

## **Minutes, MARC, April 27, 2010**

**Present:** Kay Chauhan, Sri Pendakur (Chair), Sherman Chan, Leah Pomerantz, Shirley Cohn (Recorder), Cristina Crovara, Dave Sangha, Duncan Stephen (on speaker phone)

**Regrets:** Augusta Lokhorst, Bella Cenezero, Marisa Tuzi, Danielle Ungara

Minutes of the March 16/10 meeting were accepted. Cristina has volunteered to be co-chair, and was well-received by MARC members present.

### **Business Arising:**

1. Leah Pomerantz reported on the **Metropolis Grant Project**.

This project has been approved, and Leah is proceeding, with the assistance of another freelancer, Sylvia Campos. Summarized articles will be cited on the website, with linkages for commentary. The first newsletter will likely be out later this week. The website will be user-friendly, with poster, flyer, e-mail, blog, and Facebook.

Brief discussion re Metropolis presentation at the BCASW Fall Conference.

2. MARC submission on human trafficking for BCASW Fall Conference.

The subcommittee, consisting of Augusta, Marisa, and Sherman, has worked on this, along with Victor Porter. A submission has been sent to Linda Korbin, proposing that Robin Pike, Executive Dir., BC Office to Combat Trafficking, speak on "Beyond Awareness: Best Practices in Identifying and Supporting Trafficked Persons."

3. Refugee System Legislative Reform

MOSAIC has written a draft response re the government's proposed changes. Sherman will pursue the possibility of MARC having an expanded meeting in May or June at MOSAIC, where other interested parties could attend.

### **Other Business:**

- a) Discussion re College of Social Work appointee, Heather Stilwell. BCASW has written a letter to the College, expressing concern. Sherman will relate this discussion to AMSSA, and Duncan will liaise with Linda.
- b) How best to respond to racist incidents described in the media? "Rapid response" letter-writing described, where MARC members could draft a letter for other members to read/approve, and then send off to Linda for final approval.

- c) Dave Sangha described settlement work in the North. There will be a conference in Ft. St. John May 8/9, “Welcoming Communities,” with the keynote speaker being the CLC anti-racism liaison.

**Next meeting: May 25, 2010**

**Adjournment**