



Received February 1, 2010

January 14, 2010

Re: The Measuring Up The North Initiative

Dear NCLGA Member:

As you are aware, we have now completed Measuring Up The North (MUTN), Phase I (2007-09). The goal of this phase was to assist the over 40 North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) communities to become livable, age-friendly, disability-friendly universally designed, inclusive communities for all residents and visitors.

This phase has been highly successful due to the dedication of the MUTN Liaisons, Coordinators, and Committee members as well as the critical support of local government and community leaders. Incredible partnerships have been formed between local governments, the community and businesses. We are seeing tremendous changes in Northern British Columbia including changes to buildings, spaces, infrastructure, policies, practices and most importantly, changes in attitudes in all of our NCLGA communities.

As we move into MUTN Phase II, the North Central Local Government Association will now take the lead on the Initiative. At this time, the NCLGA would like to express gratitude to the BC Paraplegic Association for its partnership during Phase I as well as to the Phase I supporting partners: the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport, BC Healthy Communities, Northern Health and 2010 Legacies Now.

Over the next few months, the NCLGA will conduct strategic planning to develop goals and strategies and seek funding for Phase II. In the meantime, MUTN Phase II is operating under a lean budget and the NCLGA is continuing to serve as the "umbrella" coordinating body for MUTN.

NCLGA will also provide the following MUTN activities:

- Maintenance of the MUTN website and forum
- We will highlight a story from one of the MUTN communities each month in the NCLGA Connector Newsletter
- Continuation of the monthly Liaison phone calls at least until March 2010
- Development of MUTN Awards to be presented at the NCLGA Annual Conference
- We will showcase MUTN successes at the NCLGA Annual Conference
- We will gather NCLGA Member concerns to develop annual resolutions

February 11, 2010

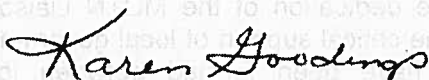
Unfortunately at this time we no longer have the funding to support our Project Director, Laurie Ringaert nor our Project Assistant, Kory Heyland, however, Laurie has generously offered her assistance during our transition phase.

We are pleased to announce that our final report for MUTN Phase I will soon be available on the MUTN website. As well, the Official Community Planning Tool "Developing Age-Friendly, Disability-Friendly Official Community Plans: Guidelines for Local Governments" will soon be available on the UBCM website.

Our expectation is that all of the MUTN Communities will continue the work that they have begun. You have all created a great deal of momentum and it is critical to keep moving forward. We look forward to hearing about any issues or concerns you may have during this transition phase as it will assist us with our planning. Please contact Maxine Koppe, NCLGA Executive Director regarding any MUTN issues: 250-564-6585 or mkoppe@nclga.ca

Finally, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all of you who have made MUTN Phase I such tremendous success. Not only have you improved the quality of your own community, you have helped to ensure that we in the North are a model for all of British Columbia.

Sincerely,



Karen Goodings
President, North Central Local Government Association

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