

Feedback from Families - CLBC New Service Plan information meetings 2006:

Received Apr. 30, 2006

Subject: CLBC public presentation in Pr. George

We had our presentation back in April and I was rather disappointed with the insensitivity of the presentation from Prince George. The presentation was a power point for self advocates and families and it was all in written form. It was stated at the beginning that it would not be read, so I read it to my daughter who can not read but not that fast and has better understanding if she hears stuff. There was another self advocate in the room who went out and got a colouring book and crayons.

The whole process still appears to be very unclear both to us and the workers involved. The person who was our social worker and is now a facilitator has a bigger caseload than ever, oops, can't use that word. Cases are no longer managed but contact a facilitator or funder when the need is there. Who is ultimately responsible for the safety of these "self advocates" when they do not have a supportive family etc and are not able to make many decisions on there own. This is a disaster looking for a place to happen. The only monitoring appears to be of service providers and how they treat their clients.

Did we really get any improvement with this new system?

Liz Calder

Fort St. John

Received April 21, 2006:

Re: CLBC meeting in Vernon re Transformation of Services

I am a parent who attended the Vernon meeting early in April where the subject was the transformation of services. Manager Bill Tidsbury was the presenter.

Concerns were expressed by many of the fifty or so people present. Some of the questions raised were as follows.

- *The ongoing group home review needs clarification. It appears that the community is fearful.*
- *Considerable concern about the social worker role in a community where some five hundred individuals with disabilities live was expressed. Understanding is that social workers will no longer do case management, or if so, in a very limited way. Two planners and two facilitators are to serve this population. Statement was made that this will not work.*
- *Manager says we will have to work together. States it is possible that church members will help if a way to connect is created.*
- *Aging parents wonder who will care for their son or daughter. There is uncertainty about the continued existence of some service providers as well as the policy which will deny support dollars when a budget limit has been reached.*
- *It appears that a plan for each person is to be a requirement. The creation of networks for those individuals without a family, or even for families who live a considerable distance from each other, has left unanswered questions and concerns about monitoring and safety.*
- *Salaries for workers and care home providers is an issue. One person asked when care-home providers could expect a raise? Families worry that good quality people are leaving the field.*

- Question regarding payment for a sibling to be a caregiver was raised but no answer could be given.
- A need to begin the process of selecting a community council was mentioned. Nominations will be accepted, or an individual could volunteer. CLBC will select from the group.

Parents seemed discouraged as they left the meeting. Some questions couldn't be answered.

Received: April 07, 2006

Re: CLBC Community Meetings re New Service Plan

Dear sir or Madam ;

I attended one of their meetings in Salmon Arm the other night. It was all smoke and mirrors. The reason that the Government has farmed this out is because CLBC said they could do it cheaper and it will take away the responsibility from the government. A BC ferry sinks its not the Governments fault As many of the clients have no family to speak for them what a great place to cut. The office in Salmon Arm will be open one day a week so we have to plan our emergencies. The ones in control will continue to receive their high salaries and pay outs when they move on. You can judge a society by the way it treats the underprivileged. All that we have worked for over the years is going down the drain, us old people are tired, but the time the young ones wake up it will be too late.

A parent from Salmon Arm.

Received: April 06, 2006

Re: CLBC Community Meetings re New Service Plan

There was a meeting in our community last night to inform us to how the new vision and the transformation was coming along. There were parents that are very sceptacle about the plan and people expressed the fact that they were not trusting the government. They did not believe that this plan was going anywhere and it would be dropped just like all the plans before this one. Most of the parents that were there were very upset. They say they are going to pay attention to families but what about the families that keep there adult sons or daughters at home and continue to be unpaid caregivers they won't help those people even a little bit..I asked for 2 or 3 more days of respite and got told our case has been put on the back burner because its not a priority and there will not be any money. That's supposed to give families incentive to look after their own.? The parents are tired of lisenting to the politics of it all.

among the not happy group

Received April 06, 2006

Re: Re: CLBC Community Meetings re New Service Plan

Hi

Thanks for your ongoing work. I was unable to attend the recent meeting in our area as I was sick. The day after the meeting I received notification in the mail saying that the venue had changed. It seems always that the meeting are on very short notice and I wonder how many people missed because of the change of venue.

The last information session they had, I had to drive to Kelowna (from Vernon) to be able to attend. It would be nice if they gave us lots of notice and maybe held them over two days to give those wanting to attend some flexibility.

- parent