



BC Poverty Reduction Strategy Geographical Area Ashcroft-Cache Creek-Clinton

***Public Engagement Process Conducted by
Yellowhead Community Services Society***

March 10-28, 2018

Introduction:

Date:	March 10-28, 2018
Community:	Ashcroft-Cache Creek-Clinton
# of Participants:	35
# of Organizations:	4

On behalf of Yellowhead Community Services Society, I am pleased to provide the results of the small group discussion-participant engagement that was conducted through small group discussions and questionnaires to residents in Cache Creek, Ashcroft and Clinton. Small group discussions were held in Cache Creek at the Equality Project and in Ashcroft at the Hub Community Centre. In addition to group discussions, questionnaires were circulated in all communities, and as well, users of the Ashcroft-Clinton Transit System (which represents many low income individuals) completed questionnaires provided. Dates of the sessions were March 19-Cache Creek; March 21-Ashcroft. The organizations who participated included; the Hub; Equality Project; Yellowhead Community Services Society; Ashcroft-Clinton Transit. The following is an analysis of the participants who responded in either the small group discussions or questionnaire:

- Ashcroft 16
- Cache Creek 19

About the Participants:

The breakdown of participants in this analysis are as follows:

- 70% Ages 60 plus
- 30% Under 59
- 3% Employment Income
- 97% Guaranteed Income; Employment Insurance; Old Age Security; Canada Pension or Income Assistance

About the Findings: Issues:

Key issues identified by participants included in order of priority:

- Inadequate income
- Improved access to medical services
- Improved access to mental health services
- Improved employment opportunities
- More affordable in rural communities

YCS Clearwater
612 Park Drive
Clearwater BC, V0E 1N1
Phone: (250) 674-2600
Fax: (250) 674-2676

YCS Barriere
4936 Barriere Town Road
Barriere BC, V0E 1E0
Phone: (250) 672-9773
Fax: (250) 672-9709

Work BC
58A Young Road
Clearwater BC, V0E 1N2
Phone: (250) 674-2928
Fax: (250) 674-2938

Dutch Lake Community Centre
209 Dutch Lake Road
Clearwater BC, V0E 1N2
Phone: (250) 674-3530
Fax: (250) 674-3540

- Income assistance and PWD rates need to be increased and the ceiling for retaining income needs to be increased to help people get out of poverty
- More readily available to access services and/or seek employment

Possible Solutions:

The following represented solutions that were identified by the participants. They include:

- Improved access to medical services
- Affordable food
- Affordable housing
- Increase availability to public transportation
- Guaranteed annual income to remove poverty stigma
- Increase child care subsidy
- Increase shelter portion of income assistance
- Increase Persons with disability benefits
- Better employment opportunities

Solutions and Actions that can Make a Difference:

- Increase Housing Stock in rural areas
- Increase availability of affordable child care
- Subsidize food costs in rural areas

Top Three Solutions:

1. Increase health care services.
2. Develop subsidies to make food more affordable in rural isolated communities.
3. Increase availability of affordable housing.

YCS Clearwater

612 Park Drive
Clearwater BC, V0E 1N1
Phone: (250) 674-2600
Fax: (250) 674-2676

YCS Barriere

4936 Barriere Town Road
Barriere BC, V0E 1E0
Phone: (250) 672-9773
Fax: (250) 672-9709

Work BC

58A Young Road
Clearwater BC, V0E 1N2
Phone: (250) 674-2928
Fax: (250) 674-2938

Dutch Lake Community Centre

209 Dutch Lake Road
Clearwater BC, V0E 1N2
Phone: (250) 674-3530
Fax: (250) 674-3540