

Facilitation Training

We're looking to create new ways for people to engage with the Action Team without necessarily having to go to Action Team meetings, as well as new ways that we can help Action Team members develop skills that they're looking to practice. One idea was to offer Train-the-Trainers facilitation training so that Action Team members can lead workshops in schools and the community as well as lead trainings for future volunteers.

Tanyss has developed two workshops: one that familiarises PFAT members with BCPRC's presentations, and one that is focused on youth engagement techniques. She shared them at the last meeting as well as over email and is adapting the workshops to fit the feedback (including possibly changing the nature of the second workshop) Now we need to choose dates. Please fill out as many dates that work for you in this poll: <http://doodle.com/poll/dsy9rmg32rcyambq>

Poverty Flags

This month we hosted an exhibit at the Vancouver Public Library called "[Making Poverty Visible](#)" displaying the "Poverty Flags" that Trish collected from across the province. This was some of the feedback from people who volunteered at the outreach tables:

It's cool that you had people from all socioeconomic statuses at the library, it's like a little microcosm of society.

It was powerful to show that the issues are province-wide

It's good to have two people volunteering at the table at all times, so that you can help each other out of difficult situations.

3 hours is long—it would be good to have breaks (maybe we should have 3 people per shift, so that if somebody needs a break there are still 2 people there)

We should ask our coalition partners if they want to do similar displays with the flags.

It would be good to have more training on managing difficult discussions like

- People coming to the table with problematic ideas about particular groups (ex. Why is Canada not protecting "Canadians" and bringing in refugees? Or Why are they on drugs?)
- How to answer questions about advocacy: "Is anything going to change? Tangible results?"

Outreach

Mehak sent out this message, please sign up for shifts:

"Hi everyone,

We have recently been invited by Union Gospel Mission and Protein for People at their events, we're using to organize our upcoming Sign-ups.

Here's how it works in 3 easy steps:

1) Click this link to see our Sign-up on VolunteerSpot: <http://vols.pt/gods3P>

2) Review the options listed and choose the spot(s) you like.

3) Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on VolunteerSpot.

Note: VolunteerSpot does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Mehak”

We also discussed if we should go to Folk Fest and Car Free Day again and ideas for what to do when we're there.

Folk Fest would be great if we go with the intention of mobilising people who already agree with us. Last year, it was also valuable to see kids who teaching the adults that they were with.

We should consider asking for a table outside of the folk fest grounds to reach people inside and outside.

Stickers and stamps are cool things to have as handouts (instead of candy, which some parents didn't like.)

MAKE SURE WE GET A TENT at Car Free Day. IT'S TOO HOT!!!

It would be good to work on adapting the games for different age levels because last year, volunteers who weren't used to working with children had difficulty adapting them on the fly; There are good resources out there to do this. *The Outreach Team will meet to work on developing materials; email the PFAT mailing list if you'd like to get involved.*

Mythbusters Video

We watched the latest draft of the Poverty Mythbusters video (https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B-cW7EoK_JSVX1NOTS1oeTBvN2s) and had a discussion largely around the insightful comments that Jennifer had sent via email.

-The second screen "this is a real story of" is a good grab, and I think it would be a better lead in than the first screen. I might actually cut out the first screen if it were me.

You could also extend this screen by a few seconds for reading ease.

General agreement on this point.

- The animation for the application 94 page doc makes it seem like the application is 94 pages, but Fraser is actually saying that the pre-application is 94 pages, which is a little confusing.

We'll change the title on the computer screen to "Application Assessment" which is closer to what the form is actually called.

- I would like to see a greater call to action at the end. Raise the rates felt like a miss-matched ending as the answer to Fraser's problem, is not actually to raise the rates because he can't actually access them to begin with.

Time period of applications through that system

Can we track down % of successful vs unsuccessful applicants

Talking to BCPIAC about how they frame to the public

Maybe talk about ways to phrase things without numbers so that it doesn't go out of date (But at the same time the Carnegie Community Action Project really wanted the numbers there)

- The word only screens seems very quiet. I'm not sure how to solve this, or if it should be solved. I feel like waiting room background noise could work. Just a thought.

General agreement on this point

- Another above and beyond step would be to watch it through on mute, and see if the video still makes sense. A lot of videos are viewed on mobile now (80% or so) and most auto-plays are on mute. It's awesome if the story line can be followed without sound. I think this video is actually really close to managing this. A few additions of text to fill in gaps could accomplish this i think. This would also be better for hearing impaired individuals. Closed captions, if it is our resources, would be ideal.

We already have a transcript, so it should be pretty easy to use the captioning tools on Facebook and Youtube respectively.

#RETHINK

Joys put in a ton of work trying to get a podcast ready for #RethinkHousing in March. Unfortunately, it didn't work out. It was a great learning experience. In the future, Doug has offered to use his expertise to help prep people, and Trish and Omar can secure technology and interviewees if anybody's interested.