

Federation of Voluntary Sector Networks
Monthly Call: May 6, 2015

Attendees: Sid, Kathleen, Russ, Cathy, Lawrie, Tracy, Mike Grogan, Jan, Bill Schaper

Chair: Russ

Minutes: Cathy

1. **Volunteer to take Notes:** Cathy Taylor
2. **Who's on the Call:** Sid, Kathleen, Russ, Cathy, Lawrie, Tracy, Mike Grogan, Jan, Bill Schaper
3. **Agenda Review**
 - approved
4. **Review of Minutes April 1, 2015**
 - no minutes from previous meetings
5. **Counterparts 2014 Proceedings**
 - Sid: on his desk; beginning of process of hiring for Executive Director position (likely the Fall)
6. **Counterparts 2016 Planning**
 - Cathy reported that the Ontario government, through Ministry of Citizenship & Immigration, Voluntary Sector Relations Unit, wants until June 2016 to confirm they can co-host due to their own planning cycle
 - Counterparts 2016 would likely be May-June 2016; Cathy will report back as soon as she hears confirmation
 - government and Federation initially discuss agenda and priority topics from each of their perspectives
 - plan for a small working group to confirm themes, detailed agenda, speakers
 - Carol currently chairing government group (Alberta)
 - Consider corporate partners and their role in the planning

ACTION: Russ to send a note to Carol re: heads up re: planning for May-June 2016

7. Federal Issues Task Group (Sid)

ACTION: Sid to call a meeting in the next week or so

8. HR Council / Community Foundations of Canada Meeting and Future Direction

- CFC held meeting in Ottawa; interesting event, lots of conversations; but unclear what the objective was
- CFC holding assets but appears it is very little strategic work done re: future planning; not strong indication from CFC that they want to carry this on; not on CFC national conference agenda this week in Calgary; felt this was likely last gathering by HR Council; wasn't clear what they wanted from event; unfocused
- Funding ending; Bonnie is finished and Tanara on month to month contract
- Recommendation from the Ottawa meeting was that Bruce from Imagine lead a conversation on next steps and ask CFC to continue to shepherd for next 3-6 months; Tracy and Cathy invited to join on behalf of Federation; call not yet scheduled
- Toolkit very valuable; need to ensure it remains an asset

- Imagine might be interested in data/research/information as part of their research work; to be determined
- Maytree Foundation interested in doing something focused on leadership/training
- Many pieces; need to be clear that we cannot walk away from a workforce agenda for the sector; need an orchestrator
- Next step to push for the call with Bruce/Ian/Federation (Cathy, Tracy) and buy some time and create working group re: next steps; also Bruce mentioned financial “crowdfunding” to help the transition from many players
- There are possibilities for work continuing under guidance of other organizations but did not clearly address (at the recent meeting) specific functions of the HR Council and what needs to continue and who can lead
- Might be helpful for us to proactively think through what, as provincial organizations/networks, we need most/what would be most valuable to us to happen at a national level e.g. coordinate surveys to get national view, convening/communications role/mechanisms for sharing province to province, one HR toolkit, etc.
- Federation needs to be a player
- Use research that Bonnie did e.g. last ten years as framework
- Need to see what plays out with CFC, Imagine over next 3-6 months

ACTION: Cathy to confirm with Bruce a date for the call with Ian

ACTION: Mike to follow up on notes from Ottawa meeting

ACTION: Add to next Federation call agenda

ACTION: Consider Labour Force/HR issues as part of Counterparts agenda

9. National Research Agenda

- Russ chatted with Cathy Barr a number of months ago; talked about potential crowdfunding for research work
- Looks like Imagine may be moving forward toward a national research agenda
- Bill noted that draft strategic plan to Imagine Canada’s board in June; finalized and launched in September

ACTION: Ask Cathy Barr / Bruce to attend future Federation call (September call?)

ACTION: Lawrie to see if Paula (Volunteer Canada) wants to be involved on these calls; Volunteer Canada also in midst of strategic planning process

10. Urgent/Emergent

- Alberta election!