**Create a Community Social Development Partnership**

**Community Social Development** is about improving the well-being of every individual in a community so they can reach their full potential.

The role of the **Community Social Development Partnership** will be to:

* facilitate communication and collaboration amongst community organizations to support them to work together on community social challenges and opportunities;
* to support action on high priority projects identified in the Community Development Action Plan;
* to identify new social challenges and opportunities in the community and identify ways to meet these challenges and access these opportunities;
* to provide local government with information and recommendations on community social challenges and priorities;
* to communicate social issues and information within the community and externally; and
* to maintain and update the social aspects of the Community Development Action Plan.

**Community Social Development Partnership’s Terms of Reference**

**Mandate**

The Partnership mandate is to:

* Serve as the social development champion for the community by developing a vision, gathering momentum for change and encouraging action;
* Develop a coordinated approach between local government, citizens, service providers and community organizations, facilitating communication and collaboration to work together on community social challenges and opportunities;
* Promote awareness of social development principles to residents, local agencies and businesses;
* Monitor funding available for social development initiatives, encourage local government or other eligible agencies to apply for this funding, and provide input on funding applications;
* Prepare a Community Development Action Plan modelled on the Revelstoke and Area Community Development Action Plan; support high priority projects identified in the plan;
* Prioritize the implementation of existing community plans including the Age Friendly Community Plan; and
* Provide the Town of Golden, CSRD Area A Director and members of the community with information and recommendations on community social challenges and priorities.

**Reporting**

The Partnership will report to local government, and members of the community with a regular reporting schedule.

**Model**

The partnership will be established based on the Constellation Model. The constellation model is designed to bring together multiple groups or sectors working toward a joint outcome. The focus is on action rather than dialogue. Activities are handled by small, self-organizing teams called **constellations**. These teams are threaded into the overall partnership which is held together using a governance and management framework that balances leadership amongst all participating partners. The aim is not to create a new organization, but to get things done in a nimble, high impact manner.

A **stewardship group**, composed of representatives from partnering organizations, will act as stewards of the community interest and the work that is being undertaken to promote community social development. The stewardship group is responsible for the overall health of the partnership and ensuring that the constellations are aligned with the purpose of the partnership.

With the constellation model, the coordination function resides outside of the core partners. The **coordinator** should be familiar and interested in the nature of the collaborative work, but should not have a seat at the table as a content provider. Their job is to support the process of the collaboration by guiding the planning process, facilitating meetings, supporting new constellations, fundraising for joint projects, mediating conflict, helping information to flow, and building the overall capacity of the group.

**Constellations** can be formal projects, opportunistic initiatives, or working groups that guide particular aspects of the work of the Community Social Development Partnership. When a constellation starts up, the participating partners define the terms of reference.

Source: <http://timreview.ca/article/183> Open Sourcing Social Change: Inside the Constellation Model

**Composition**

The **Stewardship Group** will be comprised of 5 to 11 individuals:

* Member(s) of Council appointed by the Council:
* CSRD Area A Director:
* Individuals involved with one or more social development organizations or sectors (outdoor spaces and buildings, transportation/active transportation, housing, seniors services, social participation, communication and information, civic volunteerism and employment, health and community support, youth services, poverty reduction, early childhood, education, sustainability)

**Constellations** will be formed by representatives of social development organizations and members of the community with an interest in the particular issue being addressed by that particular constellation.

**Activities**

Objectives could be achieved through, but not limited to, the following activities:

* Raising awareness and understanding of social challenges and successes within local government and broadly in the community
* Enhancing knowledge about the rules and programs of service providers within the social sector and broadly in the community
* Generating discussion to identify causes of social issues
* Using asset-based community development approaches to create solutions
* Providing and promoting opportunities for coordination of services to decrease competition, overlap and gaps in services
* Acting as an advisory body to which local government may refer questions, reports and requests for support related to social topics
* Advising local government on actions that could be taken to address social issues, including advice to local government staff working on social issues
* Annually reviewing and updating the social aspects of the Community Development Action Plan, including identifying priorities, and provide input on other aspects of the Plan
* Sharing information about funding opportunities and approaches to access funding for the community
* Providing educational opportunities for community members, social service clients and service providers to increase skills, knowledge and awareness on various aspects of social planning

