



**Best Start Network
Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2016
9:30am until 11:30am.**

At Major Ballachey Neighbourhood Hub – 105 Rawdon Street, Brantford

Present: Connie McAllister, Jennifer MacDonald, , Kim Romano, Adele Gawley, Flora Ennis, Sarah Robertson, Rajsic, Ronda Manning, Anca Gaston, Michelle Connor, Luisa Pappert, Melodie Spencer, Barb Mitchell, Jane Angus, Barb Vanry, Laurie Bergeron, Kathy Dickens, Maria Timpener, Rita Stratford, Marg Barr, Cathy Medway (recorder)

Regrets: Deanna Searle, Karen Calligan, Marie Josee Baril

| | Agenda Item | Discussion/Decision | Action |
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| 1.0 | Success story /Lesson's Learned – | Shared at end of meeting | |
| 2.0 | Welcome/Declaration of Conflict of Interest / Review of Meeting Notes | Introductions were made around the table. Melodie welcomed everyone. | |
| | Call to Order, Additions to the Agenda | Additions to the agenda Include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Ballachey HUB – Michelle Connor • Child Care Advisory/Francophone update • OEYCFCs • Best Start Magazine ads/articles | |
| | Approve Minutes of September 15, 2016 | Minutes approved with changes (listed below) and accepted by Jane Angus, Seconded by Luisa Pappert <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christina Martin will represent YMCA SACC instead of Maria Timpener by proxy • Luisa Pappert will also join the OEYCFC partners working group | |

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| 3.0 | <p>Business arising from previous minutes</p> <p><u>3.1 Receive Information:</u> School Age Child Care (SACC) Kim</p> | <p>Michelle Connor welcomed everyone to the Major Ballachey Neighbourhood Hub space. This is a joint project between the GEDSB and City of Brantford.</p> <p>Community spaces are open seven days a week from 7:00am until 7:00pm. David Vujasinovich, Neighbourhood Development Coordinator, is the contact person if you wish to book the hub space for a meeting.</p> <p>Neighbourhood hub spaces are technologically savvy with WiFi and lap tops, white boards and fully stocked kitchens. They provide exciting learning opportunities for community residents as well as an opportunity to come together as a community utilizing the ideas and talents of its neighbours.</p> <p>To further the neighborhood partnership inside this hub is a PFLC (drop in program), Wish Closet (clothes exchange for all ages), kitchen and meeting spaces.</p> <p>Free Neighbourhood Learning Series event calendars (workshops and courses) are posted for two months at a time.</p> <p>Other listed Hubs include Eagle Place, East Ward/Echo Place and Holmedale neighbourhoods. See City of Brantford web site for more details.</p> <p>CMSMs met in London for a regional meeting on October 25, 2016. There are new changes for 0 to 4.8 year old children and care for 6 to 12 year olds are now mandated to provide care if demand is there. The school boards have had discussions and the issues are complex and they will continue to discuss</p> | <p>Contact Info: David Vujasinovich, Neighbourhood Development Coordinator, Social Services – Ontario Works Brant 519-759-3330 x 6406 Cell 519-732-3276</p> <p>Link to Hub video https://youtu.be/LyySSKiDHtg</p> <p>For more information please see website www.cityofbrantford.ca</p> |
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| | <p>3.2 <u>Receive Information:</u> RFQ for consultant on OEYCFC - Michelle</p> | <p>A working group has been established to discuss and consider the importance of before and after school care and flex care. For flexible care we will be looking at a tour of a private home day care agency (Wee Watch). School Age Child Care (SACC) will be linked to fee subsidy, may have third party operators, recreation programs for 6 to 12 year old. Children under six are not eligible for rec. program so we need to maintain licensed child care for those in school 3.8 to 5.9 years old.</p> <p>100,000 new spaces are being created as well and will have indigenous child care spaces.</p> <p>As spaces grow we must consider special needs costs, wage enhancement, funding for workers, cost of care (affordable to parents), how funding will work and other costs.</p> <p>Pressures need to be identified and RECE must be found to run the programs and the gap in wages for ECEs must be considered. Child and Youth Workers and Recreation leadership graduates can be hired for rec programs.</p> <p>Melodie asked if the BSN should send a letter to the Ministry. Kim has drafted a letter to the Ministry in response to these questions and pressures and will share with Melodie.</p> <p>OEYCFS transformation Jen Kirkham has been hired as a consultant. She will partner with Anca for data. Jennifer will be creating initial surveys for feedback from parents, children, focus groups and neighborhoods. Hard copies and electronic copies of the surveys will be available to parents. May look at twitter account and post cards with a link to the survey.</p> | |
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| | | <p>Also want the opinion of children 0 to 6 so graffiti walls and placemats will be available for children to say/draw what they want. Graffiti walls will be set up in Harmony Square after the Santa Claus parade and placemats will also be distributed to child care agencies</p> <p>Please forward this information to all service providers, groups and committees.</p> <p>Michelle Connor contact info: Manager, Community Partnerships Strategic Planning - Public Health, Safety and Social Services, City of Brantford 220 Colborne Street, Brantford, ON 519-759-3330 x 6244 C: 226-387-2959 F: 519-759-1750 mconnor@brantford.ca</p> <p>Jennifer Kirkham can be contacted at Jennifer Kirkham jenkirkham02@gmail.com</p> <p>Hope to complete planning/data collecting with draft report due by end of May. Funding model coming by late January. Brantford has been very fortunate with receiving ministry dollars.</p> <p>Most importantly we need to maintain current funding at the provincial level. Just need to ensure we identify our priorities, needs and wants considering local statistics and demographics and be aware of our underserved areas</p> <p>Sometimes census data is not reflective or accurate regarding indigenous population as data does not included reserves or crown land.</p> <p>May look at getting a letter of support from council.</p> | |
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| 4.0 | <p>Best Start Updates 4.1 <u>Subcommittee Reports:</u> <u>Receive Information:</u> Indigenous Advisory, SIC Committee, Best Start Magazine, Best Start Parent Fair, Child Care Advisory Committee, Recruitment and Retention Committee</p> | <p>Indigenous Advisory - New name is Best Start Network Indigenous Advisory Committee (IAC). TOR has been updated and sent out electronically for members for approval prior to today's meeting. Based on the suggested edits made to the document the TOR has been accepted by Jane Angus and seconded by Jennifer MacDonald. With a showing of hands the network is in favour and the TOR were approved and posted to the Best Start website.</p> <p>May look at having drummers visit programs. More announcements are coming regarding Truth and reconciliation.</p> <p>Best Start Magazine - Cathy put a call out for ads and articles for the spring edition of the best start magazine. Commitments are due January 4 the submitted January 13th.</p> <p>The committee has really taken the feedback from the magazine survey to heart and have connected with the police department, parks and rec, Dr. Jean Clinton, etc. for new articles</p> <p>Michelle has offered to do a feature article on OEYCFCs for the next edition.</p> <p>May look at bringing back 211 data base to magazine Flora has offered an article</p> <p>Mohawk College has committed to an article – Melodie Spencer</p> | |
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| | | <p>SNAP program – and Healthy Kids Community Care HKCC – Michelle Connor and Bethany</p> <p>Please complete the forms and scan and email to Cathy at cmedway@brantford.ca</p> <p>Francophone - Luisa has met with Marie Josee Baril for discussion on bringing back an active Francophone group. At this time there is no interest. However Marie shared information regarding the opportunity to translate documents to French language. At this time no financial resources are available. Brantford is not designated as French community. Barb V will connect with Hamilton and look at what Haldimand Norfolk is doing.</p> <p>May consider adding this discussion to consultation with Jenn Kirkham at OEYCFC Lunch and Learn as part of the conversation. Perhaps Francophone community can send a letter to Ministry for funding allocations</p> <p>Parent Fair is April 22 from 9am to 1pm at Civic Centre. Melanie Mears made a request for funding application to offset costs of ice surface. Report/request was sent to membership electronically prior to meeting. Jane Angus from Contact Brant has offered to help with application. Thank you Jane.</p> <p>OEYCFC partners meeting- Barb Mitchell reports they continue to do partnership planning. They have discussed guidelines and set agendas, many community agencies participating in working group COB, OEYC: Brant. BFACS, LCC, PFLC, GEDSB and BHCNDSB, WW.</p> | <p>Action: Barb Vanry to connect with Hamilton and Haldimand Norfolk regarding shared Francophone services. Bring back to next meeting.</p> <p>Action: Melanie Mears to contact Jane Angus</p> |
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| | | <p>Next steps are to include the parent and child's voice, look at Core services and consider HDLH and Pedagogy.</p> | |
| 5. | <p><u>Best Start Strategic Planning</u> <u>5.1 Receive Information:</u> Updates</p> | <p>No new news.</p> | |
| 6. | <p><u>6.1 Receive Information:</u> DAC changes</p> | <p>City of Brantford has posted the DAC position and interviews are scheduled for the full time position. Current DAC role and funding will be under the City of Brantford until December 31, 2016.</p> <p>If you have any questions please contact Michelle Connor at Social Services</p> <p>Anca has accepted a new position with BCHU as Health Promoter but will continue to support BSN until the new DAC transitions into the position.</p> | |
| 7. | <p><u>7.1 Success Story</u></p> | <p>City school by Mohawk is a community based initiative that aims to break down barriers to education and employment. Through community consultation with neighbours City School by Mohawk focuses on developing specialized learning programs, workshops and services that will encourage gradual steps to a post secondary pathway. City School by Mohawk is making learning accessible, timely and is part of Mohawk's ongoing commitment to increase access to post secondary education and employment. Last semester one of the programs was ECE as is this semester. Watch this video.</p> <p>Mohawk College has partnered with McMaster and now offer diploma/degree program in Human Behaviour.</p> | |

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| | | <p>This year Syrian families had child care provided in the demo room as parents participated in classes for ESL.</p> <p>They provided care for children 18 mos to 12 years of age.</p> <p>Random Acts of Kindness Day – Kind Kids – shared by Beryl Angus - staff and children of Beryl Angus walked to local fire station to surprise fire fighters with home made cookies just to say “Thank you”.</p> <p>Jane Angus – Contact Brant reports that Brant has received Ministry approval to implement Coordinated Service Planning. The Brant model is a collaborative approach with a number of service providers, as well as Contact Brant which is the Lead</p> <p>Service Coordination Agency, providing Service Planning Coordinators. A Coordinated Service Planning Steering Committee has been actively meeting to plan the implementation. More information on the Brant planning will be presented at the Joint Meeting.</p> <p>Maria Timpener YMCA HBB shared that they are using a new App called “Weemarkable” It is an interactive app for parents that shows documentation, developmental profiles and pictures.</p> <p>It gives parents access to important child care notices, photos, milestones, educator observations, menu information and direct to educator messaging with just a tap. Parents can receive emails and a password to use this secure App. There is now an Ipad in every room</p> | <div data-bbox="1470 958 1543 1023" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="1428 1023 1585 1079">Kim Barthel flyer March 2017.pdf</p> <p data-bbox="1617 1055 1942 1096">Decoding the Autism Brain</p> |
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| | <p><u>7.2 Adjournment & Date of Next Meeting</u></p> | <p>Rita Stratford – Lansdowne Children’s Centre shared information that a workshop is coming up March 21, 22, 23, 2017 at the Brantford Hotel and Conference Centre (Best Western). Decoding the Autism Brain.</p> <p>If you are interested in more information about fund raising calendars please contact Anca Gaston.</p> <p>Next meeting dates: December 1, 2016 (Joint) OEYC: Brant</p> | <p>Special time and agenda TBA Best Start Network meeting is 10:30am until 11:30am followed by lunch and joint meeting until 1:30pm.</p> |
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