

Altogether better.

# Annual Report 2009-2010



THE FEDERATION  
of COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES of BC

## Welcome

Our 2009 annual report started with the following paragraph, *The theme for this year is best described as Leadership in Uncertain Times. The global state of affairs has shifted dramatically in the past year and we have all been affected in some way, as have the people we serve, our agencies, and our communities. We are being called upon as organizational and community leaders to be resilient, creative and responsive to emerging challenges, needs and opportunities, and there is no blueprint or roadmap for our work.*

These words could just as easily have been written in May 2010 – we still have no roadmap or blueprint! This year has been a very challenging one, as the need for community services and supports increased, program priorities shifted, funders and community donors had less to give, and budgets were reduced. At times we felt that we were in the “pit of despair” as leadership coach Ian Chisholm described at our March general meeting. However, we have seen Federation member agencies remain focused on delivering the highest quality care and services that they can and they have been resilient and creative.

The Federation has also been changed by the events of this past year. We hope that this annual report will give you a taste of what we have undertaken and where we are going as we continue to build collective ‘mastery’ and rise out of the pit.

Please consider joining one of the Federation’s committees or working groups or spearheading a new working group or initiative on a topic of interest.

## BOARD OF DIRECTOR REPORTS

### PRESIDENT’S REPORT - Nanette Taylor

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This has been the year of the ‘perfect storm’. An economic downturn, increased citizen and community vulnerability, budget cuts from a variety of social ministries and health authorities, less funding from granting organizations, and a weak social development vision for BC, have resulted in significant challenges for community serving agencies.



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We knew we were in for a tough year so the Board and staff set a course in September 2009 that focused on supporting our members in a variety of ways, promoting high quality services and practices, using our voice and influence to raise public and political awareness on the value of social care, and building new connections to enhance the strength of the sector. We have been willing to engage in 'courageous conversations' with government and have had some positive and surprising results that we hope will help set a new course for government-community social sector relations.

We have also worked on a number of fronts to build the strength and cohesion of the sector, in the belief that in so doing we will be better able to protect vital social services. We have continued to invest time and resources into the development of the Board Voice Society and are thrilled with the emergence of this new and vital voice for community (see the update from Doug Hayman below). We now have a Memorandum of Understanding with the Society and they will be contributing funds to the Federation so that we can sustain our secretariat function.

We were also fortunate to work with the CEO Network, providing strategic counsel and secretariat support as they focused on business practices and built a strong working relationship with Community Living BC. We learned a great deal and are proud of the contribution we have made to the Network. Although our work with the Network comes to a close at the end of June we will continue to work with their leadership group to support the business functions of social service agencies. Most recently, we began working as an equal partner with MCFD on the residential review project. We are pleased with the progress of the review.

We have continued to build relationships with and learn from our Aboriginal 'sister' organizations, notably the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and the Caring for First Nations Children Society. One of this year's highlights was when the Federation received a beautifully carved talking stick as a gift from Paul Lacerte and the BCAAFC. He told us to "use it wisely" and I am committed to doing so!

As the out-going President I would like to acknowledge the incredible work of our Executive Director and staff team. We are very blessed to have Jennifer Charlesworth in the ED position. She is extremely knowledgeable and principled and we have respected relationships with politicians and bureaucrats alike due to her gracious presence and integrity. I would also like to thank Doug Hayman who had the vision and commitment to incubate and support the development and growth of Board Voice. As always, Susan keeps the wheels running smoothly, ably assisted by Donna. We welcomed Rebecca as our new policy and practice analyst, covering for Amy Woodruffe who was seconded to the BCAAFC for 6 months.

Lastly I would like to thank the dedicated members of the Board. We have updated our strategic plan and stayed on track despite immediate pressures caused by economic stresses and other membership needs. The volunteer board members work very hard on behalf of members and our Federation to

build a strong network with influence in the community social service sector. I have been privileged to work alongside them.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – Shane Picken

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It has been a busy and challenging year for the Federation Board, and I have really enjoyed the collegial work with Board members, new and old, in this time of great change in the sector for our members and in the Federation. The Federation has been steering through a quagmire of challenging issues, while the Board has been supporting our (amazing) staff to set strategic direction and priorities for our activities.

Over the last several years I have been the active liaison between the Federation and MCFD regarding the development of the new client information system, aptly named the (ICM) Integrated Case Management System. I say 'aptly named' because it will integrate case planning processes and client information across the Ministry's internal service streams, and with external service providers such as our member community agencies. The advanced planning, procurement and development process has been a major cross-Ministry initiative, primarily between MCFD and MHSD, and now has approved funding to move ahead. The current activities are primarily internal to the Ministries, and involve the development and piloting of the most basic components and screens of the future system. Next year there will be further development of the more complex elements of the case management functions, with implementation probably in waves of releases, starting in 2012. I anticipate that the Ministry and the Federation will be implementing some new information sharing processes over the next months, to keep members informed of progress and provide a 2-way forum for feedback and input into the planning.

As VP I have chaired the Personnel Committee, and I've enjoyed working with this small committee to plan for our staffing requirements and support the excellent, hard-working and dedicated employees of the Federation. The Federation would not have achieved the significant progress we have realized, on many initiatives, without the expertise of our Executive Director and staff team. I have been very impressed with the talents, skills and perseverance of every one of them, through these challenging times in our sector.

There have been numerous other activities to get involved with over this last year. These have included working with the (former) RED/Fed working group and the development of the MCFD/Federation Engagement document; the Advisory Committee for the Provincial Residential Redesign Project; and the CEO Network in the development of their relationship with the Federation. I encourage other/new members to get involved with the Board and committees at and following the AGM. There is so much work to be done, to represent the interests of the community social services sector, and meet the needs of vulnerable children, families, and individuals in our communities.

## **REGIONAL DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

### **Fraser Region** (old and new boundaries)

Director: Ian Mass, Pacific Community Resources Society and Lynda Edmonds, SHARE Family and Community Services

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The Fraser region's boundaries changed as of April 1, 2010 which necessitated a change in regional director as Lynda Edmond's agency became 'attached' to the Vancouver Coastal region. Ian Mass, as a Federation Board director-at-large, agreed to take on the regional director role until the June Board elections.

Four meetings of Fraser region members were convened this year – two teleconferences (October, 2009 and April, 2010) and two face to face meetings (at the Federation meeting in March and in June 2010)

The primary issues and interests addressed during the meetings and through other communications have been:

- Funding cuts/changes & impact
- Process for decision making re: contracting cuts
- Federation media tool kit
- Meetings with politicians etc. to get our stories out
- Enhancing ways to connect with each other in the region and keep each other apprised of emerging issues (e.g. we developed a telephone tree strategy)

We have also brought together leaders of agencies funded by Fraser Health Authority (FHA) to develop strategies to deal with FHA budget and service reductions, which have been very significant in this region. We have discussed the change in the MCFD's boundaries and how this impacts the Federation's regional responsibilities and boundaries as now our funders operate with different boundaries. Barbara Walsh, the new MCFD Regional Executive Director, attended our latest meeting and we are 'getting to know each other'. Another interest of the members has been to promote and encourage the development of a stronger member base in the region and participation in Board Voice Society.

### **Vancouver Coastal Region**

Director: Teri Nicholas, Family Services of Greater Vancouver

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The VC region held three meetings this year. Two were held in the Region (October 13, 2009 and May 21, 2010) and the third was held at the general meeting in March, 2010. Bev Dicks and Dennis Padmore attended both of the meetings held in the region. In addition, other non-Federation agencies were invited and attended the regional meetings.

Anticipated budget challenges were identified early in 2009. Discussions included being involved in an engagement strategy around reductions in the

STOB 80 funding. Prior to February 2010, the impending Olympics and how services would be provided was a priority topic for MCFD and agencies. Fortunately service delivery was not negatively impacted as travel restrictions in the City were not an issue as predicted.

In January 2010, MCFD regional staff invited Federation representatives and a small group of agencies to talk about how to engage agencies in a process to inform the STOB 80 reductions. The Ministry then proceeded to bring together agencies in funding cohort groups to talk about the reductions and to get input on how to manage the funding reductions. In March, agencies were given a percentage reduction from 4.2 - 6.2% and asked to provide MCFD with a plan on how and where these reductions could be applied. Feedback on the process to date has been positive, although none of us agree with these funding reductions to the sector.

With several areas of the Fraser Region to join the VC Region in June, we will be looking at ways to best assist and represent agencies in this increasingly large and diverse region. This is a significant change for these Fraser agencies and we will work on transition issues for the new VC Region. Key issues are consistent contracting practices for MCFD across the new region, different regional funding bodies e.g., Vancouver and Fraser Health Boards, different municipalities, valuing what works in the current structure, and exploring benefits of the merger. This is all within a context of significant funding losses. We will also support each other to tell our stories to exemplify the impact of the losses.

### **Vancouver Island Region**

Director: Mitzi Dean, Pacific Centre Family Services Association and Deborah Joyce, District 69 Family Resource Association

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Over the past 12 months we have held meetings prior to Federation general meetings. These are usually rotated between different Island locations, specifically Nanaimo (mid-island) and Victoria (South island). The meetings usually comprise of members' business in the morning, being joined by MCFD colleagues at lunch and for the afternoon session. In advance of these meetings, the Federation representative holds a brief preparation meeting with the relevant MCFD representative to set the agenda.

The key issues on the agenda this past year have been:

- Budget/funding
- South Island Contract Review
- Disentanglement
- MCFD restructuring
- Municipal Pension Plan
- Integrated Case Management and IST
- CAPP
- HOMES
- Other items including HST

These meetings have effectively facilitated communication among Federation members and with our MCFD colleagues.

In June 2010 Ralph Hembruff will be retiring from his position as the ED of Victoria's Boys and Girls Club. He was the VI Region Federation representative, so in preparation for his departure we transitioned in Mitzi Dean (ED, Pacific Centre Family Services Association) as the Regional Representative during late 2009. As Mitzi prepared for the arrival of her first child, Deborah Joyce from District 69 Family Resource Association, joined the team and guided the region through the past two months of the term.

### **Interior Region**

Director: Dennis Dandeneau, The Bridge Youth and Family Services  
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### **North Region**

Director: Debbi Flann, Intersect Youth and Family Services  
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### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Chair: Michelle Fortin, Watari Research  
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Over the past year, the Federation once again benefited from an increase to both our full and associate member numbers. The committee worked in partnership with the Federation office to review all member applications and presented them for ratification for the membership when deemed appropriate. In addition to the 12 new members joining the Federation, interest was constant and information packages went out regularly to agencies across the province.

Membership committee activities focused on review of our existing policies, expanding the definition of associate member, more clearly defining the term 'affiliate member' and establishing an opportunity for individual membership. Working with staff, the committee adapted the member application to better reflect our name change and developed the "Statement of Expectations" which reflects our intentions for members in the Federation as community social services leaders.

With the depth and breadth of membership, the use of a mentor for new members has been in place for the past year in an ad hoc manner. Looking forward, the membership committee will formalize this process and evaluate its effectiveness to better serve new members. The committee will be increasing its own membership, developing a structure that reflects the diversity of membership and regions more effectively. Additionally, we will work with the Federation staff to engage in a membership recruitment campaign that identifies the Federation as a strategic investment opportunity for organizations as we move forward.

Special thanks to Maclynne Bourquin, Vicki Dobbyn and Doug Hayman for all of their work on member's behalf.

## **STAFF AND CONSULTING TEAM REPORTS**

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Jennifer Charlesworth

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I have mixed feelings about this past year. On the one hand, we have been living through the economic downturn and have experienced a significant erosion of the community social care infrastructure in BC, which I believe will compromise citizen well-being and resiliency over the long term. On the other hand, new approaches, relationships and opportunities are emerging both within the Federation and the sector that give me a sense of hope for the future.

One of our primary responsibilities as a staff team is to support our member agencies. Communications has been a top priority for us. Information enhances agencies' capacity to make good decisions and our goal is to ensure that you have ready access to the most up to date and relevant information available on community social service issues in BC. We were fortunate to retain Jody Paterson as our strategic communications counsel this year. She has built up our staff team's communications knowledge and capacity, taken on the monthly e-newsletter, helped us prepare communication tool kits for members, advised members on communications issues, and assisted us to get key messages into the media. In addition to the monthly e-newsletter, we have stepped up informative communiqués on critical issues, established bi-weekly member webinars and enhanced our website. At the AGM we will launch our social media strategy. If I can figure it out, so can you! My children will be proud of me.

Creating and supporting networking opportunities is another member service priority of ours. We have re-worked how we structure our general meetings: finding topics and presenters that are relevant to all members while also creating networking and learning opportunities for diverse and specific program and services interests. We have also created more time for the networking and collective solution-finding that so many members find invaluable. We have had the largest gatherings in the Federation's history this year and the participant feedback has been both positive and constructive. We will now be recording some of the general meeting presentations and uploading them on our social network site so that members who are unable to attend can still benefit from the learning events.

Sector advocacy has also been a significant activity this year. From a communications perspective, we began by building public and political awareness about the value of social caring, which established a platform from which we could describe the impact of cuts to the social care infrastructure. We prepared tool kits for member organizations, coordinated efforts with other provincial bodies and have been tracking the cuts and impacts across the sector (including member and non-member agencies) to inform the difficult conversations we have with government about the decisions being made. On specific issues, such as the lack of funding for the Municipal Pension Plan, we

acted swiftly, with facts and an impact analysis in hand. We worked with colleague organizations such as the CEO Network and ASPECT, and were able to mobilize people throughout the sector to express their concerns to MLAs and community leaders, with the result that government decided to provide funding for MPP implementation. We still have work to do to establish a pension program and funding for non-union agencies and these conversations continue.

We have also provided leadership to build cohesion and collaboration in 'the sector', through nurturing and supporting Board Voice and the Provincial Organizations Roundtable, working with the Deans and Directors of post-secondary human and social development programs, and participating in the Government Non-Profit Initiative.

CoreBC – The Centre for Dialogue and Learning on Child and Family Practice was launched this year. This is our applied research and learning focused 'arm' of the Federation. We received a grant to build up the CoreBC capacity this year and we will be expanding the Research to Practice Network (including webinars offered by the academic authors in the network) and the Applied Promising Practices (APP) initiative. Three new APP projects will be underway this year, addressing youth housing and homelessness, FASD supports, and continuous quality improvement resources.

Our recruitment and retention project continues, as we take the long-term view. Although we are not facing an acute labour shortage in the sector at this time, the demographics suggest we will be facing one in the future. We developed a comprehensive recruitment and retention strategy in conjunction with the GNPI and we have continued our work with the two ministries responsible for labour market development. I have co-chaired the GNPI's Human Resource Capacity Advisory Committee and while progress has at times been painfully slow, I will continue to bring the sector perspective and interests to the table! Within the Federation we are focusing our efforts on leadership development, particularly for the next generation of agency leaders.

There are many other project, initiatives and activities that we could share with you but space is limited. Please check out our website for more information. Of course all of what we do is only possible because we have an active and talented Board of Directors, an exceptional (although small) staff team and we are supported by talented consultants. I feel so fortunate to work alongside this team.

**DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT** – Doug Hayman  
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The role of the Director of Strategic Development is to develop and implement strategies that expand the reach and influence of the Federation and build the strength of the community social services sector. Two initiatives have been particularly noteworthy this year – the establishment of the Board Voice Society and the Provincial Organizations Roundtable.



After a year of thinking and planning, Board Voice (BV) became a reality in November 2009 at its Founding Conference in Vancouver. BV was established to ensure that the voice of the voluntary community governors is supported and heard in BC, and that board membership is encouraged and supported through communications and learning opportunities. In the months since the founding conference, BV leadership has actively developed their capacity to address key strategic objectives. The Federation is very pleased to continue to provide secretariat and planning services to the new Board Voice Society of BC.

Through its communications, Board Voice has commented on the social determinants of health in an opinion editorial; written to and received responses from the Minister of Finance on the issues of HST and MPP; created letters to the editor on service cuts; delivered an opinion editorial on the value of board members to community capacity and resilience; and delivered a talk at the GNPI Summit. Board members have met with government officials such as Allan Seckel, Deputy to the Premier, MCFD Minister Mary Polak and Leader of the Opposition, Carole James, amongst others to discuss issues. Over the next month, executive members will meet with Founding Sponsors, Vancity, the Vancouver Foundation and the United Way of the Lower Mainland to discuss future directions.

Key to its development this year will be the necessity of attracting more members to the new organization. To facilitate this, the BV board lowered the membership fee for small organizations, so that agencies under \$500K annual operating budget can join for \$100. (If you haven't already, please consider joining).

One new and exciting development is that boards across the province are beginning to organize cross-agency meetings in their local communities to discuss the issues. Greater Victoria will hold their third meeting this month and meetings are planned for other regions in the fall. BV sees local organizing as an important feature of BV and greatly appreciates the work of Executive Directors in assisting them to accomplish this.

Board Voice Society will hold its second AGM and conference on October 22 and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please let your boards know about these dates and sign them up! Check out Board Voice at [www.boardvoice.ca](http://www.boardvoice.ca).

The Provincial Organizations Roundtable is a loose network of provincial organizations, most of which are federated organizations with memberships. (The mailing list has more than 80 organizations listed). Over the past two years the Federation and other sector leaders created the Roundtable to try to bring together a highly differentiated and uncoordinated sector around several key activities.

In its early meetings, the Roundtable determined that branding the sector differently in the public's mind would be critical. NOW Communications was hired to assist the members in developing strategies and messages that could be used by all member organizations in any communications – letters, speeches, opinion editorials and chats at the local coffee shop. The idea

behind this is that if we all used the same basic approaches, informed by local issues and stories, we would become much more powerful in our communications and would begin sounding like a cohesive, powerful sector.

The second key development at the Roundtable has been coalescence around the need for better research about the social services sector and its value to our communities. A proposal has been developed aimed at creating a capacity for research and funds have been raised for this purpose. There are still features to work out, like governance of the project and some specifics related to how it will proceed to develop the research, however, the basic idea of being able to speak more specifically about community social services from a BC perspective resonated strongly with the Roundtable members.

The next Roundtable meeting will be convened on September 24 to strategize further around both of these developments.

**POLICY AND PRACTICE ANALYST REPORT** – Amy Woodruffe

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One of the Federation's priorities this year has been to raise the profile of the valuable work done in our sector and also build a sense of identity and belonging for practitioners – that they are part of something bigger than their program or agency. One of the ways we did this was mobilizing around an international movement to acknowledge youth work. From October to November 2009, the Federation provided leadership and support towards the Child and Youth Care Association of BC's (CYCABC) annual "Thank a Youth Worker Campaign" (TTWC) on November 5th. The TTWC is an annual campaign designed to draw attention and appreciation towards frontline social service work with children and youth. The Federation's support towards the campaign was a part of the mentorship that we are providing to the CYCABC as it revitalizes itself.

The CYCABC requested in kind support from the Federation to assist them in getting the campaign off the ground for the first year. As a result, the Federation organized over 2000 campaign ribbons to be distributed amongst social service providers and students in human service programs across BC. The campaign was made possible through generous financial and in-kind support from University of Victoria, Douglas College, Vancouver Island University, University of the Fraser Valley, Victoria Ribbons and Awards, Abbotsford Community Services, and John and Barbara Woodruffe.

In November 2009, Amy was seconded to work with the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres (BCAAFC) for a period of six months. This secondment provided a number of mutual opportunities for both the Federation and the BCAAFC: the secondment offered Amy further professional growth and development, and the BCAAFC was able to benefit from the added staff capacity from the Federation. Additionally, it served to build and strengthen the relationship between the Federation and the urban Aboriginal community of BC. Amy's role with the BCAAFC was to begin to develop an Indigenous Outcomes Measurement Framework for child and family programs in Aboriginal Friendship Centres throughout BC. The project involved working

closely with various Friendship Centres in Victoria, Nanaimo, Prince George, Merritt, Port Alberni and Penticton. The project also included collaborative work with staff from MCFD's Integrated Quality Assurance branch.

**COMMUNICATIONS COUNSEL REPORT** – Jody Paterson

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The Federation put new emphasis on improved public communications in 2009-10. Those of us in the social-services sector know the tremendous value of the community work we do, but other British Columbians and even government partners aren't nearly so clear about what it is we do - or what is potentially at risk when programs and services are cut. We decided to help change that. The Federation launched a number of new initiatives in the last fiscal year aimed at raising public and political awareness of all the community work that goes on under the broad banner of "community social services." We also made special effort to jump in on larger public debates relevant to social care, submitting several letters to the editor and opinion pieces to B.C. print and on-line newspapers on subjects such as poverty and the economics of care.

We're committed to helping our members prepare for going to the media too, whether they're hoping for a feature celebrating one of their best programs or have a more urgent need for a news story raising the alarm about cuts they're struggling with. It's all of our stories combined that will sway hearts and minds at the public and political level, and we look forward to helping our members step into the limelight even more in the coming year.

Here are the highlights from our communication work in 2009-10:

**Toolkits** - Communications guides loaded with practical tools were developed for the provincial budget in May, and in the run-up to the revised provincial budget in September. The toolkits helped agencies reach out to the media or their political representatives by providing them with letter and press-release templates, messaging, social-service facts, media contact information and storytelling tips.

**Newsletter** - The Federation launched a monthly e-newsletter in November. The work of a member agency is featured in each edition, as are updates on any pressing developments the Federation is aware of, news from general meetings, important calendar listings and much more. If you'd like to contribute articles, photos or a story idea, please contact newsletter editor Jody Paterson at [jodypaterson@shaw.ca](mailto:jodypaterson@shaw.ca).

**Media exposure** - A story in the media can be a very effective way of getting the attention of the public or politicians. To that end, Jennifer made herself available for a number of media interviews over the past year, and also had six opinion pieces and letters to the editor published in B.C. papers.

We monitor newspaper databases to see where opinion pieces/letters are being picked up or where stories referring to social services have been published, and have noted a rise in references when using search terms such as "Jennifer Charlesworth" (an easy way to check for Federation-related news!) or even just "social services."

A small example: Jennifer got a mention in a total of 18 stories somewhere in B.C. in the year May 09-10. During that same period the previous year, she only had two. A search of "cuts" and "social services" yielded 190 relevant B.C. stories from May 09-10, which at least tells us that some of our stories must be getting out there!

**Social media** - Federation member Merlyn Horton (SOLOS) has been invaluable in setting up the Federation's new social-media site. This private site will be an excellent place for senior managers at Federation agencies to share information, events and concerns, or just have a little fun. If you're not signed up yet, come see us at The FED Hub, <http://fcssbc.ning.com/>

**And much more** - A number of smaller projects throughout the year have helped position the Federation for even more improvements around public communications. Some examples:

- Supported Board Voice, the Provincial Organizations Roundtable and the CEO Network on communications strategies, opinion pieces, letters.
- Individual work with agencies seeking communications advice around funding crisis, preparing for media interview, or preparing for a visit with their MLA.
- Improvements to Federation's media database through consultations with BC papers specifying how they like to receive letters/opinions.
- Identification of specific "media to know" who have shown interest and knowledge in their coverage of social services.
- Media monitoring for social service trends in coverage and other news relevant to the sector.
- Communications now a regularly featured topic at general meetings.

This past year has been hard on agencies and community supports, and there are more challenges and opportunities ahead, including:

**Telling members' stories** - We identified some significant challenges around communications, some of which are specific to the confidentiality needs of our sector and others that present more difficulties in terms of finding our way around them.

Fear of being "punished" by funders prevents many agencies from wanting to tell their story even when long-standing services are being lost, and enough have actually been punished in the past that they're right to be concerned. Others fear that they'll look like they're "whining" if they go to the media or their MLAs, or will end up stressing their clients out if they make too much of a big deal about a program at risk.

There are also concerns around maintaining client confidentiality. And even just making time for communications is difficult, given the workload our agencies carry these days.

But it's the individual stories from our communities - and the feedback from the people using our services - that the public and politicians most need to hear to help them understand the important role of social services. We are actively looking for ways to address the concerns of our member agencies so that we can help them tell the powerful stories of the work they do.

**Keeping track of cuts, reductions and policy changes** - Thank you to all the agencies who have kept us informed about issues affecting their communities and their organization. This information is invaluable in helping the Federation craft effective, evidence-based communications that tell the larger story of what's going on in terms of social care and the social safety net across the province.

We can use the information you send us in all kinds of ways for communicating with our government partners, the public, the media, and allies. Your facts and figures help us tell the compelling stories of what's going on around B.C., and is extremely useful in helping our political representatives see the scope of the gaps and shortfalls around social care.

We urge our members to continue sharing this information. As far as we know, the Federation is the only organization in B.C. monitoring social cuts around the province.