



Monday, February 13, 2012

NWHU Boardroom

Attendance:

Krista Nielson, NWHU

Robert Shulz, SALT

Nell Laur, SALT

Betty McLeod

Lori Maki, RHCF

Joanne Spence, RRDSSAB

Bill Gushulak

Bob Armit

Erma Armit

Anne McCoy, OPP

Regrets:

Gerri Yerxa

Sandra Weir

Britaine Kellar

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 pm.

1.01 Introductions were made for those present

1.02 Sharing ALAG background information:

- Erma: The ALAG has focused on Public Relations in the past, and now is moving towards focusing on a new goal – doing surveys focusing on Economics and Health/Social issues – in relation to the

need of an Assisted Living facility in Fort Frances. A strategic planning event needs to take place with all relevant service providers and individuals present. We will begin to plan that event today.

- Robert shared some information pertaining to a previous meeting held via teleconference at Riverside with LHIN/NILS out of Thunder Bay: Information was shared about facilities in Thunder Bay and an offer was made to help in any way possible. The local ALAG needs to “get the wheels turning” before this can happen.
- Robert also shared some information about the potential survey: He brought the survey done in Atikokan as well as some other information to Tannis Drysdale. Through RRFD, Tannis is looking at possible questions to include on surveys and researching other assisted living facilities. On March 5, she will be presenting information pertaining to the economic side of the survey.

3.0 Assisted Living needs:

- A discussion was held around the type of facility that is needed: a social aspect as well as a private aspect should co-exist – although some people have expressed a want for private only, there is a need for both. The group feels strongly that it does **not** want to be associated with Rainycrest. The town, however, may push for the location to be by Rainycrest.
- Bill: suggested that it may be a practical choice to have an assisted living facility near Rainycrest. For example, for a couple in which one person needs specified care from Rainycrest, while the other isn't quite there yet – if the assisted living facility is near or attached to Rainycrest, there is much more convenience for the couple to spend time together.

The group recognized that this could be a practical choice. A decision was made that we need to find out what the general population really wants and needs.

1.04 Survey Needs:

The group brainstormed suggestions about what needs to be included in the surveys –

- Will <individual> be willing and able to pay to secure an assisted living space?
- When (in 1 year, 5 years, 10 years) will <individual> benefit from an assisted living facility?
- Location preference?
- Descriptors of different types of facilities and services – recognizing that some people may not be able to identify *what* specifically they will want or need, or what those possibilities would even be.

1.09 Strategic planning event:

The group began to discuss the details of a strategic planning event to get the ALAG working strategically towards a goal.

- Location: Lori noted that the event could be held at Riverside, with lunch provided. This location may not be large enough for the potential group meeting – this will be co-ordinated with Erma. Some other possible location ideas: Rainycrest, Sister Kennedy Centre, local churches, Metis hall. We will need to look into costs and availability, as well as co-ordinating the meal to be served at the location.

- Facilitator: Lori has a contact in mind for this. As a back-up, Krista suggested that the NWHU can provide a staff member to facilitate.

- Representation at the planning session will be invited from:

NWHU

Riverside

SALT

OPP

RRDSSAB

Town of Fort Frances (Mayor & Council)

Economic Development (Tannis Drysdale)

Older Adults Mental Health

Safety Coalition

CCAC

Sunset Metis

First Nation Communities

UNFC

RR District Municipal Association

ComCare – Rivera

LHIN

Rainycrest residents' council

Local seniors (manors, Sister Kennedy centre, etc)

- Erma and Krista will draft a standard letter of invitation, and will forward to Anne and Joanne. The letter will be sent out and individuals will be asked to RSVP to Krista at the NWHU.

6.0 The ALAG will hold their regular meeting on February 27th at the Super 8 meeting room at 10:00 am. At this time we will be able to share updates about progress being made towards getting invitations out, determining final details, and actions being taken.