



Friday, January 13, 2012

Victim Services

Attendance:

Bob Armit

Erma Armit

Robert Shulz

Larry McCoy

Krista Nielson (NWHU)

1.01 Introductions

1.02 Report from Bob Armit re: EDC meeting. Bob shared information from the EDC meeting he attended this week. The primary item the meeting focused on was the division of lots & sale of the Huffman school property. Bob had protested this, stating that a decision should be made around Assisted Living Facilities prior to selling off these lots. The reply from a council member was that there was plenty of room for such facilities next to Rainycrest. The general feeling that Bob got was that many people have different understandings around what Assisted Living really *is*. Social assisted housing units offer rent geared to income, while other options allow

seniors (that are able to afford) a more “condo” style of living, with various supports provided on an as-needed basis (ie: regular nursing/doctoral staff, health care aides, etc.). Many people have and will continue to **leave** Fort Frances in order to find such accommodations to suit their needs. Many council and committee members seem to miss the point that not everyone is looking for a social assistance option. It would be beneficial to do some education with not only the senior community but the public/town council at large – maybe bringing together various professionals to create a presentation or video concerning the positive aspects of an assisted living facility – to promote health, prevent/stop various forms of elder abuse, to avoid depression, to enjoy a high quality of life.

1.03 Survey of Need: the results / format of the survey done in Atikokan were very impressive – this information will be shared with Tannis Drysdale by Robert as a possible template for a similar survey in Fort Frances. Another meeting should be had with Sandra to look at different surveys. We will do this once Bob & Erma have returned; the survey will be put out immediately following this future meeting. The Rainy River Future Development Committee will take care of the economic survey.

1.04 Larry has suggested that a change in meeting times and creating more recognition for the group may be beneficial. While this may work for some people, it is difficult to connect those on the committee who are coming during work hours. Perhaps a general meeting will take place at a later time.

As this meeting was scheduled quickly, many “key” members were unable to attend, thus some agenda items were not covered. The next meeting will be scheduled once Bob & Erma Armit have returned.