

Annual General Meeting

Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse ~
Réseau Canadien pour la Prévention des Mauvais Traitements envers les Aînés

December 9, 2010

Minutes

Held by national teleconference

Board Members present

Bernice Bell, PEI
Bea Campbell, NWT
Leah Cohen, ON
Freda Hannah, ON
Shannon Kohler, MB
Elliot PausJenssen, SK
Elizabeth Podnieks, ON
Pat Power, AB
Judy-Lynn Richards, PEI
Charmaine Spencer, BC
Jean-Guy St. Gelais, QC
Mark Yaffe, QC
Jocelyn Yerxa, NS

Absentee Ballots

Rosemary Lester, NL
Raeann Rideout, ON

Voting Members Present

Susan Crichton, PHAC, MB
Bonnie Guy, YK
Gloria Gutman, BC, INPEA
Kelly Heisz, NL, SRC
Barb Hood, NWT
Jamie Howie, NB
Alison Leaney, BC, NICE
April Struthers, BC, WitWorks
Kip Veale, Yukon

Others Present

Andrea Zinck, NS, HelpAge
Brandon Grant, SK, HelpAge
Barb Burnett, NS, Atlantic Institute for Aging Care
Kerrie Strathy, SK, Lifelong Learning Centre, U. of Regina

Regrets from Board Members and Other Members

Sherry Baker, BC
Marie Beaulieu, QC
Francis Blanchard, PEI
S. Norma Gallant, PEI
Anna Grigoletto, BC
Rosemary Lester, NL
Raeann Rideout, ON

Minutes

1. Calling Meeting to Order

Charmaine Spencer, Co-Chair of the Board, welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting and used a “roll call” to introduce everyone.

2. Confirming Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice of meeting was circulated to members by email on Nov. 25, 2010 as per by-laws. All materials were available on the website at www.cnpea.ca.

Motion #1/10

Moved by: Judy-Lynn Richards

Seconded by: Elliot PausJenssen

That due notice was given and all necessary materials were sent via email and then posted on the CNPEA website by the date stipulated in the bylaws.

3. Confirming a Quorum

At 10:13 a.m. (PST) Co-Chair Charmaine Spencer confirmed that in accordance with the CNPEA bylaws there was a quorum.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Motion # 2/10

Moved by: Charmaine Spencer

Seconded by: Bernice Bell

That the agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, December 9, 2010 be approved with the addition of Updates from Members to New Business.

Motion: Carried

5. Adoption of Minutes of the Previous AGM, December 10, 2009

Motion #3/10

Moved by: Jean-Guy St. Gelais

Seconded by: Pat Power

That the minutes of the last AGM, December 10, 2009, be adopted.

Motion: Carried

6. Presentation of the Annual Report of the Board of Directors

Charmaine Spencer presented the Annual Report of the Board sharing highlights and outlining opportunities and challenges for the Board.

Motion #4/10

Moved by: Mark Yaffe

Seconded by: Jean-Guy St. Gelais

That the Annual Report of the Board of Directors be accepted as circulated.

Motion: Carried unanimously.

7. Presentation of the Treasurer's Report

In the absence of Rosemary Lester, Treasurer, Charmaine Spencer presented the Treasurer's Report.

Motion #5/10

Moved by: Elizabeth Podnieks

Seconded by: Jean-Guy St. Gelais

That the Financial Report be accepted as presented.

Motion: Carried unanimously.

8. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

9. Thanks to those not returning to the Board

Charmaine Spencer thanked Board members who are not returning to the Board and noted with appreciation that several will remain as Supporters to the Board:

Anna Grigoletto, BC

Freda Hannah, ON

Eileen Malone, NB

Susan Qamaniq, Nunavut

Judy Lynn Richards, PEI

Janelle Curtis, MB, who filled in for Shannon Kohler while Shannon was on leave.

Charmaine Spencer also thanked Susan Crichton, MB, PHAC, Kelly Heisz, NL, Barb Hood, NWT, Jamie Howie, NB, and Alison Leaney, BC, NICE who served as supporters to the Board throughout the year.

10. Election of Directors

Charmaine Spencer highlighted the proposed slate as circulated.

Sherry Baker	Rosemary Lester
Marie Beaulieu	Elliot PausJenssen
Bernice Bell	Elizabeth Podnieks
Bea Campbell	Pat Power
Leah Cohen	Raeann Rideout
S. Norma Gallant	Jean-Guy Saint Gelais
Bonnie Guy	Charmaine Spencer
Jamie Howie	Mark Yaffe
Shannon Kohler	Jocelyn Yerxa

Motion #6/10

Moved by: Elliot PausJenssen

Seconded by: Jocelyn Yerxa

That the above slate be elected as the CNPEA Board of Directors for the coming year.

Motion: Carried unanimously.

11. New Business

Updates from Members

Alberta (Pat Power)

- The Alberta Elder Abuse Strategy has been public for a month now. A community approach is highlighted as the best approach to elder abuse. There is no money attached to the strategy. For more information the link is http://www.seniors.alberta.ca/services_resources/elderabuse/AddressingElderAbuse.pdf
- The Alberta Council on Women's Shelters has developed a community development model for the intervention and prevention of elder abuse that can serve as a template for communities. The Alberta Elder Abuse Network has provided support to the project which has been funded by Alberta Seniors and Community Supports.
It will be posted on the Alberta Elder Abuse Network Website, www.albertaelderabuse.ca.
- The Fort McMurray Elder Abuse Response Team is likely to go forward as planned. At this point it is in a data gathering mode.
- The Edmonton Elder Abuse Intervention Team is planning to add a community geriatric nurse 6 hours weekly to provide a mental health component starting in February. The EAIT works closely with (and is housed with) the Elderly Adult Resource Service which does the intake component of the service, receiving approximately 1200 to 1300 calls a year. EARS responds to low and medium

risk calls and the EAIT responds to high risk calls involving approximately 500 – 600 older adults a year. Approximately one quarter are direct responses and the rest are consultations.

New Brunswick (Jamie Howie)

- New Brunswick is working on a draft proposal to rewrite their current adult protection legislation. The draft proposal will include public consultation which they hope to begin in the spring.
- The Office of the Public Trustee is now up and running. The Public Trustee legislation is now fully proclaimed.
- Advance Directives legislation has been developed by the Department of Health but has not been passed yet.

Quebec (Jean-Guy Saint-Gelais)

- Jean-Guy is working with a group to recreate the Quebec Network hopefully by June, 2011.
- The Quebec government released its elder abuse strategy, *The Government Action Plan to Counter Elder Abuse*, earlier in the year. The strategy involves 13 departments and over 40 agencies and includes provisions for funding. Jean-Guy stated much work has been done at the grassroots level in recent years.
- Mark Yaffe noted positive aspects of the strategy including the injection of money into the system and the appointment of Marie Beaulieu to oversee the strategy.

NICE (Alison Leaney)

- Alison paid tribute to the NWT Seniors Society for its recent successful symposium *Making Connections – Building Networks to Prevent Elder Abuse* in Yellowknife.
- She gave an update on the NICE *Elder Abuse Team: Knowledge to Action Project* and her current work on developing 2 tools to supplement the general police tool of Year 1, the SARA safety plan tool and a theft by power of attorney tool.
- She is working with Anna Grigoletto, Jean Guy St. Gelais and others to gather names of people across Canada who work in the area of financial abuse especially as it relates to financial institutions
- 2 teleconferences are being planned for 2011.
- Bernice Bell reported the RCMP on PEI stated they are using a NICE tool. Alison will follow to ensure the PEI RCMP and others are included in the list and teleconferences.
- Alison will email members to ask for names of people who should be on the teleconferences

April Struthers, Wit Works Ltd

April Struthers, management consultant who has worked on a number of elder abuse initiatives gave an overview of developments in the field in Canada.

She highlighted:

- *Promising Approaches in the Prevention of Abuse and Neglect of Older Adults in Community Settings in Canada* prepared by the Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and funded by PHAC. (April was principal researcher and writer.) This work built on an earlier environmental scan and provides a national snapshot of promising approaches in the field in Canada in 2007.
- *Promising Approaches for Addressing/Preventing Abuse of Older Adults in First Nations Communities*, 2009, (April Struthers, Georgina Martin, Alison Leaney, British Columbia Association of Community Response Networks) which identified relevant principles, screening and intervention tools and approaches and prevention strategies used in First Nations communities to address /prevent abuse of older adults.

Findings included: the lack of assessment and screening tools developed for use in First Nations communities to prevent or address abuse and neglect of older adults, the need for orientation of mainstream providers going into aboriginal communities that includes cultural competence, self- questioning and a willingness to listen for meaning in the context of the work and community.

- Projects focused on the needs of practitioners (dental hygienists, long term care nurses, occupational therapists, francophone lawyers, for example) to learn about abuse and neglect of older adults.
- Suggestions for future work include:
 - A study of the commonalities and differences between the fields of family violence and abuse and neglect of older adults
 - Development and communication about a national strategy to address and prevent abuse of older adults that would include effective ways of dealing with the issue at both personal and community levels
 - Look at the existing provincial strategies (maybe a comparative study?)
 - Continued work on ways to share and learn (perhaps linked to existing and new technologies)
 - Review of elder abuse networks and developing definitions of “community responses” (are they multidisciplinary? or whole community?)

Nova Scotia (Jocelyn Yerxa)

- The NS Senior Abuse Prevention Committee went through a Visioning exercise over the past few months and has worked on a new purpose statement and structure. Priorities include supporting a report on progress since the implementation of the Strategy and asset mapping the province to determine gaps in services and set priorities for the future.

- The Department of Seniors is working with the Department of Community Services to offer an Across the Generations perspective on Family Violence Prevention during Family Violence Prevention week in 2011.
- The Department has an intern, Andrea Zinck, from HelpAge Canada who will be working on updating the Community Tool Kit on Senior Abuse Prevention, updating presentations and also conducting senior abuse awareness presentations with particular professional groups (financial institutions, health care providers, etc.)
- The Senior Safety Grant program is a way Nova Scotia provides financial support for services for senior abuse prevention in communities. The grants for 2010 - 2011 have closed and are in the final stages of approval. The Department looks forward to continuing to support these valuable community programs.
- The Department is in the very early stages of working with the Department of Justice, Senior Safety programs and Restorative Justice Societies to determine if and how a Family Group Conference service can be offered to seniors and their families who may be experiencing abuse. This is envisioned as a community-based, driven, owned and operated program.

Newfoundland and Labrador (Charmaine Spencer on behalf of Rosemary Lester)

Newfoundland and Labrador underwent a public consultation in Spring 2010 as part of the process to update their Neglected Adults Welfare Act. Social workers were among the groups responding.

http://www.nlasw.ca/pdf/Neglected_Adults_Welfare_Act_Submission.pdf

Discussion on Member Updates

It was agreed the updates are timely now and will be circulated in January, 2011.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11.40 a.m. (PST).

13. Post AGM Program

Presentation by Barb Hood, Executive Director, NWT Seniors' Society, on the Society's *Building Networks to Prevent Elder Abuse Project* including the *Making Connections* Symposium, November 30 and December 1, 2010.

