

# The Board Voice Society of B.C.: An Idea Whose Time Has Come



**Vision:** A clear and effective voice for volunteer community-based boards supporting high quality social services and strong vibrant communities.

**Mission Statement:** The members of Board Voice are provincial champions of healthy communities who promote the value of collaborative high quality community-based social services through:

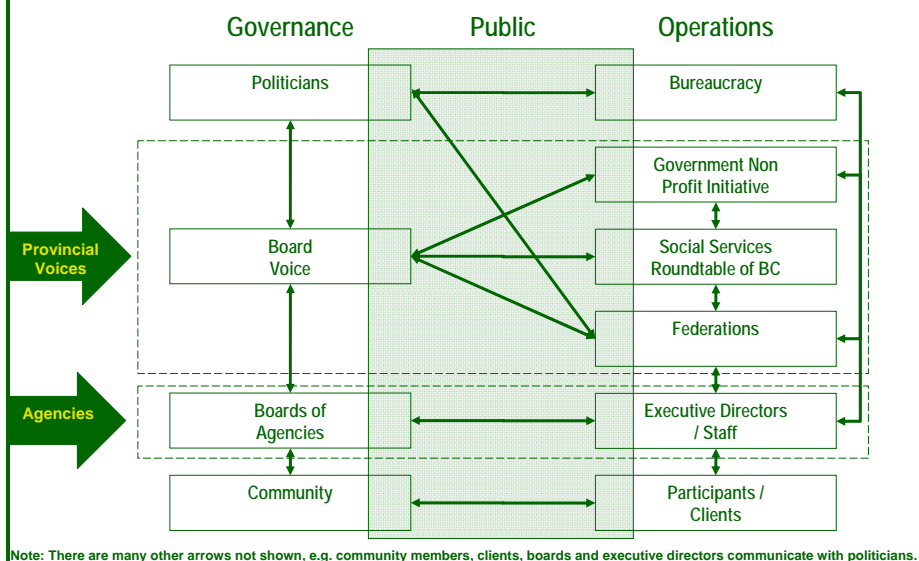
1. Advising governments concerning the aspirations and concerns of the sector from a community perspective;
2. Strengthening the governance capacity of boards;
3. Promoting collaborative cross-sectoral thinking, innovation and planning at the community and provincial levels;
4. Promoting community social services to the general public as critical to the social fabric of our communities.

## Founding Principles:

1. Respectful
2. Collaborative
3. Transparent
4. Responsive
5. Timely & Appropriate
6. Inclusive & Balanced
7. Accessible
8. Accountable
9. Innovative

Secretariat: Doug Hayman, MSW  
The Federation of Community Social Services of B.C.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 526 Michigan St.,  
Victoria, B.C., V8V 1S2  
Phone: 250-480-7387  
Email: [doug@fcssbc.ca](mailto:doug@fcssbc.ca)

## Relational Aspects to the Community Social Services System



## Board Executive:

- Chair – Anthony Ostler; Board Chair, Family Services of Greater Vancouver
- Vice Chair – Carol Matusicky; Board member, Burnaby Family Life
- Treasurer – Craig East; Board member, OPTIONS Community Services Society
- Secretary – Gloria Lifton; Board President, Sunshine Coast Community Services Society

## Board Members:

- Gord Adams; Board Member, North Okanagan Youth and Family Services Society
- David Duncan; Board Chair, PLEA Community Services Society of BC
- Alyson Hagan-Johnson; Board President, North Island Community Services Society
- Dawn Hemmingway; Board Member, Intersect Youth and Family Services Society
- Terry Moist; Past Board President, John Howard Society of North Island
- Lyn Policha; Board Secretary, OPTIONS Community Services Society
- Brian Ruddell; Board Chair, North Peace Community Resources Society and Board Chair, North Peace Community Housing Society
- Michael Sidhu; Board Vice President, Boys and Girls Club Services of Greater Victoria
- David Stigant; Board President, Penticton and District Community Resources

## Who can join Board Voice?

Boards of non profit agencies which deliver social services in BC can become full members of Board Voice. Other categories of membership may be considered.

## Aren't there enough groups representing the sector? Why Board Voice?

There are many organizations representing various parts of the social services sector in B.C. None, however, specifically reflect the views of the governors of the system. Further, Board Voice aims to include all the different social services streams within its membership. So it is not exclusive to one part of the system.

# Get Onboard!

## Why Now?

- Community social services are under great stress. Global economic issues have led to increased demand for service while agencies face cutbacks and decreases in funding.
- Social services support hundreds of thousands of people each year, keeping people out of more expensive options in the health and corrections systems.
- The 65,000 staff in this sector contribute significantly to the economy. Many are leaving the sector due to wage issues and cutbacks. Recruitment and retention will become a big issue soon.
- There are many different voices in social services. Board Voice will speak on behalf of the whole sector.

## Four Key Goals for 2010/11:

- Board Voice is financially viable with a growing and involved membership.
- Board Voice is an effective champion for communities and the community-based social services sector, contributing to the public understanding of the value of the sector and bringing underreported social service issues of community concern to the attention of the public and politicians.
- Board Voice is an effective organization at the local and regional level.
- Boards are better supported and empowered.

## What's in it for your Board and Agency?

- The opportunity to build an innovative new organization, the first of its kind in North America (that we know of).
- A chance to contribute to developing a better climate for social services in British Columbia.
- An organizational structure through which to influence public policy.
- An opportunity to collaborate with other governors at the provincial and community level.
- Access to reliable information on the state of social services in the province.
- Board training opportunities and an opportunity to improve governance.
- Better governance outcomes for your agency.

### Join Now!

Now is the time to make a difference. Find an application form at [www.boardvoice.ca](http://www.boardvoice.ca) and become a part of something new. Help to make it happen!

### Let's talk.

Contact us to have a Board Voice rep talk to your agency. Contact us through the website or at 250-480-7387.