**Community Issues Report March 7th, 2019**

**Submitted by Erin Lee committee chair**

This committee has not met in some time. Schedules and service demands as well as other initiatives and work of the planning council have not met with a successful committee meeting.

As you are all aware we had a meeting some months ago and all members were engaged in a survey to identify the top priorities for focus and training for our planning council. The committee met and discussed the topics but little has resulted. There is no formal funding via the council to support trainings so we are often creative in our approach as we have done in the past.

**Some of the top issues included:**

Harm Reduction- **This can be done for little funds and perhaps we can pick a timeline and our group can work on this**

Expanded Indigenous training - ***There is a blanket exercise being planned for March 13th by the OPP, the Situation Table and LCIH and this will be open to council members***

Bridges out of Poverty (first and second)

Trauma Informed Approach- **There is a training for level 1 and 2 in March, details are available via Stephanie Gray**

**Other ideas included:**

* How to be an effective ally ( another group is also exploring this) ***This happened in May 2018 and council members were invited)***
* Org policies- inclusion, workplace harassment etc. - A **sharing circle with facilitation can be arranged with discussion and templates should the group want to pursue this area.**
* See it Name it Change it presentation with survivor video ***This is being planned via the rural forums group and will be made available to the council***

**New issues to consider:**

Discussion and planning steps related to a federal election

Discussion and planning related to current provincial situation and impacts

We welcome some council direction and the committee will meet in April to begin to plan for next steps.