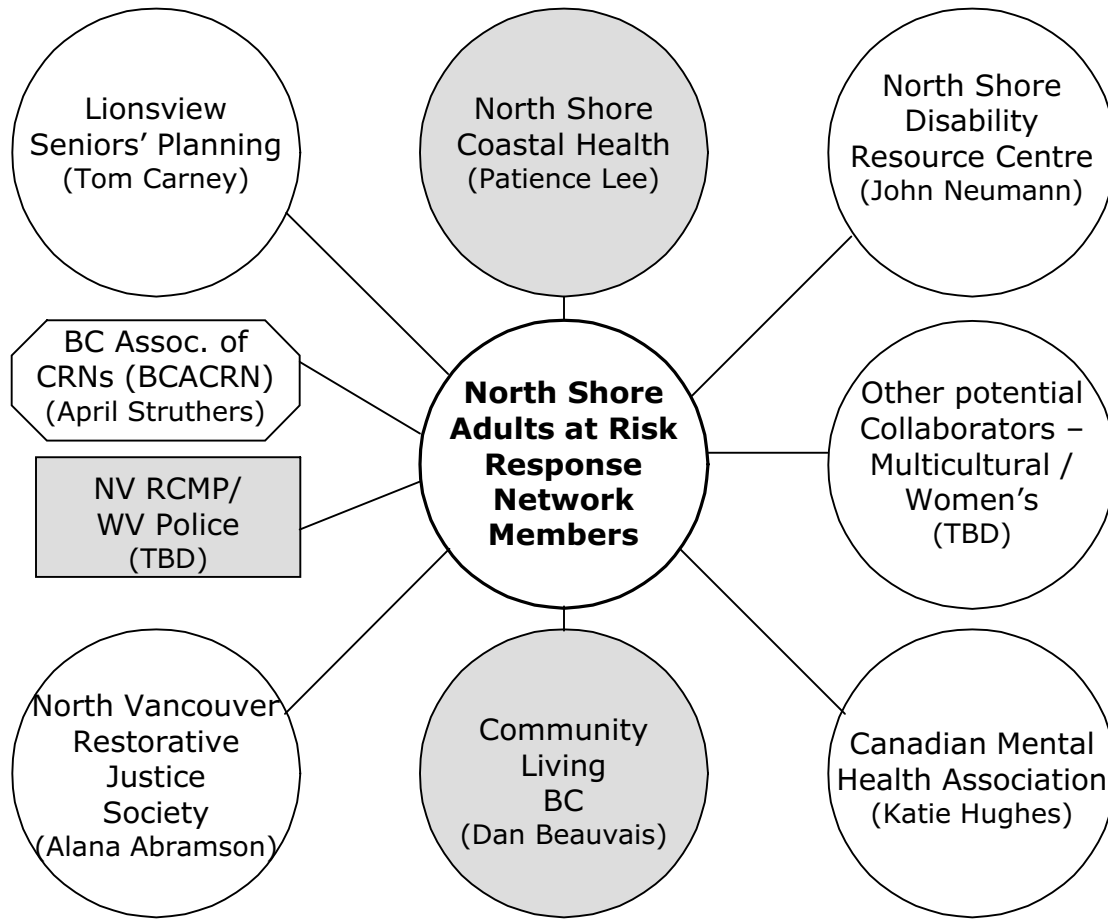




## New Network Collaborative Structure November 14, 2006

### Network Collaborative Structure

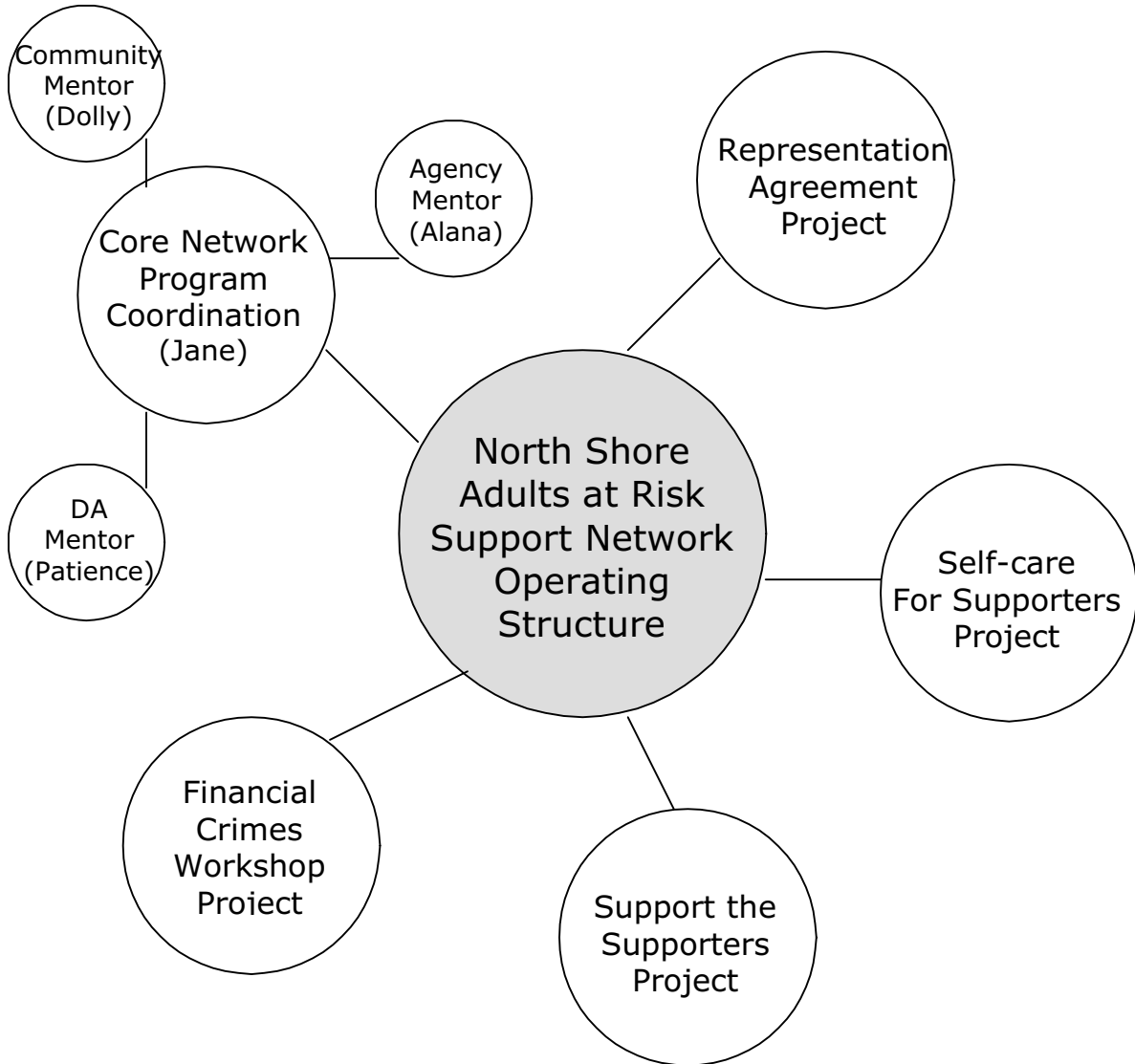


The diagram depicts the new Network structure. The Network, including all its members, sits in the centre of the picture. Members are individuals who have joined the Network to keep in touch with issues of adult abuse, neglect and self-neglect and with agencies that provide services to these at risk adults. Members may be agency representatives or community volunteers who want to contribute their personal time and energy to Network activities. Many of our members combine both these characteristics.

The shaded circles are the Designated Agencies; the transparent circles are the collaborators. The initial collaborators represent agencies that deliver services to seniors, adults with mental disabilities and adults with cognitive, developmental or physical disabilities. The circle on the right of the diagram labelled, "Other Community Agencies" represents future collaborators that deliver services to other groups of adults who are potentially at risk, e.g. recent immigrants, women. The

shaded rectangle represents North Shore police agencies and the hexagonal shape is our parent association, the BCACRN.

The Collaborative has an operating structure that is depicted here:



In this structure, the Network operates an ongoing core program (see upper left corner) that delivers the primary network activities as mandated by the BCACRN (parent association) and agreed to by our Network members. The Network also operates projects. Projects vary from year to year and are designed to meet the needs of the community the Network serves. They are always collaborative - the Network provides a coordinating role, some outreach and some logistical resources; the partners provide the rest of the resources required by the project. Projects are a mechanism for allowing a group of agencies to deliver something of benefit to at risk adults in their communities that they are not able to do as effectively or frequently as individual agencies.

## ***Roles and Responsibilities***

### **Collaborators**

Collaborators may be any agencies that deliver services to at risk populations. The collaborators form the Executive of the Network and their mandate is *to provide the leadership role for the Network*. In this role, representatives:

- Ensure that the goals and principles of the CRN movement are preserved in all Network plans and activities.
- Ensure that a Network-wide point of view prevails in establishing plans, priorities and budgets.
- Oversee the creation and implementation of plans and budgets.
- Recommend changes to plans, priorities and budgets if and when current conditions change.
- Monitor the Network budget and make appropriate financial decisions on behalf of the members.

Collaborators also provide core services and infrastructure like banking, telephone, print/photocopy, meeting space and other in-kind resources.

### **Core Network Program Coordination**

The Network employs a part-time Coordinator to ensure that the core activities mandated by the BC Association of CRNs and agreed to by the Network Collaborative are carried out on an ongoing basis in a consistent manner. The Coordinator also acts as the project manager for collaborative projects unless this role has been specifically assigned to one of the other collaborative partners. In the latter instance, the Coordinator is the Network's official delegate to the project team and carries the responsibility for ongoing project communications and problem solving on behalf of the Network.

Three mentors selected from amongst Network members support the Coordinator in day-to-day decision-making:

1. Community Mentor
  - Dolly Cartwright
  - Responsible for advising on community activities including outreach, fundraising and volunteer recruitment
2. Designated Agency Mentor
  - Patience Lee
  - Responsible for advising on matters involving adult abuse, neglect and self-neglect and formal responses under the Guardianship Legislation
3. Community Agency Mentor
  - Alana Abramson
  - Responsible for advising on matters connected to governance, community agency operations and grant writing

The plan is that these mentors will be appointed to a minimum two-year term. Terms will be staggered to ensure continuity of support.

## **Designated Agencies**

The role of Designated Agencies (NS Coastal Health and Community Living BC) remains under negotiation. In the NSAARSN model, it is envisioned as threefold:

1. To provide sustainable funding for core network operations
  - The Network is currently preparing a proposal to the Designated Agencies for a three-year pilot project
2. To provide expert advice to the Network Coordinator and Network members with regard to the nature of adult abuse, neglect and self-neglect and the formal responses called for under the Adult Guardianship Legislation
3. To partner with community agencies in developing coordinated community responses to adult abuse, neglect and self-neglect

The North Shore Network relies on an officially designated representative from each of these agencies. Currently they are Patience Lee, the Abuse & Neglect Coordinator for Coastal Health and Dan Beauvais, a senior Facilitator from Community Living BC. The Network also welcomes and relies on participation from other individuals from these agencies - the wider the participation from front-line staff in these agencies; the greater the mutual benefits.

## **BC Association of CRNs (BCACRN)**

The Association has a dual role:

1. To provide a provincial framework to support the activities of individual CRNs:
  - To sustain community networks by establishing a diversified funding base for their activities
  - To develop materials and resources that assist community networks in carrying out their goals
  - To provide communications infrastructure to ensure that provincial networks remain connected to the Association and to each other
  - To support other initiatives that benefit adults experiencing or at risk of experiencing abuse, neglect or self-neglect
2. To provide supporting resources to individual community response networks:
  - CRN mentors to help guide the ongoing development of local CRNs
  - Transitional resources for Networks undergoing structural changes
  - Workshops for delivery in member communities
  - Outreach materials
  - Collaborative project support where it makes sense

## **North Vancouver RCMP / West Vancouver Police**

Police agencies are critical to successful responses to adult abuse, neglect and self-neglect in our communities. Their members are often front-line staff or volunteers who are the initial responders to community members. Their more senior staff also have specialised roles under various pieces of legislation. In the North Shore Network, police agency members service to liaise between their organisations and the Network's member agencies. They also participate in and provide support for Network-sponsored initiatives.