

## CANADIAN FEDERATION OF VOLUNTARY SECTOR NETWORKS

October 7, 2015 Teleconference Call

### MINUTES

1. **Volunteer to take notes** – Katherine van Kooy
2. **Introductions** – Russ Dahms, Jann Beeston, Tracey Mann, Heather Laird, Michelle Baldwin, Tanara Ferguson, Sherri Robbins, Katherine van Kooy
3. **Agenda Review** – 2014 Counterparts proceedings was deferred to a future meeting as there was no one from Manitoba on the call to speak to this item.
4. **Sept. 2, 2015 Minutes** –
5. **Federation Dues** – Russ advised that annual Federation membership fees are now due and that invoices would be sent out shortly.
6. **Counterparts Update** – Heather Laird (ONN) provided an update on planning for the 2015 gathering scheduled for May 4-6, 2016. The Ontario Ministry of Immigration and Citizenship has not yet confirmed whether they will host the meeting of the government members. The question was raised as to whether Federation members would meet if the government counterparts were not present? Some felt that the participation of government counterparts was essential; while others felt it would still be useful for the Federation members to meet on their own if necessary.

Participants felt it was important to ensure that the national organizations be involved in the gathering. If the government participation in Counterparts does not happen in 2016, we discussed the possibility of piggy-backing a Federation member meeting on some other event or conference that people would be attending anyways. Katherine will check with Bruce MacDonald if Imagine Canada has plans for an event we might coordinate with. Jann suggested that there might also be an opportunity to arrange a meeting to coincide with the IPAC national conference and that CCVO's Connections Conference might be another opportunity.

**Action: to place on the November agenda and make a decision on whether or not to move forward with the planned gathering in May 2016.**

7. **Federal Election** – No discussion as Bill Schaper was unable to participate on the call.

**8. Updating Provincial Labour Force Efforts Document: Status Report** – Tanara provided an update on efforts to update information on provincial labour force initiatives. A small working group (Bruce MacDonald, Imagine Canada; Tracey Mann; Cathy Taylor and Tanara Ferguson) are tasked with developing an “opportunity document”. One challenge is defining the “ask”.

**9. Roundtable –**

Michelle Baldwin (Pillar Nonprofit) – working on capacity building to engage high-skills volunteers. Promotion of diversity on Boards is beginning to have an impact on some municipal Board appointments. They are also working with the community foundation and United Way to develop social finance tools (loans) for community good.

Heather Laird (ONN) – Key activities include the upcoming ONN Conference (Oct. 20 & 21) which focuses on the themes of governance, advocacy and evaluation; their booklet on shared platforms is in the final stages of development; they are working on developing a nonprofit data strategy; and a literature review on evaluation work.

Sherri Robbins (CSC-NS) – delivering workshops on Financial Flexibility; looking at membership and consulting options to broaden their revenue streams; and are engaged in Vital Signs.

Jann Beeston (Volunteer Alberta) – they are working on a workshop for nonprofits on Vital Signs. Dialogue on screening volunteers at Volunteer Canada meeting; is there a way to invest \$ for Police Information Checks more effectively? Together with ECVO and CCVO are working with the Alberta Law Reform Institute regarding proposed changes to provincial nonprofit legislation.

Russ Dahms (ECVO) –New provincial budget to be released on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Province has already increased minimum wage rates and initiated a royalty review. There is a question of how the Province views the role of the sector vs. the role of government, especially in service delivery. Trying to clarify the government’s position. They are working on a local immigration partnership, and with the City of Edmonton to engage community orgs in shared space and social purpose realestate.

Tracey Mann (Saskatchewan Nonprofit Partnership) – two initiatives: conducting a sector survey on social enterprise, research to help inform their focus; and at the early stages in looking at what is required to conduct a provincial census of the nonprofit sector (tools, templates, common questions, etc.)

Katherine van Kooy (CCVO) – hosting a Nonprofit Emergency Preparedness Symposium Oct. 21 & 22; delivering an advocacy webinar which is being presented to audiences meeting together in several AB cities. Initiated a couple of very popular seminar series – one on legal matters (employment law, charitable law, property and contract issues, etc.) and a new series addressing HR issues. Along with AB colleagues succeeded in having the nonprofit sector identified in the biannual Provincial Wage and Salary Survey this summer, with great

participation by sector orgs. CCVO is working with Peter Boland to transfer responsibility for the survey in order to retain it as a sector resource.

**10. Future calls – next call is November 4<sup>th</sup> 2015.**

**November 4<sup>th</sup>:** guest – Cathy Barr, Imagine Canada

**December 2nd: CRA**