

**Early Years Niagara Planning Council Meeting (EYNPC) and Understanding Early Years Combines Wrap-up Meeting**  
**Jun 13, 2008 8:30 – 11:30 PM**  
**Wildflower Restaurant**

**Present:** Margaret Andrewes (Co-Chair), Dr. Robin Williams (Co-Chair), Judy Arnott (for Tammy Ferguson), Kathy Ballantyne, Anne Biscaro, Jocelyne Blais-Breton, Karen Colavecchia, Jacinthe Côté, Donna Dalglish, Lisa DeGasperis, Elke El Farsi, Bonnie Filipchuk, Tiffany Gartner, Natalie Hardman, Pat Heidebrecht, Brian Hutchings, Raymonde Lafond, Dawne Mach, Cheryl McMillan, Megan Milani, Patti Moore, Florence, Ngenzebuhoro, Sandra Noel, Kathryn O'Hagan Todd, Ted Palmer, Robert Raos, Judy Reid, Lynda Reinhart, Glory Ressler, Barb Sockovie, Michelle Thacker, Pat Thacker, Sandy Toth, Tarah Turcotte, Dr. Mary-Louise Vanderlee, Diane Vanecko, Jackie Van Lankveld.

**Regrets:** Angela Alfieri-Maiolo, Janet Booth, John Crocco, Donna Cunningham, Carol Germyn, Christine Graham, Crystal LaForme, Odette Lamontagne, Linda Langston, Tammy McCormick-Ferguson, Catherine Mindorff, Allison Soave, Kathy Thompson, Kaarina Vogin, Tracy Zachariah.

**Copy:** Jane Bonaldo, Cathy Jenkins, Daniel Lefebvre, Susan McPetrie, Dan Patterson, Zineb Sebbane-Allouche(for Daniel Lefebvre), Debbie Urbschott (for B.Hutchings)

Item	Discussion	Action	Timeline
<b>1. WELCOME &amp; INTRODUCTIONS</b>	Welcome and introductions were made. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special Acknowledgments presented to P.Heidebrecht, M.Thacker and Angelo Di Ianni</li> <li>• Top Ten in Ten Years</li> </ul>		
<b>2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b>	The agenda was approved.		
<b>3. APPROVAL OF MEETING NOTES</b>	Moved by M. Vanderlee Seconded by B. Sockovie <b><i>That the EYNPC notes of May 9th, 2008 be adopted as written. Carried.</i></b>	Moved by M. Vanderlee Seconded by B. Sockovie <b><i>That the EYNPC notes of May 9, 2008 be adopted as written. Carried.</i></b>	
<b>4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MEETING NOTES</b>	Next meeting priority to discuss French Language services.	F.Ngensebuhoro to discuss French Language services at next meeting	Sept 12, 2008
<b>5. CORRESPONDENCE</b>  M. Andrewes, Chair	M. Andrewes highlighted the following correspondence items received since the last meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Children and Youth Services (Judith Wright, Deputy Minister) re: Ministry's strategic framework, Realizing Potential for Children, Our Youth, Our Future</li> <li>• New FACS Executive Director, Chris Steven, sends regards</li> <li>• K.O'Hagan Todd to be new Director for Children Services</li> <li>• Congratulations were extended to EYNPC Niagara Falls Family Literacy for attendance of 1000 at the Teddy Bear Picnic and St. Catharines YMCA Literacy Event with a participation of 570 parents and children.</li> </ul>	Recommended reading of memorandum and Realizing Potential document for all committee.	

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<p><b>6. CSDCCS PROPOSAL</b></p>	<p>M. Andrewes reported on behalf of the conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud (CSDCCS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ontario Ministry of Education received funding to add 266 French language Child Care Spaces allocated for capital expenses required for expanding school-based spaces in each of the 12 French school boards in Ontario</li> <li>• Recommended endorsement of CSDCCS proposal for sign-off by Niagara Best Start network co-Chairs with the proviso that annual operating funds be provided by the MCYS to Niagara Region Community Services (CMSM) to support the expansion of 39 French language child care spaces at Ecole St. Antoine in Niagara Falls.</li> <li>• Proposed J. Blais-Breton as chair, Niagara Best Start Francophone Advisory Committee and representative, Niagara Best Start Network/EYNPC for appointment to the MCYS-MESU joint evaluation committee</li> <li>• Suggested that Evaluation Committee look at spaces and determine if funding can be used for Hub development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval by all, endorsed by M. Andrewes and Dr. R. Williams</li> </ul>	
<p><b>7. INTEGRATED COMMUNITY ASK GROUP REPORT</b></p> <p>Lisa DeGasperis, YMCA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All members were thanked for work on Integrated Status Update</li> <li>• P.Moore is linking with special needs to ensure appropriate representation in planning for hub development</li> <li>• Recommended to add note of intention to integrate</li> <li>• Suggested Best Start Networking provincial meeting to discuss data, Niagara versus Ontario, and Ministry feedback on strengths and weaknesses. Possible theme could include funding OEC and community awareness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unanimous endorsement in principal of Integrated Status Update</li> <li>• Changes to Integrated Status Update to be given to K. O'Hagan Todd and J. Reid by June 20, 2008</li> <li>• Integrated Status Update to be submitted to Ministry by Jun 30, 2008</li> </ul>	
<p><b>8. JK/SK 2010 TASK GROUP REPORT</b></p> <p>Barb Sockovie, Lead</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft JK/SK 2010 circulated, electronic copy in pdf format to follow</li> <li>• C.Pascal was pleased with work and noted that Niagara Region was first group of 55 to report on effect for mother and child</li> <li>• J.Reid extended congratulations to committee for hard work</li> <li>• Discussion of solidarity and diversity of sector helped to answer the 'how' questions in preparation for C.Pascal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report to be distributed electronically in pdf format</li> <li>• Comments on report to be received by June 20th</li> <li>• Report to be sent to C.Pascal with endorsement by Jun 30, 2008</li> <li>• Endorsement by all to move report forward</li> </ul>	
<p><b>9. REPORTS OF INTEGRATED PLANNING COMMITTEES &amp; WORKING GROUPS:</b></p> <p><b>9.1 Agenda Planning &amp;</b></p>	<p>M.Andrewes reported on behalf of the Agenda Planning &amp; Accountability Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Still receiving nominations for transition in leadership of organization</li> <li>• Reminder to nominate for co-chair by the end of June</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All committee to send nominations to J.Reid by end of June, 2008</li> </ul>	

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<p><b>Accountability</b> M. Andrewes, Chair</p> <p><b>9.2 COESEI</b></p> <p><b>9.3 Hub Development Committee</b></p> <p><b>9.4 Niagara Best Start Francophone Advisory Committee</b></p>	<p>J. Van Lankveld reported on behalf of COESEI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported excellent meeting with new members. Another new member to start in September</li> <li>• D. Vanecko suggested committee develop strategies to broaden awareness in region and increase profile as an integration initiative</li> </ul> <p>L. DeGasperis reported on behalf of the Hub Development Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concrete Action plan set for October 22, 2008 to have a full day Strategic Planning Session for integral member</li> <li>• Sub-Hub renamed Early Years Services Integration Committee</li> <li>• A.Biscaro suggested a data piece for Action Planning Day re: what we continue to do versus what we should be doing</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contributions to Integration Status Update complete</li> <li>• Focusing on renewing membership</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committee to review Terms of Reference and bring to September meeting</li> </ul>	
<p><b>10. MINISTRY OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH SERVICES</b></p> <p>P. Moore, Program Supervisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A congratulations was extended to the Niagara Region for their leadership in demonstrating commitment</li> <li>• Suggested poverty plan as part of Early Years Strategy to bring Early Years Centre awareness to families with different socio-economic status</li> <li>• Reported doubling funding for nutrition</li> <li>• Noted Ministry's emphasis to be involved in access to French Services</li> <li>• A thank you was extended by Dr. R. Williams to J. Blais-Breton for French reflection of leadership</li> </ul>		
<p><b>11. REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA – COMMUNITY SERVICES</b></p> <p>P. Heidebrecht, Director, Children's Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advised of changes to Ontario and National Child benefit and elimination of school and work clothing allowances.</li> <li>• Recommended reflection and feedback by July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008 to develop strategies to assist Niagara's families during transition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committee to suggest strategies for assisting Niagara's families to K. O'Hagan Todd by July 18, 2008</li> </ul>	
<p><b>12. NIAGARA CHILD CARE SECTOR</b></p> <p>B. Sockovie, Executive Director, A Child's World</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QCCN conference to be held Jun 20-21 2008</li> <li>• Information collected from surveys on linkages, second survey to parents will be compiled over the summer</li> <li>• Displayed new poster by Speech Services Niagara 'Don't Play wait and see'. Contact SSN for copies</li> </ul>		

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<b>13. BUSINESS EDUCATION COUNCIL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L.Langston has invited EYNPC to have all meetings in her new building.</li> <li>• Touch a Truck Event, Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Volunteers needed. Names can be submitted to J. Reid</li> </ul>		
<b>14. OTHER BUSINESS</b>	<p>Presentation by G. Ressler and T. Gartner of UEY Mapping Study, Parent Interview and Direct Assessment of Children's Surveys (PIDACS) Brief.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UEY Presentation to Welland and Fort Erie received positive feedback</li> <li>• Suggested that D. Matthews, Minister of Child and Youth Services, be made aware of Future Labour Force in mapping study for Poverty Agenda</li> <li>• T. Gartner and G. Ressler available for questions, custom briefs, presentation, planning or decision making until August 29<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>• Raw data received from 2006 will be analyzed and results expected August 29<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• Distribution of UEY NR Survey for coalition, advisory group and key partners. Survey also available online</li> <li>• Noted that French Language data is minimal and not available until 2008 data is reviewed. Recommended email exchange between G. Ressler with F. Ngensebuhoro to discuss further</li> </ul>		

<b>EYNPC Meeting Schedule</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
<b>September 12, 2008 9:00-11:30</b>	<b>Niagara Children and Youth Services 3340 Schmon Parkway, Unit 1 BOARD ROOM</b>