



Commenced: 6:10 pm

**Attendees: Tony Swain, Brendan Houle, Chris Stanley, Craig McLachlan, Nick Hamill
By Telephone: , , Patrick Clark
Staff: Tracey Axelsson, Chris Chanhsamone
Regrets:**

1. Changes to the agenda

Remove minutes approval May 11th Minutes to be taken to email vote

2. Approval of previous minutes from

ONLINE – November 28

- Moved - Patrick
- Seconded – Chris
- Carried

3 Admin and Program -

- Received \$200,000 from Peter Wall & Bob Rennie – SMS and sustaining operations
- Received \$145,500 from Employment & Social Development Canada - StreetMessenger
- Received \$25,000 from Canadian Internet Registries Authority - StreetMessenger
 - Working with bc211 on shelter map strategy, and social agency outreach
 - Working with Covenant House Vancouver – street teams
 - Working with Calgary Homeless Foundation and Dropin Centre
 - Working with Findhelp Toronto and City of Toronto – social service outreach
 - Set to work with Covenant House Toronto – street teams
- Travelled to Toronto, Gaming Grant – Toronto – SMS – Calgary SM and Winnipeg Conference
- Reappointed as Secretary of Telecommunities Canada ~ 3 tele-meetings per year
- Redesigned the VCN Labs rack card - printed
- Travelled to Victoria for Gaming Grant
- City OCB grant – previous year awarded \$20,640
- Met with Elizabeth Loughheed-Green VanCity potential social enterprise funding
- Met with TRAC and Atira for collaboration on OurBuilding.info
- 312Main may open in November; ground floor opportunities for VCN have been raised
- Revamped budget template to better display the financials of the various programs
- Completed the fiscal year of 2016/17 August 31. Reconciliations are complete. Nick and I will make some adjustments; deferrals & write-offs and send to Woszny
- **Fillings** - PST - CRA filings are submitted and up to date
- **Computer Access @ Woodward's.** -The exterior-office continues to be well utilized. We are often asked to put out more computers. The free phone is out there at all times – VOIP
- **YI** – hiatus year is likely at this point – expect a revised program in 2018

4. Technical – Helpdesk – WebTeam-

SERVERS - Several server hard drives were donated by ReuseTechBC.

HELPDESK– Anuj/Kai hired as part of the Canada Summer Jobs program for two months. He provided technical support at the office. In August 2017, Taryn, a previous BCIT practicum s Ali Sedighi, from

the web|team, has started to replace VCN's donation database with CiviCRM, an open source CRM system for non-profits. Currently, VCN uses CiviCRM to send out emails to members. This project will help consolidate VCN's membership database, switch to an open source platform, and make it easier to support the donation database.

StreetMessenger Kai was also hired as part of the Canada Summer Jobs program. He added a feature that allowed BC211 to update the number of shelter beds and export the information as a PDF. BC211 will be using the StreetMessenger to record information about shelters. Near the end of August 2017, Daniel was hired as a contractor to work on the StreetMessenger. He will assess the platform application moving forward, update StreetMessenger to support multiple cities, and add an API to allow other organizations to use data on StreetMessenger.

web|team Ali S returned to university and is working part-time. Volunteers possible backup for Ali S..

tech|team Ali Pashaei was hired for one month while Rob was on vacation.

5. Cloud Computing for VCN

VCN has the opportunity to get free credits to use both the Platform-as-a-Service and Infrastructure-as-a-Service for our data storage needs and to host the **StreetMessenger, OurBuilding.info** and **beready.info**.

The VCN Use Case within a pilot project offered through CIRA & Amazon Web Services

Amazon Web Services (AWS) is a cloud-based, virtual machine, project development and backup service.

AWS enables VCN to develop or maintain completed projects without the cost of buying software or maintaining new hardware. AWS is also highly scalable, allowing for the additional or reduction of services as needed. AWS provides a highly secure means of cloud development and backup.

6. Financial Reports (Nick)

Treasurer - a full report was given referring to the reports presented.

Budget Review of Draft as presented

- Moved - Brendan
- Seconded – Patrick
- Carried

7. New Business

**Security – offside backup to be
AGM dates considered – potential for earlier in February**

Adjourn:

7.45 pm