



STRATEGIC SOCIAL PLAN

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

SSP Connections

a bulletin about the Strategic Social Plan

Eastern Region focused on people and partners

Building capacity and leadership in communities, and encouraging partnerships that make a difference for people in the region are high on the agenda for the Eastern Region Steering Committee of the Strategic Social Plan.

"We know that our communities do better when people get actively involved in community issues and come together to deal with our challenges," says steering committee chair Fay Matthews.

To hear from citizens about issues, challenges and opportunities in the region, the steering committee is planning a series of town hall forums for sometime this fall.

Planning for about 10-12 town hall sessions in the

region is now underway.

"We want to get people talking about issues that challenge the region, and suggest ways to take action," says Fay.

The steering committee will present its regional work plan during the town hall meetings. Priorities include:

- * Building community leadership and capacity
- * Fostering lifelong learning
- * Promoting health and social development
- * Building partnerships between region and community

Since coming together over a year ago, the steering committee has also focused on fostering partnerships in the region. These partnerships have an impact

on the way people receive services, and the way that organizations work together. Some recent examples include partnerships that: look at medical transportation of persons with disabilities on the Burin Peninsula, explore literacy development needs in the Clarenville area, and focus on violence prevention and awareness at the school and community level.

Other recent activities include development of an extensive environmental scan for use as a planning tool, and organization of a successful conference for volunteers that featured skills-building workshops.

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Coming soon to a computer near you...

Interested in the rate of home ownership in Clarenville? Or the number of students enrolled in high school? Then check out the Community Accounts of the Strategic Social Plan. It's a web-based information system that will soon be available to anyone with a computer and internet access! The system is a first in Canada for the breadth of information available at a regional and community level, and for its ease of access. You can find out about a broad range of topics, including income, education, health and employment.

This unique resource will soon be available online by clicking:

www.communityaccounts.ca

The SSP in action - Supporting victims of violence

A partnership between government and community is making income support services more flexible and accessible to victims of violence. Human Resources and Employment has implemented most of the 16 recommendations drafted by a working group under the provincial Violence Prevention Initiative. The working group included government departments, representatives from women's shelters and the provincial status of women coming together to make a difference!



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