

Western Region Coordinating Committee Minutes, August 27, 2017

Present: Mary Kay Hunyaday (chair), Irma Dillard, Paula Toner, Annette Schmeling, Mary Finlayson, Kathy Dolan, Marcia O'Dea, Maura Keleher, Clare Pratt

Prayer:

Check-In: Sharing on summer activities and singing Happy Birthday to Annette.

Assembly Focus Groups: There is interest in replicating/continuing the Special Topic groups that were held during the Assembly. The question of how to move forward on this initiative in the framework of our West Region organizational structure. There is a lack of clarity by our membership of how to initiate any action within the structure. We want to move with the energy in the area and to be flexible/adaptable in addressing the needs of the region.

Irma Dillard, who was on the Provincial Assembly Planning Committee, will follow-up with Jo McFayden regarding this initiative.

Website/Blog: The website has been updated, including posting the dates of the West Region gathering in November. The suggestion was made to re-train members on how to access the Blog. Traffic on the web/blog is moderate. Communications Team will reconvene and focus on increasing engagement. The general opinion: some people prefer communicating by e-mail and others prefer the webpage as the best form of communication (one-stop with everything that you need to know). Generally, people are satisfied with the layout of the webpage.

WRCC members were asked to review their Team pages and to send Annette the updates for their individual pages.

West Region November Gathering:

Mary Kay and Annette are the West Region representatives on the Provincial Regional Planning Committee. They provided a basic overview of the planning. The purpose of the November meeting is still being refined, but we anticipate considerable time to be dedicated to the regional structures. The regional structures will be evaluated in the Spring of 2018 and a decision made at the Provincial level regarding to the future of the three regions.

The question of shared leadership again surfaced. Four underlying assumptions of shared leadership were affirmed:

- The structure allows us to identify needs and to have the right people in place to meet the needs.
- We cannot do everything together all of the time, smaller groups are more effective
- Having Structure/Systems for the WRCC in place are necessary to keep us moving forward
- Building trust among WRCC members and between WRCC and region is essential.

Some of the obstacles that were identified:

- Operating out of two frameworks. Sometimes we are defaulting back to the hierarchical provincial driven action (i.e., reports to be sent to the Mother House were sent to former area directors and nothing sent to the regional leadership)
- People, including the WRCC, have a solid understanding of shared leadership. We don't know exactly how to do this.
- Provincial Team has not shifted their engagement. We are still a top down organization.

Interest Groups Reports

Team Leaders agreed to:

- Review the scope of responsibilities for each team (can be found on www.rscjwest.com). Send any changes to Annette.
- Convene or communicate with teams before September meeting.

Conclusion: The meeting ended at 4:30pm (90 minutes). Annette will send out Doodle for September meeting.

- Mary Finlayson will chair
- Kathy Dolan will provide prayer
- Marcia O'Dea will take notes

Respectfully Submitted: Annette T. Schmeling (September 27, 2017)