



Minutes of the November 20th 2009 PSS Committee Meeting

Present: Diana Jedig (Chair), Matthew Thompson, Bob Annis, Linda Godin- Sorin, Carol Madsen, Raïmi Osseni

Regrets: Flo Frank, Barbara Rufo, Mohamed Maie, Michelle Cherot, Nicole Chaland, Anne Docherty

Follow up Actions are in BOLD and introduced by a ~

1. Welcome and Updates from Members

Members were welcomed and shared some updates:

- Bob and Diana attended the OECD conference
- Carol attended a workshop facilitated by Stacey Corriveau (BC Centre for Social Enterprise) and Richard Bridge (a Canadian charities lawyer) on charities and the Canadian Revenue Agency (for more information and a curriculum for the workshops visit: <http://www.centreforsocialenterprise.com/Workshops.html>) – this may be something to suggest for national conference 2010
- Linda – CED Gathering in Winnipeg was a really good, well attended event
- Barbara – after nearly a year's absence, would like to rejoin the committee
- Raïmi – now studying full-time in Regina

2. Approval of Minutes from October 14th

Minutes were approved on a motion from Linda

3. Action Items

a. Possibility of CCEDNet website training for PSS members – update from Matthew on this possibility

~ All members of the PSS Committee will explore the Canadian CED Network website taking note of what they find of interest, what's missing, and what's poorly laid out.

~ Also, when members of the PSS Committee have the moment they should also check out the Emerging Leaders blog

(<http://emergingleadersccednet.wordpress.com>) and the CreateAction blog (<http://elcreateaction2009.wordpress.com>).

~ **Matthew will connect with Seth about the lack of a sitemap on the website and see whether he can develop this and share it with the PSS Committee.**

It may be worth looking into sending out an email to all committees and members advising them about the minutes that are posted.

~ **Matthew will ensure that all approved minutes are posted.**

b. How can the PSS Committee support the SFU program for CED Professionals – Matthew on where this could be housed on the website

Once a list of professional development opportunities has been created and is ready for posting online it was felt that it would be best housed under *Our Work>Sector Strengthening* with an additional link under *Conference/Learning Events* – there is a general need to make professional opportunities more prominent/and other

c. Review of PSS Work Plan/Goals and Strategic Directions – see attached memo/action plan on CCEDNet activities and PSS Committee Summary of Goals as background to discussion questions below:

i. Discussion of Questions from last meeting: Should the Canadian CED Network recognize training for its members? /Are we building a social movement or are we a professional association?

Some of the points made were that:

- we are not a professional association (not to say that we don't have professional members) –validating and accrediting professionals is not the right route for the Network to take
- the Network could operate like a trade association –certain services could be offered as an association (e.g. group benefits, and other services)
- building the social movement is the higher priority
- the Network can/does focus on both (while it is developing a social movement it is also assisting professional development)
- we've become professional in our social work (e.g. in the employment field there is a movement to give credit to people who are employment counsellors to become "career professionals")
 - this professionalization can create more barriers to working in the field and does not necessarily prepare individuals for the realities of CED work
- there are risks in engaging with universities (e.g. barriers to lobbying, need to have good enrolment, etc.)
- we must always be mindful of the barriers to participation in professional learning opportunities (e.g. when there are costs associated with these opportunities)
- the language we use can be exclusive (e.g. professional, 'practitioner', work, etc.)
 - Is it against what we're trying to do to support/promote the SFU program, the Cape Breton CED program?

Despite expressed concerns around the professionalization of CED it was felt that it would still be of benefit to have an online listing of professional development opportunities (there are lots of papers and tools available but not a listing of the educational opportunities).

- priority should go to the events/programs that members have attended or are attending that are of particular benefit
- still questions about whether we should be posting all programs around CED
 - there is a need to make sure we keep the language inclusive

~ **Members of the PSS Committee will look at the website with a lens to what's missing/what's there in terms of learning opportunities.**

**The PSS Committee agreed on principle to the commitment to...

'Contribute to the enhancement of the Canadian CED Network's website as a welcome atmosphere for practitioners in building their skill sets and eliminating barriers to their participation, ensuring that we are conscious of their barriers' (e.g. making sure there are minimal costs/optimal access for all members)

ii. Discussion of Opportunity from Community Learning, Community Organizing and Community Economic Development - Is there a role for PSS Committee here?

This conversation was held over to the next meeting.

4. Next steps on being a Learning Organization

a. CCEDNet Survey – Have each of you completed this yet?

~ **Those that haven't already will fill out the survey before the end of the extended deadline (November 29)**

b. CED resources and training – report from Matthew on technologies we could use

The Canadian CED Network is in the process of testing SharePoint for use by committees and staff. Some of the tools that SharePoint will provide include:

- A discussion board
- Announcements
- Document storage libraries (one for meeting minutes, one for shared documents)
- A shared calendar
- Contact list
- Task management – to enable members to delegate tasks and track progress.

It is expected that this technology will be rolled out in the New Year.

5. Next meeting – Wed December 9th 12:30 pm EST – Seasonal Celebration!

~ **Challenge: distribute a seasonal photo of ourselves before next meeting**