

Walden-Can Report re: 2006/2007 to CGS Priorities Committee

Walden- Community Action Network: formed in Dec./05, the 8th CAN in CGS. Our **Steering Committee** has residents from the communities of: Den Lou, Beaver Lake, Penage Rd./Whitefish, Naughton, Lively/Mikala and South End. We meet monthly – except during the Summer- on a need basis.

The need for improved communication – within Walden and with the City of Greater Sudbury- was a **vital issue** identified at our Nov./05 Strategic Visioning Session and immediately addressed by the Walden-CAN in 2006. We held a Logo & Slogan Contest – to Brand the Walden-CAN; we developed **3 Communication Tools:** a quarterly **Newsletter** – in print (mailed to households) and on line; our own user-friendly, interactive **website** at www.walden-can.com and a **Walden-CAN monthly Column**, on the Thursday **Walden Page** of the **Sudbury Star**.

Our next communication project is to develop and produce a **Walden Community Directory** – in print and on line- **for use within Walden and to help promote Walden as a vital, vibrant and healthy community- to live & work in.**

* We have applied for Job Creation Partnership Grant re: 9 month project

I. Our KEY Projects during 2006 (each has a BLOG on our website) were:

1. **A Health Services Task Force** re: the future status of primary health care services at Lively Medical Center; hosted a series of Information-Gathering Meetings with: young Family Physicians, our 2 Doctors @ LMC, MOHLTC (Sudbury Office) & Lead Physician re: City of Lakes FHT; April/06 recommended continued support by Walden-CAN of LMC & investigating ways to assist Mayor's Roundtable on Recruitment & Retention of Family Physicians to LMC; Letter from Walden-CAN HSTF sent to Mayor's Roundtable May/06
2. **A Ski Hill Committee:** worked with our 2 Councillors, CGS Staff and community volunteers to re-open the Walden Ski Hill - to be officially re-opened Dec.27/06 and to be run in partnership with CGS & newly formed **Walden Ski Club**. Unfortunately, lack of snow prevented the re-opening this year.
3. **A Heritage Committee to Review the Anderson Farm Museum:** The Final Report with 17 Recommendations was presented to W-CAN in Oct./06 and a **Heritage Task Force** was established to work in partnership with Ron Henderson & CGS Staff & Council re: the next steps to protect & preserve, enhance & expand the heritage & cultural programs & activities at Anderson Farm Museum; preparing a slide presentation - made to Council, at Public Input Budget Meeting on Jan.30/07; developing Terms of Reference re: establishing an AFM Site Committee. Please note that Sheila Prusila (member of Heritage Task Force) applied for and was accepted as a member of Sudbury Library & Museum Board.
4. **An Environmental Committee:** To identify and develop action plans re: environmental issues impacting Walden & CGR: Park Allotment in Walden Subdivisions- working with Coalition for a Livable Sudbury, Energy Efficiency in Sudbury, Pesticide Free Sudbury, Wastewater Dumping at INCO (CVRD) and Re-establishing the Community Allotment Garden at AFM.

II. Requests for Action from Residents of Walden to Walden-CAN – 2006/2007

A. Safety & Security and Police Services in Walden:

1. **Vandalism & destruction of property at City Assets in Lively:** Anderson Farm Museum, Lively Citizen Centre -housing Walden Seniors & Pensioners Inc. Walden Ski Hill continues to be a problem.
i.e. Recent vandalism at the Lively Citizen Centre and damage at 3 buildings of Anderson Farm Museum

Response: Concerns presented to Councillor/s, Community Response Unit, CGS Staff, Floyd Laughren's Solutions Team Meetings, Two Public Input Budget Meetings in Jan./07

Action Needed: Improved security system, roving security patrols, security cameras, COPS Program in Walden

2. **Beaver Lake Community safety issues:** Need for Protocol established by SP/OPP/MOT/Fire Dept. & accidents closing main highway; problems with transports on their back roads.

Response:

Concerns presented at Community Meeting attended by: Ward 2 candidates for Councillor and representatives from OPP, GSPS, Fire Dept. & W-CAN. Beaver Lake Sub-Committee is working with key people. Signs re: 1/2 Load restrictions & no trucks have been posted well by CGS on back roads and are effective.

Action Needed: Beaver Lake Community is still waiting for information from OPP, GSPS, MTO about a Protocol to deal proactively with serious accidents closing main hwy & suggestions made at public meeting.

3. **Need for proactive, visible & available police services and rumour re: closure of Store Front:**

Response:

Feb. 6- Councillor Barbeau hosted a well attended, Ward 2 Community Safety Forum/Police Consultation Meeting. 17 questions were answered by Chief Davidson. * See website for notes and Power Point Presentation

Feb. 13- Deputy Chief Elsner and Sgt Sanderson attended W-CAN meeting to explain how COPS Program could be a vital partnership in community policing in Walden and that GSPS will be working closely with CANs.

There has been an Increase in police presence in Walden since Feb./07

Action needed: The initiation of COPS Program in communities of Walden - as "eyes and ears" for police

4. **March 20th Request for Assistance to W-CAN website from Fred White & group of seniors re: need to enforce Angle Parking By-Law in Lively business block**

Response: Referred request to Councillor Barbeau & Sgt Sanderson; within seven days the GSPF & CGS had reviewed the situation & developed actions: erecting By-Law signs & ticketing infractions of the By-Law and keeping Fred White and Walden- CAN advised of the actions being taken.

Note: Bert Lapalme (Media Liaison GSPS) prepared an article-'Quick Response by GSPC & CGS to Request for Assistance'- for our Website & Newsletter.

This is an example of the effective partnership W-CAN is developing with our Councillor and GSPS officers- at all levels.

B. Need for Clarification re: True Status of Mental Health Services at Walden Help Centre:

1. The Announcement by MPP Bartolucci re: transfer of control to SRH and new funding appeared to connote increased mental health services at Walden Help Centre.
2. The rumour was circulating that the Walden Help Centre would be closed by March 31 and all mental health services would be centralized to downtown.

Response:

Feb.8 - Maureen McLelland - Mental Health Program, SRH, Vickei MacDonald, Jean-Guy Levesque & Diana Price - NEMHC, met with our W-CAN Executive Committee and Terry Kett - Mental Health Advocate & Councillor Barbeau – to address community concerns re: status of mental health services at WHC. A productive first step to improve communications/gather information re: actual mental health programs/services & Vision for the future

Feb. 16- Several pamphlets re: Central Intake and Crisis Teams were emailed for posting on our Website

Action Needed: The official transfer of power to SRH takes place at the end of May. We have heard nothing more since Feb 8th Meeting re: closure of WHC or the Dr Koka's idea of using some space at Lively Medical Centre. We want to ensure that our residents have access to mental health services in Walden.

C. Oct./06 - Lively Medical Centre request for Letters of Support re: application to MOH & LTC for 'Shared Care Pilot Site Program'- to hire Nurse Practitioner:

1. Letters of Support were sent by: W-CAN, community groups, individuals & our Councillors.
2. **Application was declined.**

Response:

1. LMC continues to provide primary health care services in Walden: After Hours Clinics, Walk-In Clinics and continues to try to recruit new Family Physicians.
2. Walden-CAN offered to assist CGS Mayor's Roundtable on Physicians Recruitment & Retention – as indicated in our May/06 Letter- to help show young family physicians and family medicine residents that

Walden is a growing, vibrant, welcoming & healthy community – worth considering as place to live & work.

Action Needed: We are still awaiting a reply to our May/06 Letter to Mayor's Roundtable

- D. March 30- Request for 'Paragraph of Support' from Lively DSS to be included in School Valuation Framework for April 4th Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) Sudbury West Meeting:**
Why Lively DSS should not be closed.

Response:

1. The Co-Chairs of W-CAN prepared a Memorandum of Support for Lively DSS stressing the importance of access to education from pre-school to secondary school as part of a growing & vibrant healthy community.
2. We stressed that the example set by CGS by adopting the Constellation City Report - to strengthen and develop the outlying communities-should be embraced by the Rainbow District School Board
3. We offered the use of our communication tools (website, newsletter and Sudbury Star column) to help inform the public about ARC Sudbury West's review of four schools in Walden. * All details & data are posted on Rainbow District Website – under Board Room, Accommodation (a Link on our website).
4. We have established a Task Force to assist the four school Councils and school – impacted by the ARC Sudbury West - as requested, and to prepare input to present at the ARC the Public Meeting.

Action Needed: That CGS Council advocate adoption of the concept of Constellation City Report - to strengthen and develop CGS as a "Community of Communities" - by Rainbow District School Board and other institutions operating within CGS.

- E. Requests for Input re: MTO projects impacting Walden:** Walden West-Intersection Municipal Rd. 55 and HWY 17W and two alternative interchanges re: "Four-Laning of Southwest By-Pass".

Response:

1. W-CAN encouraged residents to attend all Public Information Sessions and to email/mail their comments to Stantec/MTO: posted details & links on our website, our Newsletter and in Sudbury Star Column
2. Councillor Barbeau attended Public Information Sessions, met with residents and W-CAN to get public input

Action Needed: Councillor Barbeau has requested additional meeting with Stantec & MTO + CGS Staff and several Councillors to discuss impact of MTO Projects on residents CGS South-West & West.

- F. Jan./07- Request from Chair Garson Falconbridge CAN to attend a meeting of all Chairs/Co-Chairs CGS CANs:** To get to know each other and

discuss the need to establish an network of CGS CANs (goals & objectives, roles & responsibilities) and need to part of the CGS process in developing the Terms of Reference, governance and funding models for all CANs

Response:

1. ACAN (Association of CANs) elected Executive Committee; meetings to be hosted by different CANs
2. To date: 3 ACAN Meetings- including one-day workshop – hosted in Walden, by Walden-CAN- developing terms of reference, governance and funding model – fair & equitable for all CANs
3. Working to improve & strengthen communication with other CANs, with CGS staff and Council
4. Important that the CANs be a part of the CGS' process in developing terms of reference, governance and funding model for all CANs
5. Meetings with Mayor Rodriguez and with Chris Gore, Manager, Community Partnerships/Development/Volunteerism re: status of implementation of Constellation City Report recommendations re: CANs

Conclusion:

Each CAN responds to the issues and concerns impacting its community. Some Requests for Action can be dealt with directly by the CAN Steering/Executive Committee; some require partnerships with community groups/service clubs or businesses; some require partnerships with CGS Staff or GSPS; some require the advocacy of our Ward Councillor and some require partnerships with our Councillor, CGS Staff, community groups and CGS Council. Each Request for Action is unique. Each response is unique. Each CAN is unique. But we all need the support and recognition of CGS - as partners working together to help develop vibrant and healthy communities.

Walden-CAN looks forward to working with our Councillor, CGS staff, GSPS, and Council to address the Needs for Action identified by the residents of Walden and to help our community grow & develop.

Submitted on May 2/07 by

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