

Community Connectors Activity Report

Prepared by Jo Lukawitski, Whitehorse, Yukon

Type of Activity

A free evening workshop entitled 'Emergency Preparedness for Non-Profit Organizations' was held February 18, 2009, between 7-9 PM at the Sport Yukon Boardroom.

Julie Rae Diyen and Jo Lukawitski from the Yukon Volunteer Bureau coordinated:

- Promotion of the event through local newspapers, personal and professional networks, email distribution lists and radio stations
 - Two newspaper ads ran February 6th & 13th
 - Radio ads on CKRW ran 3 times/day for the week leading up to the event
- Registration and responded to public inquiries
- Preparation of presentation Power Point, handouts and supporting materials
- Responding to the media via interviews
- Setting up the venue, providing food and beverages
- Final reporting

Representatives from the Yukon Government, Emergency Measures Operations were invited to attend and speak on emergency issues in the north. Unfortunately EMO representatives preferred to simply direct people to their website instead of collaborating. No one from the Federal level of Government was contacted.

Level of Voluntary Sector Participation

In total nine people registered, although only six people actually attended the session. Attendees represented four Non-Profit organizations and one governmental organization. One attendee was from the rural Yukon community, Faro.

Results of the Activity

The evening presentation prepared and delivered by Jo Lukawitski focused on Service Continuity planning. Participants were encouraged to share information and exercises with their boards, and to use the following website resources:

www.readyforcrisis.ca

www.redcross.ca

www.community.gov.yk.ca/emo/planning/html

At the end of the presentation Jo received a request from a participant to perform an individually tailored workshop on service continuity for their organization.

Next Steps

The new staff (in Jo's old position) at the Yukon Volunteer Bureau have been given the information on Service Continuity, and a file containing a canned presentation along with resource materials and handouts has been created for future use. It is the responsibility of

the Yukon Volunteer Bureau to follow up on the previous request for a workshop on emergency preparedness and to promote the information provided in future sessions.

Thank you!