

County of Simcoe Social and Community Services Children & Community Services Department 1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6 Main Line (705) 722-3132 Beeton Area (905) 729-4514

Comté de Simcoe Services sociaux et communautaires Services à l'enfance et à la communauté 1110, autoroute 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6



Ligne principale (705) 722-3132 Région de Beeton: (905) 729-4514 Télécopieur: (705) 725-9539

DATE: 2/3/2021

TIME: 9:30 p.m. to 11:30 am

LOCATION: Microsoft Teams; On-line Meeting

Fax (705) 725-9539

simcoe.ca

ATTENDANCE: T. Christman (North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN), A. Dubeau – Co-Chair

(County of Simcoe - County Councillor), M. Dunot (County of Simcoe - Local Immigration Partnership), A. Fletcher - Co-Chair (South Simcoe Police), K. Fraser (Lakehead University), C. Gagnon - ex officio (Province of Ontario), B. Grbic (Barrie Community Health Centre for C. Colcy), G. Hall

(County of Simcoe - Library Cooperative), H. Hie, Georgian College, Employment Services, N. Huether (County of Simcoe - Economic

Development Office), M. Kuzma (Nottawasaga Futures), R. Shephard for S. Laycock (Simcoe Muskoka Workforce Development Board), S. Lee (County of Simcoe – Local Immigration Partnership), K. Manners (Child Youth and Family Services Coalition of Simcoe County), J. Maranan (Canadian Mental Health Association -York and South Simcoe), J. McGee

(YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka), L. Moorhouse (City of Barrie Police Services), I. Oliveria (Bradford Immigrant and Community Services), J. Rajalingam (Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board), A.

Schroeder for C. Vanderkruys (Barrie Public Library), R. Shepard for S. Laycock

(Simcoe Muskoka Workforce Development Board), S. Sarin

(Ethnic Mosaic Alliance), I. Toor (Simcoe County District School Board), C. Vellinga for L. Palson (Georgian College), L. Wild (City of Barrie – Mayor's Office), R. Young – Recording Secretary (County of Simcoe –

Local Immigrant Partnership)

REGRETS: E. McIntosh (Contact South Simcoe), L. Woodrow (Barrie Career Centre)

ABSENT: R. Haggins (Credit Canada), B. Laurin (Ontario Provincial Police), I.

Pavlik (pavliks.com), L. Reid (Collingwood Public Library), H. St. Germain (County of Simcoe - Early Learning & Childcare Services), A. Scavarelli

(County of Simcoe - Ontario Works), M. Wynia (County of Simcoe - Long Term

Care)

SUBJECT: Local Immigration Partnership Meeting

1. Welcome/Introductions

- A. Dubeau/A. Fletcher welcomed the group and recognized Black History Month.
- B. Sandra welcomed the group and noted a shift in the community due to increasing population, increasing awareness of immigrant issues due to Pandemic and our depth of reach.
- C. Discussion ensued regarding Land Acknowledgements noting this group follows the lead of County Council which does not start meetings with Land Acknowledgements.

- D. P. Markle, Interim Executive Director for the Barrie Chamber of Commerce, was introduced and welcomed to the group.
- E. Round table introductions were made.

2. Community Updates & Other Business

- N. Heuther: February draft of County's Economic Development strategy and recovery plan includes key goals for the attraction/retention of newcomer talent and educating employers in cultural diversity/inclusion. There are several projects under the Rural Economic Grant either in planning or underway. The labour attraction campaign and success stories on local companies and communities have been added to the County's media channels. The EDO will be supporting the #ITSTARTS campaign and providing funding for an EDI pilot through the Sandbox Centre available to Simcoe County employers.
- M. Dunot: The CMHA Tamil / Urdu Support Group started in Jan 2021 is open to any family member with mental health challenges conducted in Tamil/Urdu.

3. Approval of Minutes – November 25, 2020

MOTION to accept the minutes as provided. 1st Bonnie G; 2nd C. Gagnon; ALL IN FAVOUR. Motion Carried

4. IRCC/MHSTC Updates MHSTC: C. Gagnon:

- For 2020, the federal government originally allocated 7,600 provincial nominations for the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program (ONIP), but Ontario actually nominated 8,050 successful nominations across all streams. This was 700 more nominations than 2019. The 2021 allocation for Ontario is not confirmed yet, but it will be increased.
- The system will change from First Come First Served (FCFS) to an Expression of Interest (EOI) and human capital scoring system.
- Nominations for those that work with immigrants for the June Callwood awards is encouraged.
- Will look into a presentation on ONIP.
- The federal government plans to increase immigration as numbers are below projections due to the pandemic and there is some discussion about a Municipal Nominee Program and increased family reunification.

5. County of Simcoe LIP Secretariat Update – S. Lee

- Funding Applications:
 - A proposal has been submitted to the Community Support, Multiculturalism, and Antiracism Initiatives Program for the Racism and Discrimination Dialogues project in January.
 - A proposal will be submitted this month to IRCC for a project to build awareness and capacity for private refugee sponsorship in the absence of any resettlement assistance program (RAP) in Simcoe County.
- Progress Report will be available by the next meeting.

6. Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Data

S. Lee: Reviewed COVID 19 data from the Health Unit website that shows the impacts of the pandemic on racialized and non-immigrant population.



7. Immigration Health Outcome Survey Update

M. Dunot: The survey is being translated and uploaded to the online survey tool and will be distributed once that is complete. Those who complete the survey will be enter into a draw for a \$50 Gift Card.



8. <u>2021 #ITSTARTS</u>

- M. Dunot: See slide presentation attached.
- S. Lee: We acknowledge and thank SCDSB for leading the educational component at the information session focused on personal bias in context of racial discrimination.



9. Sub-Councils/Working Groups - M. Dunot

- Cultural Competency Working Group has not met since the last meeting.
- 12 Cultural Competency Train the Trainer sessions were provided to CCWG members and County employees. The sessions started at the end of November and the final debriefing session took place early February.
- Settlement Sub-Council met November, 26, 2020.
- Members have adapted service delivery around the stay-at-home order.
- Bradford Immigrant & Community Services received funding for non-LINC English classes and reported good attendance.
- Collège Boréal is providing language assessment for the CLIC and LINC program.
- The Settlement Sub-council will revise the Settlement Services brochure
- The Settlement Sub-Council will be meeting tomorrow (4-Feb-2021).



10. Planning Priorities 2021-2022

- National Context (LIP review) S. Lee: Challenges include:
 - o funding cap on ESL that puts existing programs at risk. An additional grant through the Emergency Community Support Fund allowed SCDSB to offer ESL last summer.
- Economic Integration Sub-Council is in abeyance since funding ended 2018
- S. Lee: Planning Priorities (Opportunities):



- Local Context (CSWB update)
 - Fletcher: The Community Safety and Wellbeing planning started in 2019 and is to be completed in July 2021. There are five geographical groupings in Simcoe County and Barrie is completing their own. The plan includes prevention and social development measures for:

- Mental health and addictions
- anti-stigma and trauma training;
- Living wage awareness and plans to give the support that's needed
- Education brain development, early years
- Housing first model

How do the various community plans align and overlap and what does this look like practically for the LIP?

- Planning Priorities General Discussion / Brainstorming
 - Artist immigrant club
 - Citizenship ceremony
 - Anti-oppression work with CYF Coalition
 - Affordable housing advocacy
 - Integration current international students due to pandemic (how to get students to feel integrated and encouraged to stay)
 - Chamber programming through OCC direct connection to businesses looking for labour (skilled/unskilled)

ACTION: S. Lee with provide a list of priorities at the next meeting for the Partnership Council to vote on.

11. Community Projects

- Immigrant Job Finding Club H. Hie
 There has been a change in hours to offer more evening sessions to meet the needs of participants.
- Ethnic Mosaic Alliance **S. Sarin**The EMA held their first AGM in December. They are working on their charitable status, website, grant proposals and a presentation to the seven municipalities that have expressed an interest in donating land for the centre. The EMA offered to approach their Board of Directors to see how they can help the International Students who are isolated by the restrictions imposed by the pandemic to help create networking support for them to integrate them into the community.
- Libraries G. Hall
 The libraries are offering virtual programs for Black History month that include online story times, book talks, movie nights, cooking classes, etc.

Adjournment.

Next Meeting

Wednesday May, 5, 2021 9:30 am to 11:30 am Video Conference

Educational Inclusions





