

PARTNERS IN ACTION
Second Quarterly Report: March - June 2008

VISION STATEMENT: A safe, healthy and crime-free environment in which to live, work and grow

MISSION STATEMENT: To identify and implement manageable solutions to the root causes of crime in our community by coordinating and mobilizing community based action teams

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR: Social Planning Council for the North Okanagan

FUNDING SOURCES: City of Vernon (RCMP Safe Communities Unit)

COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS: RCMP Safe Communities Unit, Community Futures North Okanagan, Interior Health Authority, Service Canada, City of Vernon, PIN Crisis Line, Transition House, Women’s Centre, Downtown Vernon Association, Restorative Justice Program, North Okanagan Youth and Family Services, Brain Trust Canada, North Okanagan Childcare Society, Pathway to Diversity

ACTION TEAM RESULTS:

OBJECTIVES	ACTION TEAM MEMBERS	ACTIONS/TIMELINES	MEASURABLE RESULTS
ELIMINATE HOMELESSNESS:			
Businesses/ Shelter Action Team	DVA, International Trendsetters, Dodd’s Auction, Real Canadian Wholesale, Canadian Medical Supplies, RCMP Safe Communities Unit, Social Planning Council, Vernon Women’s Centre, John Howard Society, Salvation Army, People Place, Upper Room Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Team formed in January of 2008 to address security concerns of businesses in the area regarding the upcoming shelter • By end of June 2008, a security plan had been created and implemented and a communications plan approved by the group. A community meeting had been organized with over 100 participants. Evaluation and feedback forms showed support for the shelter and neighbourhood security plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security Plan and Communications Plan in place • 100 participants attend a community information session
Supporting Upper Room Mission	Upper Room Mission, Social Planning Council, RCMP Safe Communities Unit, CMHA, Howard House, Women’s Centre, Salvation Army	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Team formed in February 2008, to work with the Upper Room Mission to develop partnerships to strengthen and stabilize their existing services. • To date, we’ve secured an additional outreach worker for mental health clients and funding has been provided to increase security measures on site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Outreach Worker • Funding secured for Security Cameras for facility

ADDRESS ADDICTIONS ISSUES IN OUR COMMUNITY			
Creating mechanism for safe disposal of discarded needles	RCMP Safe Communities Unit, DVA, Chamber of Commerce, Recreation Centre, People Place, Interior Health, City of Vernon, Vernon Fire Rescue, Upper Room mission, Downtown Primary Care Centre, School District, NOYFSS, Restorative Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action Team formed in October 2007 By March 2008, a safe disposal kit had been designed and education plan developed; local businesses (as well as the RCMP Safe Communities Unit and the Recreation Centre) have agreed to host the kits. Action team is completed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will track number of needles collected and community support for the program.
Implementing Harm Reduction	Social Planning Council, RCMP Safe Communities Unit, Interior Health, City of Vernon, Upper Room Mission, Downtown Primary Care Centre, NOYFSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action Team formed in May 2008 It was recognized that although NOYFSS has funding for outreach, there is no physical location for the needle exchange. This is partly due to lack of understanding and support for harm reduction initiatives By June 2008, IH Alcohol and Drug services and IH Public Health developed a communications strategy for service providers and the wider community on harm reduction initiatives; the action team created a short term and long term strategy for location of the needle exchange; the action team will take on the task of initiating a harm reduction strategy for the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing
INCREASE NUMBER OF SAFE AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS			
Non Profit Affordable Housing Plan	Women's Centre, Social Planning Council, CMHA, Howard House, Transition House, Upper Room Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action Team formed in December 2007 to apply for federal funding in order to hire a consultant to create business plans for 200 units of non market housing in the next 3 years. The Women's Centre and the Social Planning Council are the host agencies but the Partners Committee will facilitate the process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allan Neilson Welch has been hired and has begun to work with the non-profit housing agencies

Vernon and District Community Land Trust	Board of Directors of the Land Trust, Community Futures, Social Planning Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Vernon and District Community Land Trust is currently working with the Transition House to meet requirements for applying for funding to BC Housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for multifamily affordable housing for seniors and families
BUILDING NEIGHBOURHOOD/COMMUNITY CAPACITY			
Using West Vernon School as a Community Centre	City of Vernon, People Place, Greater Vernon Services, Dorothy Alexander Centre, Social Planning Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action team formed in January 2007 By February 2007, People Place had formally expressed interest in owning/managing the building and media had been engaged By September 2007, a partnership had been established between the City of Vernon (and GVS), People Place and the Dorothy Alexander Centre and a proposal submitted to the School District Action team ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Vernon in contact with the School District
INCREASING SENSE OF SAFETY DOWNTOWN			
Removing dumpsters from the downtown core	DVA, City of Vernon, RCMP Safe Communities Unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The City of Vernon adopted a by-law that states that dumpsters that are on city property have to be removed from downtown. The DVA is hopeful that recycling will be included in the pick up service. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing
CREATE COMMUNITY AWARENESS OF PARTNERS INITIATIVES			
Media Coverage	Social Planning Council Morning Star, Sun FM, Kiss FM, CHBC Shaw Cable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partners coordinator and action team chairs engage local media in their strategies and results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newspaper and radio continue to cover action team results
Name Change	Coordinating Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee decided to shorten the name to Partners in Action so it is easier to remember 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name change announced through monthly update to agencies and stakeholders
Wide community representation	Coordinating Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Throughout the year, the Partners Committee makes an effort to recruit the skills and resources needed to achieve the goals of the action teams. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To date 45 different agencies and/or businesses have taken

on Action Teams			part in action teams
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