

MAP INFORMATION WORKING GROUP MEETING

MINUTES - Friday November 16th, 1pm at ISSofBC in Vancouver

Present:

Carlo Campodonico – Qmunity
Katherine Griffin – MOSAIC
Richard Belcham – inasmuch
Bahar Taheri – BC Refugee Hub
Jenny Moss – MAP

Apologies: Farah Kotadia, Thanh Lam

Chair: Jenny, and then Richard Belcham

- Welcome to everyone and thanks Bahar for arranging the meeting space
- The Agenda was approved
- Approval of Minutes from November 2nd meeting

MAP IWG Structure

Jenny stated that co-chairs were needed for IWG.

A request was made to those present to volunteer

Richard (inasmuch), Katherine (MOSAIC) and Carl@ (Qmunity) agreed.

Co-chairs will take turns to chair the meetings

Other duties:

- Approve Agenda and Minutes prior to distribution
- Provide reports to MAP meetings
- Meet with MAP co-chairs occasionally
- Represent IWG with Jenny at external meetings, if needed

Jenny will present updated Terms of Reference to reflect this change at the next meeting.

Richard took over chairing this meeting

Updates and discussion

- **Final logo decision - Jenny**

Having conferred with the MAP co-chairs and made some changes the final logo was approved as provided by Katie Lapi with the text in grey.

ACTION: Jenny will arrange invoicing and payment

- **Update on website planning – Richard**

Richard had provided IWG members with 2 versions of a potential website:

1. Targeted at MAP membership as the audience

2. Targeted at the general public

Members agreed to Version (2) with the following notes:

- There will be more of a member focus on front page

We discussed the photo and tagline: 'Refugee Claimants make BC better' and agreed that we should beware of the advocacy this statement raises.

Bahar added that we should always post facts, not criticisms of situations that might be connected to our funders.

- We should change the tab ISSUES for CHALLENGES or DISCUSSIONS

Furthermore the IWG agreed:

- One website
- Focus will be Public and MAP members
- Member section will include Minutes, Presentations from MAP meetings
- Member's forum
- We should get a writer so that the website has a consistent voice – the current applicant (Christopher Pollen) charges \$60/hour.
Suggested we could find an Intern at BCIT, Kwantlen, Adler or Co-op (?)
ACTION – Jenny to make some inquiries
- Space for Housing Working Group as a campaign
ACTION – Jenny will talk to Loren about his concept of HWG on the website
- Resources section – we were not sure what this would contain – maybe develop later. Possibly bc211 information
ACTION - Richard will present the ideas so far to MAP membership on Nov 22nd

- **Canadian Heritage Grant presentation opportunities – Jenny**

A meeting was held on Nov 4th with Amy Huwang of Canadian Heritage regarding an ask under the *Community Support, Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Initiatives Program* Jenny, and co-chair Mariana Martinez Vieyra plus Loren Balisky attended.

An ask was made to build capacity at MAP and support a Public Education Campaign. Apparently longterm core funding for salaries is not eligible and there were doubts that MAP could convince the Eligibility Committee in Ottawa as to the merits of a Capacity Building ask.

Amy suggested we apply for an EVENTS grant that could be as much as \$100,000.

Decisions about Events are made here in Vancouver.

It's also possible to get funding for an event that's repeated in different locales, or a series.

The committee discussed applying for funds for a 'Coffee with a Claimant' event - something like the 'On the Table' produced by Vancouver Foundation (see Katherine's email)

- **Public Education Action Planning and Immediate Priorities**

We need to produce at least one public education project, besides the website, to satisfy Provincial funding requirements.

Followed discussion around various ideas that would include myth-busting and challenge the ideas currently circulating erroneously.

Bahar suggested an event like that of Refugee 613 that she attended in Toronto:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-kindness-of-strangers-supporting-refugee-613s-podcasting-project-tickets-45491821262#>

The event had a values-driven invitation "*Kindness of stranger - altruism and compassion*" in order to appeal to a wide audience. It was run along the lines of TED talks and many of the speakers were refugees.

They had high level political speakers – but we could find some great speakers out west too.

Agreed to continue this discussion at our next meeting.

TABLED ITEMS:

- Provincial Multiculturalism Grant \$5,000 available
- Podcasting

3:00 - Closing – next meeting will be on Friday November 30 at MOSAIC: 5575 Boundary Road in Classroom #1.