

Niagara Children's Planning Council Meeting (NCPC)
March 10, 2006, 9:00 – 12 noon
Winifred Cropper, Community Services

Present: Margaret Andrewes (Co-Chair), Dr. R. Williams (Co-Chair), Barbara Ally, Jocelyne Blais-Breton, Anne Biscaro, Nicole Bradley-Robichaud, Paul Collins, Eleanor Dolan, Joan Fallis, Lucette Farr, Wendy French, Christine Graham (for John Crocco), Pat Heidebrecht, Bruce Henry, Brian Hutchings, Geralda Jamieson, Linda Langston, Daniel Lefebvre, Dori Madar (for Bill Charron), Tammy McCormick-Ferguson, Patti Moore, Steve Novosedlik, Wendy Sturgeon, Judy Reid, Michelle Thacker, Jackie Van Lankveld, Art Wing, Tim Wright

Regrets: Jean-Luc Bernard, John Crocco, Bill Charron, Donna Cunningham, Richard Francki, Margaret Jarrell, Odette Lamontagne, John McNamara, Ted Palmer, Sarah Pennisi

Item	Discussion	Action	Timeline
1. Welcome & Introductions	M. Andrewes welcomed everyone. Introductions were made.		
2. Approval of Niagara Children's Planning Council Meeting Notes of Jan. 13, 2006	<p>Moved by Steve Novosedlik Seconded by Bruce Henry <i>That the NCPC notes of February 17, 2006 be adopted as written. Carried.</i></p> <p>B. Hutchings noted that clarification of NCPC membership needs to be addressed.</p>		
3. Business Arising 3.1 Advocacy Campaign Key Strategies & Work Plan – Brian Hutchings	<p>3.1 Advocacy Campaign</p> <p>B. Hutchings reported that he had consulted with Trish Vidler to develop key strategies and a preliminary work plan to address the federal government's current child care policy framework. These documents were circulated and reviewed by the NCPC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional items, not noted in the documents, include websites, editorials, and parent involvement • Dr. Williams added that the focus of the advocacy campaign should be on the universal enhancement of early learning opportunities for parents and caregivers. Communication with elected officials should be the first priority and include all MP's regardless of their political affiliation. 		

Item	Discussion	Action	Timeline
<p>3.2 Executive Summary – Integrated Community Plan – Andrea Hannen</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members are encouraged to seize opportunities to increase awareness of the current child care using consistent key messages highlighted in the executive summary of the Community Integrated Plan. • W. Sturgeon volunteered to sit on the advocacy working group to assist in addressing the business component of the campaign. • The work plan will be revised and brought before the NCPC at the next regular meeting. All additional suggestions for inclusion are to be forwarded to M. Thacker. <p>3.2 Executive Summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A. Hannen presented Draft 6 of the Executive Summary for the Community Integrated Plan. • All revisions were noted and will be incorporated into the next version of the document to which the version number will be highlighted to avoid confusion. • J. Van Lankveld and A. Biscaro will assist A. Hannen in rewriting the sections dealing with “early screening and identification”. • In addition, a fact sheet containing relevant statistics on children and early learning and care in Niagara will be added as an appendix to the document. • There was discussion on highlighting the vision of the NCPC in the Executive Summary. It was agreed that the vision, once solidified, could be used as a cornerstone in subsequent marketing tools. In order to ensure sufficient clarity of purpose, the vision of the NCPC will be reexamined in combination with a full review of the Niagara Best Start Network Terms of Reference at a future meeting. 	<p>Advocacy Working Group to meet and revise work plan for advocacy campaign.</p>	<p>Before March 24’06.</p>
<p>4 Correspondence</p> <p>4.1 Niagara Region Children’s Services Dept., Communiqué #7, – Pat Heidebrecht</p>	<p>4.1 Communiqué #7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Niagara Region Children’s Services has released its final communiqué for the Best Start initiative. All questions are to be addressed with P. Heidebrecht. 		

Item	Discussion	Action	Timeline
<p>4.2 French Language Regional Best Start Network – MEMO – Jean-Luc Bernard</p>	<p>4.2 Memo – French Language Regional Best Start Network</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Blais-Breton noted that the memo refers to the ongoing building of relationships and partnerships as the network continues to work towards the hub model. The network’s response to the federal government’s plan for child care is also highlighted. • M. Andrewes asked that Jean-Luc Bernard be informed of the NCPC’s appreciation for forwarding the document. 		
<p>4.3 Linking Child Welfare within the Children’s Service System in Ontario – MEMO – Rick Beauchamp</p>	<p>4.3 Linking Child Welfare within the Children’s Service System in Ontario</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D. Madar reported that child welfare is undergoing a transformation to a flexible and outcome-oriented service delivery model that includes an assessment of those cases not rated as severe in order to determine linkages with community partners. • Next steps include determination of target areas and looking to the community for the development of planning initiatives to meet these targets. • A. Biscaro volunteered to assist in acquiring data using the ISCIS database. • W. Sturgeon offered to assist in addressing the aboriginal component. • The complete document will be forwarded to the NCPC upon request. 		
<p>4.4 Niagara Aboriginal Children’s Planning Circle – Letter</p>	<p>4.4 Niagara Aboriginal Children’s Planning Circle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W. Sturgeon highlighted the Niagara Aboriginal Children’s Planning Circle’s interest in becoming a permanent member of the NCPC and its request for funding to move forward in the development of infrastructure to support a planning approach that will successfully meet the needs of this population. • P. Heidebrecht, on behalf of Niagara Region Children’s Services, extended an invitation to meet with the Niagara Aboriginal Children’s Planning Circle to determine the resource requirements of the group. • B. Hutchings noted that permanent membership on the 		

Item	Discussion	Action	Timeline
	<p>NPCPC should be reviewed in combination with the Niagara Best Start Network Terms of Reference.</p>		
<p>5. Infrastructure Working Group Report – Margaret Jarrell</p>	<p>M. Andrewes reported on behalf of M. Jarrell.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raymond Clark, the facilitator hired to assist Early Years Niagara and the NPCPC in moving forward with Best Start, has indicated that it would be more effective to work with the group as a whole. Mr. Clark will lead this discussion at the March 24th meeting of the NPCPC. • The Infrastructure Working Group will meet with the BEC to discuss infrastructure support before the next NPCPC meeting. 	<p>Schedule meeting of the Infrastructure Working Group.</p>	<p>Before March 24'06</p>
<p>6. Presentation & Discussion – 18 Month Strategy – Dr. Robin Williams</p>	<p>Dr. Williams presented the 18 Month Well Baby Strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Van Lankveld indicated that the Joint Advisory Committee would be interested in supporting the initiative. Dr. Williams will be invited to present the on the strategy at an upcoming meeting and report back to the NPCPC. • J. Reid added that the Early Years Niagara Research Advisory Group would also be interested in learning more about the initiative. J. Van Lankveld and J. Reid will share the strategy with the group. • The complete presentation will be forwarded to the NPCPC. 		
<p>7. Other Business 7.1 UEY Community Resource Inventory/UEY Forum Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Understanding the Early Years Project has requested input on the Community Resource Inventory. A memo to this effect was circulated to all in attendance. Any gaps in information should be forwarded to Nancy Russell, UEY Researcher (nrussell@eccdc.org) • M. Andrewes thanked everyone who contributed to the success of the UEY Community Forum on February 21, 2006. • T. McCormick-Ferguson added that representatives from Social Development Canada were left with a very good impression of what is being achieved in Niagara following their attendance at the forum. 		

Item	Discussion	Action	Timeline
7.2 Upcoming Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Evening with Mary Gordon – March 27'06 • Mission Possible Annual Parent's Conference – March 29'06 • Touch a Truck Fundraiser for Children's Literacy – May 13'06. The planning committee is currently seeking volunteers for the event. For additional information contact J.Reid (jreid@becon.org). 		
7.3 Osprey Child Care Supplement – ECCDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Osprey news Child Care Supplement will be published and circulated to 65K homes across Niagara at the end of March. All members who are interested in supporting the publication by placing an advertisement should contact T. McCormick-Ferguson (tferguson@eccdc.org) before March 17'06. 		
7.4 Well Child Insert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Williams shared the "Well Child" insert published in Scotland. It was recommended that the NCPC champion a similar initiative to promote child health and wellness. J. Reid, L. Langston, and Dr. Williams volunteered to assist the Communications Working Group in considering the project. 		
7.5 Organizational Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The following organizational issues require attention at upcoming meetings of the NCPC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meeting space. ○ Council orientation: A list of potential presentations/tours will be circulated for the NCPC to determine priorities or additions. Presentations will be coordinated by the BEC. ○ Review of Niagara Best Start Terms of Reference and NCPC membership. 		
8. Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.		

NCPC Meeting Dates

DATE		LOCATION	DATE		LOCATION
		Corporate Learning Centre Inspiration Room 3340 Schmon Parkway (rear entrance) *unless otherwise indicated			Corporate Learning Centre Inspiration Room 3340 Schmon Parkway (rear entrance) *unless otherwise indicated
			July	14 28	Corporate Learning Centre Corporate Learning Centre
			August	11 25	Corporate Learning Centre Corporate Learning Centre
March	10 24	Winifred Cropper Corporate Learning Centre	September	8 22	Corporate Learning Centre Corporate Learning Centre
April	13 (Thursday) 28	DSBN Board Office Grimsby Lincoln Room Corporate Learning Centre	October	13 27	Corporate Learning Centre Corporate Learning Centre
May	12 26	Corporate Learning Centre Winifred Cropper	November	10 24	Corporate Learning Centre Corporate Learning Centre
June	9 23	Winifred Cropper Corporate Learning Centre	December	8 22	Corporate Learning Centre Corporate Learning Centre