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**MINUTES**

**Seniors, Elders & Advocates Committee (SEA)**

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 3:30pm through Zoom

**Present:** Daniel, Anne C, Kya, Annie D, Vera, Cynthia, Peter, Anne P, Cylia, Esther, Alice, Myra, Laurel, Ben

**Opening Prayer and Land Acknowledgment:** Annie D and Daniel

**Programs and Updates;**

* Onsite Programs
  + In person registration is open for Osteofit and Drum Circle
  + Other programs are still on pause for now
* Income Tax Clinics
  + Being done over the phone
  + Appointments made through Britannia Info Centre – 604-718-5800 ex. 1
  + Reminder to file for BC Recovery Benefit by June 30th 2021 (2020 tax return must be filed to be eligible)
* Weekly Phone Check-ins
  + Volunteers still going strong
* Drum Circle
  + Britannia AML “Studio” in the works for virtual drum circle – updates to come
* Monday Cultural Crafts and Wednesday Cedar Weaving
  + New cycles have begun
  + Time change, both classes are now 1pm-4pm
  + Exception being the 3rd Wednesday of each month for SEA Mtgs which start @ 3:30pm
* HATTA
  + New virtual set has begun
  + New hat forms made available through Todd for returning participants
  + Unfinished hats will be worked on this set and passed back to members who can no longer participate
  + In talks with WOCT and HATTA to create a space for a “Dancing the hats to life” ceremony
* Quirk-e
  + Ongoing meetings Tuesday mornings
* Craft Collective
  + Projects for the year have been planned out
  + Four projects for each season – MMIWG Red Dresses Pins – Residential School Survivors Awareness Orange Shirt Pins – Poppy Pins – Elder Abuse Awareness Pins
* Kith & Kin
  + Successful first virtual cycle has just completed with a full registration
  + Next cycle in April has filled up already with a waitlist
  + VPL and IRSSS staff are to meet about any changes or updates that could be done for the next set

**Staff Team Updates;**

* COV Vaccine Updates
  + Britannia approved to host two Indigenous Focused pop-up clinics. Book through; <http://www.vch.ca/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine> or calling 1-833-838-2323 – Phone line is open daily 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
  + Request “Britannia” as your preferred site location

**Events;**

* Britannia Elementary School Virtual Gathering
  + Seislom and Myra were invited to present and share their nations culture, artwork, stories and songs with 4 of the Britannia Elementary School classes. Was a wonderful and heartwarming virtual Zoom gathering. A great step in building strong connections with the school for future collaborations
* Spring Coffee House
  + March 21st, through Zoom – link on Britannia website and WOCT Facebook page
  + Kat Norris is set to preform
* Change of Season’s Ceremony
  + WOCT Drum Circle and Lu’Ma Medical Centre on Friday March 19th, 10am
  + Seislom is set to host a pipe ceremony and sharing talking circle
  + Poster will be sent to Facebook chat groups and pages with Zoom link invite
* Friday Hangout (Games on last Friday)
  + Bingo nights have been successful 2-4pm – join in on the last Friday of every month for a chance to win prizes
  + WebEx invite sent out with registration

**Additions;**

* Pool and Fitness Committee Update (Peter) Question on if a mandatory 100% mask wearing time slot is wanted for the fitness centre;
  + Consensus – most seniors and elders will wait until fully vaccinated before coming back to the site regardless
  + No outbreaks have been documented coming from community centres – mandatory 100% mask usage or not
  + Suggestion of using dividers in between equipment
  + Members can exercise at home or outside if not wanting to use spaces if people are unmasked at stations
* COVID-19 Research update (Ben/Emily)
  + Final push to finish up the report
  + First draft will be sent out Monday to those who contributed to the project for review and make any edits
  + Those who did not contribute may still review as well – contact 55+ staff to connect with Ben and Emily
  + April 7th will be the Zoom presentation on final project and report – invites will be sent out accordingly
* The Carving Centre proposal (Cynthia)
  + Proposal being drafted to activate šxʷqʷeləwən ct as a community gathering place, programming space, as well as the carving centre – posted in chat for review
  + Prominently display history of the host nations onsite
  + Wi-Fi, heating, bathrooms, storage spaces being requested
  + Bring on a staff person to oversee the renewed space
  + SEA Committee extremely interested in being involved in this process – Cynthia and Teka as point contacts;

[cynthia.low@vancouver.ca](mailto:cynthia.low@vancouver.ca) [teka.everstz@vancouver.ca](mailto:teka.everstz@vancouver.ca)

* IRSSS (Vera)
  + New meeting being facilitated through Zoom – a seniors and elders only talking circle
  + March 23rd @ 6pm is pilot session
  + A safe and open virtual space to gather, socialize and share outside of a class or program setting
  + Invite and link posted on the Facebook groups and pages or contact Vera to connect; [verajones@irsss.ca](mailto:verajones@irsss.ca)

**Next SEA Meeting:** April 21st 2021 3:30pm via Zoom