

Niagara Children's Planning Council Meeting (NCPC)
September 8, 2006, 9:00 – 12:00 PM
Corporate Learning Centre, Inspiration Room

Present: Margaret Andrewes (Co-Chair), Dr. R. Williams (Co-Chair), Barbara Ally, Anne Biscaro, Donna Cunningham, John Crocco, Eleanor Dolan, Lucette Farr, Helen Flynn (Guest), Pat Heidebrecht, Bruce Henry, Brian Hutchings, Margaret Jarrell, Wendy Jones, Linda Langston, Dori Madar (for Bill Charron), Jerry Mings (Facilitator), Judy Reid, Kathy Thompson, Michelle Thacker, Jackie Van Lankveld

Regrets: Jean-Luc Bernard, Jocelyn Blais-Breton, Paul Collins, Joan Fallis, Richard Francki, Gerald Jamieson, Odette Lamontagne, Daniel Lefebvre, Tammy McCormick-Ferguson, John McNamara, Patti Moore, Steve Novosedlik, Ted Palmer, Sarah Pennisi, Wendy Sturgeon, Adèle Tanguay, Art Wing, Tim Wright

Item	Discussion	Action	Timeline
<p>1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS</p>	<p>Welcome and introductions were made. Jerry Mings, a professional facilitator with The Desk, will lead the group in a discussion on the mandate, vision, scope and principles of the NCPC.</p>		
<p>2. REVIEW OF eSURVEY RESULTS</p>	<p>An eSurvey requesting feedback on the current terms of reference was forwarded to the NCPC. The results are based on 10 completed surveys.</p> <p>Key areas of the terms of reference that require additional clarification include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Structure and Membership of the Niagara Best Start Network (70%) 2. Key Activities and Timelines of the NCPC and Network (60%) 3. Structure of NCPC (60%) <p>70% of respondents strongly agreed with the principles of value, respect and integrity as outlined in the terms of reference.</p> <p>The group discussed the need for clarification around the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandate • Accountability • Membership • Expectations of members • Priorities of the group • Work plan <p>It was noted that solidifying the mandate should lead to clarification on the other items.</p>		

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<p>3. REVIEW & DISCUSSION OF VISION, MANDATE, SCOPE & PRINCIPLES</p>	<p>Discussion took place on the current mandate and how it could be revised to best reflect the scope and principles of the NCPC. The mandate was reviewed by all members of the group and revised accordingly:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To ensure there is community capacity to sustain the Best Start/EY service system in Niagara. 2. To provide and initiate advice and information to the public and government about all aspects of 'Newco's' programs and services. 3. Blend 2 and 3 but within current task: To plan implement and monitor the optimal development of children and their families in an integrated, holistic manner. Report to funders and community as required and/or appropriate. 4. To ensure the health and well-being of preschool children in Niagara, and 5. That the focus of the NCPC remains that of prenatal to age six. <p>The wording will be addressed by a small working group and brought back before the NCPC for approval.</p> <p>The council discussed and identified the vision and principles of the NCPC (diagram to be provided at the next meeting). It was noted that although Best Start is one component of the NCPC, it needs to be included in the mandate and clearly connected to the NCPC. It was also noted that planning should take into consideration that Best Start is not a separate program, but rather a vision of integration to guide all programs and services for children under six.</p>	<p>Margaret Andrewes, Margaret Jarrell and Dori Madar to address the wording of the NCPC mandate and bring forward a revised copy for approval.</p>	<p>October 13, 2006</p>
<p>4. CREATING A MASTER WORK PLAN</p>	<p>The structure and purpose of NCPC meetings was discussed. Meetings should not only focus on the requirements of the Best Start plan, but on informing each other with a broader sense of the community to be kept in mind when planning and allocating resources; and to share gaps and barriers in integration in order to reflect a higher level of integration in planning, child care, mental health, early intervention, and prevention.</p> <p>In developing a master meeting schedule, the following agenda topics were identified:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mechanics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCYS Report • Working Group Reports 		

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	<p>2. Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guests/Latest/Stories • How it Relates to the NCPC <p>3. Housekeeping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hub Development • Inventory of Natural Hubs <p>Keeping the mandate in mind as well as Best Start requirements, a master meeting schedule was developed. (See attached).</p> <p>Community engagement was also identified as an important component of the work of the NCPC, in order to build capacity, share resources, and advocate. A community engagement strategy should include multicultural groups, businesses, corporate partners, service groups, parents (groups and individuals), elected officials, and other children's planning groups.</p>		
<p>5. ANNOUNCEMENTS</p>	<p>L. Langston reported on behalf of subcommittee on Parenting Programs. The subcommittee has met to outline the responsibilities and next steps in developing a parenting strategy to engage parents, examine potential and existing parenting programs and resources for Niagara.</p> <p>In order to meet these responsibilities, the following recommendations were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That letters of intent be submitted by the NCPC to the United Way of St. Catharines and District and the United Way of Niagara Falls for the purpose of developing this strategy, and • That representatives from United Ways and Ontario Trillium Foundation be invited to the presentations by Dr. Alan Ralph of Triple P in order to provide them with more background on 'universal' parenting programs. <p>The group agreed that Niagara Child and Youth Services should apply, with funds to flow through the Business Education Council.</p> <p>It was moved by Wendy Sturgeon and seconded by Dori Madar that Niagara Child and Youth Services submit letters of intent to United Way of St. Catharines and District and the United Way of Niagara Falls to develop a parenting strategy. Motion carried.</p> <p>B. Hutchings declared a conflict of interest on the item as a Board</p>		

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	<p>member of the United Way of St. Catharines and abstained from voting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L. Langston reminded the group that the Niagara Child and Youth Services Annual General Meeting with Dr. Alan Ralph is scheduled for September 19, at Penn Lakes. The Subcommittee on Parenting Programs will also be meeting with Dr. Alan Ralph on September 19, at 9:00 AM at the NCYS Merrittville site. All members are welcome to attend. • M. Andrewes reported that the Council for Early Child Development (CECD) will be holding a teleconference on Toronto First Duty, on September 19'06 from 1:00-2:30 PM. All interested members are welcome to sit in on the teleconference at the Business Education Council. • A. Biscaro noted that submissions for the Success By 6 Peel National Conference are to be submitted by September 30, 2006. The conference is scheduled for March 26-28, 2007. • B. Henry reported that Dean Allison's office has forwarded a follow up to their July 25th meeting with representatives of the NCPD, outlining the federal government's plans for child care spaces. 		

NCPD MEETING SCHEDULE

DATE		LOCATION
		Corporate Learning Centre Inspiration Room 3340 Schmon Parkway (rear entrance) *unless otherwise indicated
October	13	Corporate Learning Centre
November	10	Location to be determined.
December	8	Location to be determined.