

**Presentation and Business Plan  
to**

**Kelowna City Council**

**May 3, 2004**

**"Community Drug Addiction  
Problems and Solutions"**

By the

**CENTRAL OKANAGAN  
FOUR PILLARS COALITION**

***MAYOR'S TASK FORCE  
ON  
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND HARM REDUCTION***

## **MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY AND HARM REDUCTION**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Mayor's task force on Community Safety and Harm Reduction is comprised of Coalition of Community organizations and individuals are presenting this business plan.

The Task Force is being facilitated and administered (free) by the 'Living Positive Resource Centre' community organization, 101 266 Lawrence Ave. Kelowna B.C.

The following pages outline the Business plan which proposes using the "Four Pillars" balanced approach to drug addiction by using the Prevention, Treatment, Enforcement and Harm Reduction formats.

To undertake a community consultative process, and prepare a report for Council to use as a 'Framework for Action', and as a 'sales tool' to garner partnership and financial support with Provincial and Federal Governments will require a financial commitment from the city now.

The Federal Government has committed \$245 million dollars be spent over the next 5 years in reducing the demand for and the supply of illegal drugs in Canada. (Media Release attached)

Once the community has a "made for Kelowna Action plan" developed by the citizen to combat the illegal drug problem, the community will be able to apply for other Government partnerships and financial resources to follow through with 'Framework for Action' plan.

To develop a 'made in Kelowna' Framework for Action' plan, (and immediate action) will require a city commitment of \$50,000. (Budget attached).

Respectfully submitted

Allen Lueck  
Task Force & Coalition Chairman

# **Community Drug Addiction Problems and Solutions**

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The  
**Four Pillar Approach**  
to  
Identifying Problems and Solution  
regarding  
Drug Addiction Issues in the Central Okanagan

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**Business Plan for Action**

**BACKGROUND**

One does not have to look hard to come to the realization that there is a drug dependency problem in today's society. And, the Central Okanagan is not immune to the problem. The Okanagan area is growing (population in 2003 estimated 170,000 with a projection to 220,000 people in 2020) / and with it comes some of "big city" problems. Nearly every family has a member (or knows of someone) who has (or did have) a dependency on one drug or another.

The Mayor of Kelowna held a public forum on "Community Safety and Harm Reduction" November 26, 2003. This brought the community together to discuss the growing issue and concern of drug addiction and related issues.

More than 200 concerned citizens attended the Mayors forum including front line workers in health care, members of the drug dependency community, Police officers, community leaders and others. They came together seeking solutions to the ever-growing drug problem. At that meeting the Mayor said, "addiction needs treatment and criminal behavior needs enforcement".

A unique solution to the drug addiction problem has been implemented successfully in Vancouver, and Regina, as well as a host of other cities in Canada, USA and Europe. A balanced "four-prong approach" has proven to insure good results provided there is a community 'buy in'. A 'ground up' approach from the citizens versus a 'top down' approach from Government has proven successful when there is a 'buy in' by the community.

The balanced 'four prong approach' is called the "Four Pillars Program" and consists of a balance between Prevention, Treatment, Enforcement and Harm Reduction.

In January 2004 the Mayor set in motion a Task Force to set the stage and work towards a solution. A Steering committee (list attached) comprising of 38 concerned Citizens is now in place representing front line service providers, Chamber of Commerce, Kelowna Downtown Association, RCMP, School District, City Council, and others came together. Four committees each representing one of the pillars has been formed and have met numerous times to date. All Chairpersons and committee members are volunteers. (Members list attached)

For the Central Okanagan Four Pillars program to succeed, it will take a strong commitment from City elected officials, Regional District elected officials, Provincial Government elected official, Federal Government elected officials along with community leaders and the involvement of the whole community.

If the people of the Central Okanagan are serious about the drug addiction problem with children, youth, and adults in our community; a collective and cooperative level of participation and financial contribution is required from all levels of government.

The public 'buy in' and their support to eradicate the drug problem is paramount if the problem is to be beaten. Talk is cheap,.... but cooperation, financial resources and action are required immediately.

As noted, some communities already have a Four Pillars Program in place to address the drug abuse problem. Therefore, it is not necessary for the area to 'reinvent the wheel'.

However; a 'made in the Central Okanagan' Four Pillars Plan is required that addresses the specific problems. Drug addiction does not conform to specific city limits or boundaries. Therefore, an action plan must be formulated which would address local concerns.

The cost and energy to change public attitude to NOT use illicit drugs is far less costly than the horrendous cost to the taxpayer for treating addictions, increased health costs, loss of productivity in the business place, family breakdowns, additional social services required, property losses, increased crime and increased law enforcement costs, rehabilitation costs, loss of life etc.etc.

For example; in 1965, tobacco and nicotine was consumed by 50% of the Canadian public. In 2003 that number dropped to 20 % of Canadians being addicted to tobacco. This remarkable decline did not happen because of criminal law and police enforcement, but through an aggressive public education program, directed to children and adults.<sup>2</sup>

### **CANADIAN STATISTICS WE DON'T LIKE! <sup>3</sup>**

- 1 in 10 homicides involve drug related accounts
- 18-24 yr. Olds make up the highest drug related offence rate in 2002
- British Columbia is the highest drug related province.(544 per 100.000 Population, almost double the National average
- 1 in 10 court cases are drug related
- Each HIV case costs to the public is (est.) \$150,000-\$200,000
- Vancouver Safe injection site have up to 500 visits a day

## THE FOUR PILLARS DESCRIPTION

**Prevention** involves education about the dangers of drug use and builds awareness about why people misuse alcohol and drugs and what can be done to avoid addiction. We support coordinated, evidence-based programs targeted to specific populations and age groups with programs that focus on the causes and nature of addiction as well as on prevention.

**Treatment** consists of a continuum of interventions and support programs that enable individuals with addiction problems to make healthier decisions about their lives and move towards abstinence. These could include detoxification, outpatient counseling and residential treatment, as well as housing, ongoing medical care, employment services, social programs, and life skills

**Enforcement** strategies are key to any drug strategy. In order to increase public order and to close the open drug scene in the area, more effective enforcement strategies need consideration, as well as efforts to target organized crime, drug houses and drug dealers, and ideas to improve coordination with health services and other agencies. To increase public order, requires the balance and involvement in the other pillars

**Harm Reduction** is a pragmatic approach that focuses on decreasing the negative consequences of drug use for communities and individuals. It recognizes that abstinence-based approaches are limited in dealing with a street-entrenched open drug scene and that the protection of communities and individuals is the primary goal of programs to tackle substance misuse. This pillar attempts to demonstrate the need for harm reduction by outlining, and drawing upon other successful programs around the world that have significantly reduced both the negative health and social impacts and the costs of drug addiction to the community.

## OTHER COMMUNITY FOUR PILLAR SUCCESSES

1. Vancouver 4
  - ✓ Web page set in place. [www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/fourpillars](http://www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/fourpillars)
  - ✓ A Chinese community Drug & education forum for parents (city & police partnership)
  - ✓ Vancouver Foundation new \$250,000 fund to support Pillars approach.
  - ✓ Opening supervised injection sites is a vital part of harm reduction.
  - ✓
2. Regina 5
  - ✓ Forum held on alcohol and drug addiction (Feb. 2002)
3. Frankfurt Germany
4. Switzerland
  - In a study of 800 drug dependent people (average age 30.8 yrs)
  - ✓ Homelessness reduced from 12% to 1%
  - ✓ Employment rate reduced from 44% to 20%
  - ✓ Positive relationship between costs and benefits
  - ✓ Has put a stop to the increase in new drug users among youth
  - ✓ Has helped a multitude of drug dependent individuals escape the viscous cycle of addiction
  - ✓ AIDS and Hepatitis infections noticeably reduced
  - ✓ Crime rate substantially reduced

### **THE TASK FORCE MANDATE**

- 1) Form a steering committee of concerned citizens and front line organizations
- 2) Develop term of reference, and business plan
- 3) Meet with the citizens through a consultation process with public ‘focus’ meetings to determent:

A. Do they need and support the **Four Pillar** approach to drug addiction? and if so,

B. What are their concerns in the community? in their neighborhood?, in their school?, in their workplace? and do they have fears, and most important.....do they have suggestions to fight the drug problem?

C. Is clarification required in the Central Okanagan regarding specific drug problems, (availability, labs, distribution, dealers, safety) and recommend appropriate goals and action. Are their gaps in services provided or duplications in some services?

- 4) Compile all the data received from the community ‘focus’ meetings into an orderly and understandable format.
- 5) Develop a concise “Framework of Action” report with recommendations based on the ‘four prong’ balanced approach for a ‘Made in the Okanagan’ strategy that balances and supports the **Four Pillars** approach to Drug Prevention, Drug Treatment, Drug Enforcement and Harm Reduction.

### **THE PROPOSED BUSINESS PLAN for the CENTRAL OKANAGAN**

- 1) Through a well-coordinated media campaign, advertise for community involvement by attending neighborhood ‘focus’ (input) meetings seeking citizen’s concerns and suggestions. Some meetings will have youth only in one room with adults only in another room. The meting comments and suggestions will be recorded (no names used) and become part of the final document presented to City Council. If Media attends these meetings, they will be requested to respect individual’s privacy by not reporting names or taking photos of those participants without prior consent.

At the start of each meeting (chaired by Coalition Chairman Allen Lueck , a power point presentation will outline the Four Pillars Program and concept underway in other communities, and what is proposed for the Kelowna area. This will set the stage for citizens’ involvement and frank discussion. Their suggestions on how to deal with the drug addiction problem will be sought.

It is anticipated each focus (input) evening meeting will last approximately 2 to 3 hours. The plan is to hold 6 community focus meeting in different parts of the area.

- 2) Hold a similar focus meeting with the business community (Chamber of Commerce & Down Town Business Association representatives etc)
- 3) A questionnaire will be distributed at each meeting to allow for peoples' input (anonymously if they wish) for those that choose not to speak in public regarding their concerns and ideas.

### **RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TASK FORCE**

The Mayors task force was setup (January 7, 2004) to “do the research” by consulting with the citizens of the area and by using a balanced four prong approach of the ***Four Pillars Program***, to determine what action is needed to reduce and curb the dependency of drug use in the Central Okanagan and report those findings to the Mayor and Council. The Task force has assembled a “Steering Committee”. This committee will provide oversight in the development of a comprehensive Drug Strategy for the Central Okanagan. It will:

1. Monitor and coordinate the activities of the four working committees (one representing each of the Four Pillars),
2. Provide a forum for interaction with the community at large.
3. Prepare a report (Framework for Action) to addresses the problems and make suggestions. The Central Okanagan area of interest is defined as the area from Peachland to Winfield, (area serviced by School District #23)

### **THE TIME LINE**

2004

May & June

Schedule, advertise and hold neighborhood focus ‘input’ meetings

July/August

Prepare draft strategy report

September

Hold a Community Forum to present the neighborhood focus meeting findings and draft ‘Framework of Action’ report, and to gain further community input and ‘buy in’.

October/November

Present final ‘Framework of Action’ strategy report and recommendations to City Council.



**THE BUDGET**

Advertising	\$7500.00
Office Supplies	750.00
Printing & Copying	5000.00
Phone/Fax	750.00
Travel/local area	600.00
Facilities rentals	2600.00
Meeting facilities, supplies	2500.00
PA Systems, A/V equipment	
Coffee, juice, etc	
Staffing costs	
Coordinator	
Recording /consultant/writer	30000.00
	<hr/>
	\$49,700.00

Attachments:

- Coalition Executive Members
- Coalition Steering Committee Members
- Pillar committees & Chair Persons
- Federal Government Media release re: \$245 million allocation over 5 yrs.

## **Central Okanagan Four Pillars Coalition**

### **EXECUTIVE MEMBERS BIOGRAPHY**

#### **CHAIRMAN**

##### **ALLEN LUECK**

- *Born, raised and educated in Saskatchewan*
- *Law Degree received at University of Saskatchewan*
- *Occupations include: Conservation Officer, farmer and a businessman & Lawyer*
- *Seven yrs. Legal advisor for Council of Yukon Indian on their Land Claims*
- *Member of Beaufort Sea Environmental Assessment Panel*
- *Lived in Whitehorse for 32 yrs prior to moving to Kelowna.*
- *Retired and volunteers with a number of local organizations including the Four Pillars coalition.*

#### **VICE CHAIRMAN**

##### **DARYLE ROBERTS**

- *Executive Director of the 'Living Positive Resource Center, formerly called ARC, (Aids Resource Center)*
- *Instrumental in bringing the documentary film called 'FIX' (the story of the addicted city) to Kelowna in 2003 that started the movement to build the Four Pillars Coalition.*
- *Concerned citizen and resident of Kelowna for 10 years.*

#### **SECRETARY**

##### **BRIAN MAIRS**

- *Program Coordinator Okanagan Aboriginal AIDS Society*
- *Owner of a Consulting Firm with Contracts ranging from London to New York.*
- *Dedicated to being a confidante, advocate and counselor assisting those with drug addictions.*
- *Resident of Westbank since 1980*

## Central Okanagan Four Pillars Coalition

### Steering Committee

<b>Chair</b>	Allen Lueck	Concerned Citizen
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Daryle Roberts	Living Positive Resource Centre, Okanagan
<b>Secretary</b>	Brian Mairs	Okanagan Aboriginal AIDS Society
<u><b>City of Kelowna</b></u>		Theresa Eichler
<b>Westbank First Nation</b>		Counsellor. Sharon Shepherd
<b>RCMP</b>		Margaret Eli
<b>John Weisbeck Office</b>		Inspector Bill McKinnon
<b>School District #23</b>		Carla Lundy
<b>Concerned Citizens</b>		Dr. Peter Molloy
		Aimé Beaulieu
		Dave Bonell
		Crissi E.
		Lynn Lee-Ran
		Angus Leslie
		Allen Lueck
		Anne Maranta
		Lloyd McBeth
		Liam McGillvary
		Lester Morris
		John Palmer
		Frank Shannon
		Dawn Turner
		Giovanni Vidotto
<b>Living Positive Resource Centre</b>		Daryle Roberts
		Deborahjoy Bolton
<b>Okanagan Aboriginal AIDS Society</b>		Brian Mairs
<b>Nursing Students</b>		Catherine Arndt
		Janice Harding
		Melissa Wettland
<b>John Howard Society</b>		Shelley Cook
<b>Consultant</b>		Chic Gray
<b>Okanagan University College</b>		Garth Homer
<b>ARC Programs</b>		Shane Picken
<b>North End Resident's Association</b>		Marie McIntosh
<b>Dencar Consulting Inc</b>		Carmen Lenihan
<b>Alcohol and Drug Programs</b>		Ira Roness
<b>Kelowna Drop-In Centre</b>		Candy Sutherland
<b>NOW Canada</b>		Catherine Williams-Jones
<b>The Write People</b>		Rand Zacharias

## The Four Pillars Committees

<b><u>Prevention Pillar</u></b>	<b>Members</b>	
<b>Chair: Dawn Turner</b>	Carmen Lenihan	Deborahjoy Bolton
<b><u>Prevention</u></b> ( The prevention pillar refers to a range of interventions that can help prevent harm to individuals and their families as a result of drug misuse. .	Craig Monley	Judy Gillespie
	Doug Gibson	Heather Klotz
	Lloyd McBeth	Sylvia Loewen
	Angus Leslie	K Solinski
	Theresa Eichler	Mari MacIntosh
	Gail Scanlan	

<b><u>Treatment Pillar</u></b>	<b>Members</b>	
<b>Chair: Shelly Cook</b>	Carmen Lenihan	Ira Roness
<b><u>Treatment</u></b> The treatment pillar represents a range of interventions and support programs that enable and empower individuals with addiction problems to make healthier decisions about their lives.	Lise Clouthier	Frank Shannon
	Garth Homer	Shane Picken
	Carol Lust	Lester Morris
	Crissi E	Leora Splett

<b><u>Enforcement Pillar</u></b>	<b>Members</b>	
<b>Chair: Rand Zacharias</b>	Bill McKinnon	Daryle Roberts
<b><u>Enforcement</u></b> The enforcement pillar strategy recognizes the need for peace and quiet, public order and safety in the Central Okanagan communities and neighbourhoods.	Catherine Williams-Jones	
	Other members pending	

<b>Harm Reduction Pillar</b>	<b>Members</b>	
<b>Chair: Carmen Lenihan</b>	Dennis Lenihan	Paula Grosse
<b><u>Harm Reduction</u></b> The overall goal of the Four Pillars Drug Strategy is to reduce harm to individuals and communities from the sale and use of both legal and illicit substances.	Monica Turner	Connie Zol
	Liz Gibson	Melanie McArthur
	Leah Dawe	Bonnie Ross
	Rebecca Aaron	

## REFERENCES

1. Central Okanagan Regional District office
2. Mayor Walter Gray speech Nov.29/03 at public forum on Safety and Harm Reduction
3. Stats Canada [www.cfdp.ca](http://www.cfdp.ca), and [www.mapine.org/topics/four+pillars](http://www.mapine.org/topics/four+pillars)
4. Neil Boyd, Professor, Dept. of Criminology, Key note speaker at Vancouver Four Pillar meeting Nov 20/03
5. Vancouver B.C. Four Pillar web page [www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/fourpillars](http://www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/fourpillars)
6. Regina Sask. Web page  
[www.city.regina.com/content/info\\_services/social\\_devel/crime.shtml](http://www.city.regina.com/content/info_services/social_devel/crime.shtml)
- 7.
- 8.