel project (CBR project on substance use and harm reduction). Suggestion made that Heather Peters present at next CBR-Q to describe how they managed to tap into hidden populations of drug users for the study.
- iv) Working with Langara to set up their research ethics board as the community representative.
- v) Prison Outreach project funded through CIHR (PI: Ruth Martin, UBC).
- vi) LOI to the Vancouver Foundation was accepted and will be preparing the full grant application for the partner matching, CBR manual, and needs assessment for HIV services projects (VF funds 50%). Patrick McDougall offered to connect with Terry to give lessons learned from his experience with the process.

f) Dr. Peter Centre – Patrick McDougall

- i) Dr. Peter Centre was successful in obtaining a CIHR grant in Health Systems Improvement which will be a 3 year grant working with Dr. Bob Hogg. Dr. Rolando Barrios has signed on as a decision maker, along with Ciro Panessa and Stewart Skinner (Sask).
- ii) The study is a retrospective analysis through a virtual cohort and is called: A mixed method evaluation of the impact of the Dr. Peter Centre on health care access and outcomes for persons living with HIV/AIDS who use illicit drugs.
- iii) Surita is developing the survey right now and will be submitting it to Ethics at UBC.

3) PAN CBR program updates – Andrea Langlois

- i) CBR Workshop 2013 – PAN was successful in our application for a CIHR disseminations grant and will be hosting a 1.5 day workshop entitled: Knowledge to Action: Strategic Directions for Community-Based Research in BC. If anyone is interested in helping plan the workshop, please let Andrea know.
- ii) REACH CBR Collaborative Centre funded for 5 years. Goals of the Centre are to foster seven collaborative, inter-sectoral Regional Core Teams that will provide leadership in CBR across Canada. Goals are to:
 - (a) Enhance the capacity to meet unique regional and population specific CBR needs.

- (b) Provide infrastructure support, training and capacity building for all CBR proposal development, process evaluations and grant writing, research grant administration, ethics, and knowledge translation strategies.
 - (c) Build a national inventory, toolkit and resources of diverse and population specific, culturally competent —best practices for CBR training and capacity building.
 - (d) Create new knowledge and facilitate the influence of that knowledge into policy and practice.
- iii) The national team will meet this fall and we will start to develop an agenda for BC; we'll need to figure out the place of the BC CBR quarterly meetings...

4) Honoraria & Disability Working Group – Andrea Langlois

- i) This Working Group met twice last year to discuss issues around PRAs receiving honoraria – the first meeting was with members of this group, and the second meeting brought in some colleagues from across Canada where the group learned that there are similar concerns. Members - Surita Parashar, Chuck Osborn, Allie Carter, Darren Lauscher, Patrick McDougall
- ii) Is there is an appetite to continue with this working group? Early in the summer Andrea put a call out to group members and there wasn't much of a response. Is time to work on something concrete and wanted to float to the group the idea of coming up with a written resource that outlines the current rules and policies for both social assistance and disability recipients so that researchers themselves are aware of the regulations and can provide this to PRAs etc so that they can make the best decisions for themselves???

Discussion:

- iii) The amount that people living on Disability 2 can earn monthly is increasing from \$500 to \$800 per month in October 2012.
- iv) Disability isn't the only issue. Brian stated that there were also issues with the Food Security study withy people having troubles with their income taxes. They required people to give their SIN #'s so they could look into whether people could get more than \$500/yr.

ACTION: Andrea will start working on a written resource that outlines the current rules and policies for both social assistance and disability recipients. The WG has agreed to play a role in this, and Brian has offered to join the WG.

- 5) Doing research in remote and rural areas – a discussion. Question: How do we start looking at rural and remote areas?

Discussion:

- Excitement over the Quesnel Project involving rural and remote people in the Food Security Study.
- Technology is only accessible to some demographics including people living in poverty and in remote areas. This presents specific challenges in collecting data. "Tool adaptation"

- There are opportunities in developing means for doing this better. What is rural? How do we reach these people?
- Stigma and anonymity are big issues as it is harder to maintain anonymity in smaller communities.
- Need to broaden knowledge about these challenges, make this information more available.
- Patrick: Suggestion to contact Margaret Deichman. Contact organizations in Eastern Canada because of the sparse population and their experiences in this area.

ACTION: PAN to consider including this topic in the 2013CBR Workshop. CBR Meeting members with expertise in this area to advise.

Discussion turned to the use Social Media:

- How do we use the internet and Social Media for recruitment and maintain ethics?
- Suggesting that being more transparent in policies can alleviate much.
- CHIWOS offered to share their social media policy.

ACTION: Andrea to approach REACH's capacity building Program of Research to see if we can all work on a resource that will benefit researchers nationally. CHIWOS policy to be circulated with meeting minutes.

6) Follow up discussions from last meeting:

- a) Supporting PRAs & counting hours of volunteerism on projects
 - i) We agreed to carry this over from last quarterly meeting. People shared concerns around the structures in place to emotionally support PRAs, and also raised the issue of whether projects should get better at calculating volunteer hours. Have there been any developments in this area? Want to continue the discussion?
 - i) PLPH is working to define these roles and is looking at ways to compensate PHAs for involvement in the Research Team.

Discussion: Tracking volunteer hours better and providing better support for PRAs

- Angela created a job description and compensation plan for PRAs and can circulate once it is finalized
- Terry: suggestion to invite Peer Leader from the Quesnel Project to the CBR workshop to share their experience of providing emotional support.

7) **Meeting adjourned.** Thank you everyone for attending, the next meeting will be in the first week of December.