

Operational status (as of April 2014) : **OPEN**

Name of Organization	Alisa's Wish - Ridge Meadows Child Advocacy Centre Pilot Project Host Agency: Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Community Services		
full address	11907 – 228 th Street Maple Ridge British Columbia V2X 8G8		
Website	www.comservice.bc.ca		
Phone	(604) 467 – 6911 ex.222	Email:	vkipps@comservice.bc.ca
Key Contact person	Vicki Kipps Executive Director		

The Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Child and Youth Advocacy Centre , ***Alisa's Wish*** began development in 2010 with a committee lead by MRPM Community Services with active representation from RCMP, Ministry of Child and Family Development, School District 42, ACT2 Counselling, Cythera Transition House, Victim Services (Community and Court based), and Crown Counsel.

The Mission statement developed by this committee is “***A community response that facilitates a compassionate, integrated approach to the prevention, identification, prosecution and treatment of abuse involving children and youth***”. In the past year, our CYAC Coordinator has continued to lead the Committee through our process; our Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) has undergone several draft revisions and will, hopefully, soon be finalized various processes have been defined and refined, and forms have been developed for Intake, Consent to Disclosure of Information, and Confidentiality. Initially, in the first few months, we provided virtual services in the coordination of service providers, case conferencing, and expedited referrals.

In April 2013, the CYAC found a location as we secured rented office space and in July, we hired a part-time Child Youth Advocate for our Pilot project. Services were then expanded to include child/youth friendly interview/monitoring rooms, a case conference/meeting room, and rooms for initial, and ongoing consultations

with service providers -- although not co-located -- as well as a large child/youth oriented “play” room.

In September 2013 Alisa’s Wish hosted its first forensic interviews with the Ridge Meadows RCMP. In December 2013, given our MOU remains in review with the RCMP Legal Service Department, it was determined that services could still move forward. The Officer in Charge at Ridge Meadows RCMP was in full support that all forensic child and youth interviews will take place in Alisa’s Wish utilizing Community Services’ existing protocol with RCMP and Police Based and Community Based Victim Services. Although this has not permitted police to engage in case conferencing with the multidisciplinary team, it has permitted immediate site utilization with the Child Youth Advocate hosting the site, and being available to the clients and their non offending family members. At this time, all GIS RCMP teams have been trained on the use of the recording/monitoring equipment at the site. The ease of access has also resulted in a 80% of clients consenting for CYAC services through a common referral point (one form), and rapid access to all CYAC partner services (i.e. counselling, transition house, Victim Services, etc.). To date, 17 interviews have been conducted.

We have also implemented case conferencing with our existing partners (minus RCMP for the interim), hence, all referrals supported by the Child Youth Advocate prompt an Initial Case Conference call between: MCFD, ACT 2 & Cythera Counselling Services, School District 42 representation and Victim Services and Community Services representation to determine the relevant services to be attached. This format has also facilitated ease of communication and quick attachment of services for clients. Subsequent case conference calls are scheduled as needed for updates and case status. Criteria and user guides forms have been developed to support appropriate and efficient conferencing. All multidisciplinary team members sign a confidentiality form for this process.

At present, the Committee and Coordinator are developing evaluation forms; several client satisfaction surveys (facility site and Child Youth Advocate services forms) are being piloted; and we are in the process of refining an MDT evaluation

form. Quantitative and qualitative data this past year are being gathered and collated and results will be available in spring 2014.