

DELEGATION REQUEST

Names of persons speaking: Joanne Schroeder & Kris Johnson

Organization you are representing: Comox Valley Early Years Collaborative - Building Connections Project

Primary purpose of the organization: To work together as a community to increase early years' outcomes for children in the Comox Valley.

Number of members: 40

Mailing address:

237 3rd St
Courtenay, BC V9N 1E1

Contact name: Kris Johnson

Subject matter:

The Building Connections for Valley Families Project (Connections Project) is a project launched by The Comox Valley Early Years Collaborative. Our community-driven project aims to connect and engage with members of the Comox Valley in order to improve early childhood outcomes for children. The North Comox Valley was the first area of focus for the project and extensive research and community and stakeholder engagement has taken place. This work has led to the development of 2 social innovations which reflect the needs of rural parents. The innovations are to establish 3 community hubs within the North Comox Valley and to hire a family connection outreach coordinator. The Project has recently expanded and is in the phase of researching and data collecting for the remaining three regions of the Comox Valley. Each region will engage in the same processes and determine the unique innovations based on the experiences and needs of families in each of these areas. The Project has been highly collaborative and innovative and is reflecting a true community effort to build connections to support the needs and address the barriers experienced by families with young children in the Valley.

Specific request of the regional district, if any (i.e. letter of support, funding):

The Building Connections Steering Committee would like the CVRD Board to know about our project and explore the potential for a formal agreement in which the CVRD is willing to provide access to space and, potentially facilities, managed by the CVRD. Edwin and Arzeena have been involved in the project and we are grateful for the support and would like the opportunity to include the CVRD to a greater level as we further establish and move forward our innovations.

Requested meeting date: April 13

Audio-visual equipment needed: We will have a PowerPoint to share if possible.