

# THE BIG SCOOP

What's Happening at the United Community Services Co-op



#24 – July 4, 2007

The kids are out of school, so it's SUMMER, regardless the weather. Best wishes for renewal and fun these next few months.

## → Follow-up on *Leading Change*

In these “interesting times”, 70 people gathered June 18-19 (Co-op’s Leading Change event) to explore “Painting the Next Leadership Canvas”.

The group was a rich cross section from all over BC including 32 (almost the targeted 50%) “emerging leaders”. (This term was somewhat contentious – perhaps a healthy sign of true leadership.)

Dialogue themes ranged from attracting, retaining, training, and nourishing leadership to maintaining mission and core principles in the face of ever growing pressures. And there was more dynamism and “push and pull” than at Leading Change 2005, with more (often younger) people challenging the ideas and opinions of others.

The event concluded with action planning. The Co-op is pleased to be able to support and liaise between these five working groups, thanks to support from our sponsors (See below):

- Creating mentoring opportunities
- Addressing cost pressures in the sector
- Creating a network of emerging leaders
- Creating healthy workplaces
- Moving from doing to being

To stay in the loop, [click here!](#)

Thank you **Vancouver Foundation** for core funding, and for \$14,000 in corporate sponsorships we thank **Coast Capital, the co-operators, Opus Framing and Art Supplies; Canadian Rural Partnership, and Vancity.**

## → New for the Co-op

A Co-op consultant is doing “team healing” with a key program team of a member agency, one whose healthy functioning is crucial for the well-being of many vulnerable people. The Co-op is thrilled to meet this need. If one of your teams could do with a boost, contact [Tim Beachy](#).

## → Stakeholder Engagement

We are pleased to report that a CO-op convened sector-led stakeholder engagement process has started:

On June 20<sup>th</sup>, fifteen sector “business leaders” gathered to explore the oh-so strategic terrain of client information systems.

We say “business leaders” as a primary role played by EDs of large sector organizations is running a business: managing budgets, staff, partnerships, investment, strategic direction, etc. Only secondarily are these leaders involved in clinical or community issues.

First up were presentations from the BC Government’s Chief Information Office and from MCFD\* -- setting out government initiated changes on the horizon and the government’s thinking so far. Then Tim Beachy presented a paper on different business models and how they relate to information systems, as a kick off to a wide ranging and energetic dialogue.

The Stakeholder Engagement will continue over the summer, with the goal of identifying what core purpose and principles should guide new integrated client information systems to best serve the people and communities of BC.

Please share any ideas/leads with [Tim Beachy](#), and stay tuned for updates.

\* MCFD = Ministry of Children and Family Development.

## → Hollyhock: Mind, Body, Spirit

Hollyhock is a BC treasure, with top drawer programming on leadership and social enterprise not to mention yoga, singing and self directed retreats. [Click here](#) for their program.

Some of us need permission to stop and renew. The Scoop is pleased to extend this to all readers, noting the personal AND professional benefit of taking time out – at Hollyhock, or elsewhere!