

Measuring Up The North Working Group

Terms of Reference

The Measuring Up The North Project (MUTN) is a partnership between the North Central Municipal Association and the BC Paraplegic Association with supporting partners: 2010 Legacies Now and the BC Healthy Communities Initiative. Funders include: the Real Estate Foundation of BC, the Nechako Kitamaat Development Fund Society and the United Way Prince George. The goal of the project is to develop livable, senior-friendly, disability friendly communities. In northern British Columbia there are potentially 41 participating communities.

Mandate

One of the Key Aspects of the Project is the Measuring Up The North Committee or Working Group in each Community. The Working Group should be an **on-going working group**.

The mandate of the Working Group is to:

- Increase community awareness of the issues of accessibility and inclusion for seniors and persons with disabilities
- Establish a baseline of where the community is currently (fall of 2007) in terms of seniors and disabilities accessibility and inclusion
- Establish a Measuring Up Assessment Plan and identify the communities strengths and weakness as well as accomplishments
- Hear feedback from the community on issues and concerns
- Establish an action plan including short-term and long-term goals
- Initiate tangible achievable one-year projects
- Work with the community/local government to pass a resolution on Measuring Up The North and to change policies as needed
- Host meetings between local government, businesses and community groups on the issues
- Participate in the Measuring Up The North Network
- Evaluate the progress and achievements of the Working Group and the community on six month and one year intervals

Establishment

The Working Group shall be established by the MUTN Project Liaison Team. This team will ensure that the Working Group meets its goals. The MUTN Project Liaison Team consists of an NCMA Liaison and a Community Liaison (see MUTN Project Liaisons Terms of Reference).

Membership

- The Working Group will consist of a broad spectrum of people and interests that will best move a community forward with seniors and disability accessibility/inclusion issues.
- It is recommended that the number of people on the working group not exceed 15.
- Project Liaisons will serve on the Working Group.
- This working group must have representatives from seniors and disabilities. The working group should have a cross disability representation.
- It should have representatives from a healthy, active communities perspective, as well as a representative from real estate. (one of our supporting partners is BC Healthy Communities and our major funder is the Real Estate Foundation of BC).
- The working group should have a representative from the Aboriginal community.

- Other suggestions for the Working Group membership include representatives from: home builders association, local government, retail, Chamber of Commerce, tourism, recreation, transportation, parks, public works, BC Spirit imitative, employment, 10x10 challenge working group hospitality and restaurant, business association, disability associations, seniors associations, etc. Anyone or any entity which will assist in moving the agenda forward or which needs convincing to move forward.

Reporting

The Working Group will report to the Project Liaison Team that will then report to the Project Director. The Working Group should develop a monthly report for the Project Liaison Team and the Project Director.

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