



County of Simcoe  
Social Services  
Children & Community  
Services Department  
1110 Highway 26,  
Midhurst, Ontario L0L 1X0

Main Line (705) 722-3132  
Toll Free 1-866-893-9300  
Fax (705) 725-9539  
simcoe.ca



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## MINUTES

**MEETING DATE:** October 24, 2012

**MEETING TIME:** 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** Greaves, M. (Georgian College); Green, S. (YMCA Newcomer Services); Khrystynko, T. (SCDSB); Lee, S. (LIP); Leukam, F. (Conseil Scolaire catholique CS); Oliveira, I. (BICS); Paul, S. (Conseil Scolaire Viamonde); Vanderwater, E. (SCDSB); Wang, S. (Welcome Centre); Wisken, R. (LIP)  
Regrets: D'Ambrosio, L. (County of Simcoe); Hobbs, S. (Simcoe Muskoka Literacy Network)

**SUBJECT:** LIP Education Sub-Council Meeting

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1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed members, and introduced guest speaker, Sara Budd.

2. Presentation by Sara Budd, Manager, Continuing Education and Health Sciences, Georgian College

S. Budd provided an overview of the Acute Complex Care for Internationally Educated Nurses Program which begins at Georgian College in 2013. The following links to the program are provided.

- <http://www.georgianc.on.ca/international/international-development/international-projects>
- <http://www.georgianc.on.ca/programoutlines/201310/ACCA.PDF>

Ms. Budd offered to give a tour of the facility where they run the program if members are interested.

3. Sick Kids Cultural Competency Training

Tabled.

4. Re-evaluation of areas of priority previously identified

The five priorities were revisited one by one and discussed:

- i. *Cultural Competency:* An active discussion took place regarding cultural competency. Three areas of cultural competency were highlighted: 1) Staff (PD Sessions),; 2) New Canadian Students (understanding the Canadian school systems): 3) Canadian Born Students. Some comments suggested that several of the priorities may fit into "cultural competency" once it was broken down into the three focus areas.
- ii. *County of Origin Education Comparisons:* Discussion centred on the idea that newcomers already receive information on the school systems in Ontario. If the group decides to move forward with this priority it was suggested that a flow chart would best present this information. Many sub-council members noted that such a comparison would be too time-

consuming with little benefit to the newcomer. The data would also have to be frequently updated because of changing school systems globally. Group members felt that raising an awareness of that there is a difference between education systems globally is important but that the main focus isn't in the particular differences but rather knowing how a student might interpret the difference (i.e. being held back a grade, starting school in the middle of a school year, etc). This priority may fall under a cultural competence.

- iii. *Education Service Mapping*: The group agreed that there is value to this priority. Many members indicated that the Immigrant Resource Directory, currently being developed through the Welcoming Communities Sub-Council, will likely cover much of this material. One option that was suggested is to revisit this priority after the directory content is created and see how it can be adapted to meet other needs.
- iv. *Language Tutorial for Secondary Students*: This priority was less of a focus for the group. Little discussion took place. It was recognized as a need for some students.
- v. *Integration (isolation / socialization)*: There were a few comments that socialization / isolation may be addressed through cultural competency work.

A question arose on the timelines for these priorities. A discussion followed about the priorities being long term projects but that there should be deadlines built into the planning of the action items.

#### 5) Moving forward with Areas of Priority

Tabled.

#### 6) Immigrant Resource Directory – Education Section

R. Wisken provided a quick overview of the Education portion of the Immigrant Resource Directory, and thanked members who offered to participate in the working group on the Education section. S. Paul expressed interest in participating in the working group as well. R. Wisken will contact working group members with a date for the initial meeting which is expected to be in mid-November.

#### 7) Meeting Dates

The next meeting is scheduled for November 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:30 p.m. The 2013 schedule will be discussed at that time.