



**Board of Directors  
June 24, 2013  
Conference Call**

*In Attendance*  
Heather Bayes, President  
Russell Pohl, Vice President  
Marcy Perron, Treasurer  
Lee Lachmuth, North Delegate  
Les Toth, Vancouver Island  
Kevin Daniel, Interior  
Jayne Wilson, Executive Director

*Absent*  
Tamara Smith, Secretary  
  
*Guest*  
Faye McClinton, MCFD

A quorum being present, the meeting commenced at 6:34 p.m.  
**\*M/S/C (Moved/Seconded/Carried)**

ACTION	DETAIL	MOTION or ACTION
1. MCFD Liaison	<p>New Deputy Minister, Mark Sieben, has returned to MCFD from a brief time at Ministry of Health.</p> <p>The House is sitting. First priority is Estimates. Carol James is the NDP Critic for MCFD.</p> <p>No dates have been proposed for a meeting between BCFFPA, the Deputy and the Minister. The President reminded the Liaison that we have not yet met with this Minister.</p> <p>Interior Delegate spoke regarding Interior MCFD’s statement that they will not be following the babysitting guidelines set out in the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Foster Family Handbook. It has become impossible to get small breaks for foster parents let alone a relief break. The Liaison will look into this.</p> <p>Clarification was requested regarding the difference between Standards, Policies and Guidelines. The application of these appears to be inconsistent. The Liaison noted that often someone with authority is required to weigh in on which should apply.</p>	
2. Regional Delegate Reports	<p><i>Interior Delegate – Kevin Daniel</i> Kemp Redl has stepped in for Barry Fulton in the Interior while he is away.</p> <p>There are concerns that some birth parents are posting slanderous remarks toward foster parents, social workers, lawyers and judges online.</p> <p>Foster parents in the Vernon area are receiving 1 month contracts for youth and are cancelling contracts without the 60 day notice when the child is removed. Level 2 and 3 homes in Kamloops are being offered 3 month contracts. This is also taking place in the North. Discussion.</p>	

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	<p>Aboriginal agencies are having more trouble placing kids into provincial assessment centres than MCFD offices.</p> <p><i>North Delegate – Lee Lachmuth</i>  Prince George has enjoyed 2 partnership events which provided lots of opportunity for information sharing and ideas. They were well attended and appreciated by foster parents.</p> <p>The hub home contracts have been awarded and homes are currently being developed. Childcare workers (1 to 1 workers) are being borrowed from this program to support some foster homes with children who have challenging behaviors.</p> <p>Protocols are going over their timeframe regardless of impact on the foster family. Some investigations have been assigned to social workers who are going on vacation and are unavailable to complete the investigation. This appears to be an ongoing issue.</p> <p>Good Aboriginal Day celebrations in the North on June 21<sup>st</sup>.</p> <p>The North Delegate will be relocating to the Interior in August and therefore will step down from the position at that time.</p> <p><i>Vancouver Island Delegate – Les Toth</i>  Contacted the ED of FPSSS in Victoria. FPSSS is concerned that younger foster parents won't be recruited if there continues to be a levelling freeze. The Liaison is not aware of a levelling freeze.</p> <p>Discussion regarding cutbacks and children being treated more as statistics. Supports for children are more difficult to access or are unavailable.</p> <p>The Island Delegate has been invited to the regional partnership meeting in Nanaimo to take place in September.</p> <p><i>Coast Fraser – Delegate unassigned (ED and VP provided report)</i>  There has been little word from the Chilliwack Local but last we heard they were experiencing challenges from the Aboriginal agency regarding foster parent involvement with a BCFFPA Local.</p> <p>Abbotsford and Mission Locals are active. Both are discouraged from working together by the MCFD offices in the area. The ED has asked for clarification from MCFD and no information has been provided.</p>	<p><b>ACTION</b> The President asked that all examples where supports are needed and unavailable be sent to the office.</p>

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	<p>Surrey Local is working on a fundraiser.</p> <p>There has been no recent word from the Locals west of Surrey.</p> <p>Support cases are still high. MCFD appears to level homes as they require availability.</p>	
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting	<p>No changes to the Minutes of the pre-AGM May 23, 2013 meeting.</p> <p>No changes to the Minutes of the post-AGM meeting on May 25, 2013 meeting.</p> <p>The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting on May 25, 2013 will be posted in draft form on the website.</p>	<p><b>MOTION</b> to accept the Minutes of the pre-AGM May 23, 2013 Board of Directors meeting as circulated. *M/S/C Les/Kevin</p> <p><b>MOTION</b> to accept the Minutes of the post-AGM Board of Directors meeting on May 25, 2013 as circulated. M/S/C Les/Kevin</p>
4. Additions and Changes to the Agenda	No changes to the Agenda.	
5. President's Report	<p>Feedback from the AGM was that this was the best AGM in many years. People were very pleased with the meat of the discussions and the motions from the floor.</p> <p>Letters have been sent to request meetings with the Minister and Deputy. Need to request a meeting with the Representative for Children and Youth.</p> <p>Still participating in weekly meetings regarding the protocol review/revision. No significant change to date. Currently we are reviewing the complaints policy in connection with protocol procedures.</p> <p>Attended the FCSS AGM in Penticton with Ronda.</p> <p>Confirming next year's Board meetings will be the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. All are in agreement. Discussion regarding summer and Christmas season meeting dates.</p> <p>The Treasurer provided an update regarding a funding application that was sent to her contact. The funding still hasn't been distributed.</p> <p>Due to the North Delegate's relocation, another election will be in process through the summer. We will run Coast Fraser and North delegate elections concurrently.</p>	<p><b>ACTION</b> Board members will review Motions and will indicate to ED which they are willing to work on throughout the year.</p> <p><b>ACTION</b> ED to send letter requesting a meeting with the Representative.</p> <p><b>ACTION</b> ED will create a meeting date list for the next year.</p> <p><b>ACTION</b> An election for North Regional Delegate will take place through the summer.</p>
6. Vice President's Report	The office staff are in the midst of post-AGM catch-up. The ED is taking care of the annual filings for the Societies Act.	

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7. Treasurer's Report	<p>The Treasurer was absent for the report but the statements were reviewed by the Vancouver Island Delegate.</p> <p>The Bursaries Committee will meet to decide on the bursary distribution in the next while. Camp for Kids bursaries should be distributed but a summary with the Committee signature is required for next year's audit.</p>	
8. CFFA Update	<p>The AGM and Conference in Ontario was a great opportunity. The EDs met early in the week.</p> <p>Nunavut is not hosting the 2015 AGM and Conference. The National Working Group was very worthwhile. There was some discussion regarding the creation of a National Advocacy Group.</p> <p>There were lively discussions around the elections but no changes to the Board.</p> <p>2014 Conference will be in Alberta.</p> <p>The VP hopes to attend the mid-year Board of Directors meetings in Alberta in September.</p>	<p><b>MOTION</b> to approve all costs associated with sending BCFPPA's VP to the CFFA Board of Directors meeting in Alberta in September 2013. M/S/C Kevin/Les</p>
9. Advocacy	<p>Further discussion regarding a user fee or a membership only service. Suggestion that we seek funding from Mental Health or other program to assist with costs. Discussion about the challenges of requesting payment during a time of stress from foster parents who are already financially stretched.</p> <p>Suggestion that those who are members are served first.</p>	<p><b>ACTION</b> ED will design wording that will reflect a respectful message to encourage those who require advocacy services to take out a membership.</p>
12. Next Meeting	Next meeting via conference call on August 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2013.	
	Meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm	