

County of Simcoe Social and Community Services Children & Community Services Department 1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario LOL 1X0 Main Line (705) 722-3132 Toll Free 1-866-893-9300 Fax (705) 725-9539 simcoe.ca



SUB-COUNCIL NOTES LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

SUBJECT: Education Sub-Council

MEETING DATE: 9/19/2013 **MEETING TIME:** 1:30 – 3:30 pm **ATTENDANCE:** F.Boulanger (College Boreal); L. D'Ambrosio (County of Simcoe); J.

Duncan (YMCA Newcomer Services); R. Griffiths (LIP-secretary of record); M. Greaves (Georgian College-CHAIR); S. Hobbs (Simcoe Muskoka Literacy Network); R. Holt (LIP); T. Khrystynko (SCDSB); N. Martins (Conseil Scolaire Catholique School Board); S. Lee (LIP); I. Olivira (BICS); L. Roy (Counseil Scolaire Viamonde); B. Shoreman (Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District Scholl Board); L. Vanderwater (SCDSB); P. Whittington (Georgian College); R. Wisken (LIP)

REGRETS: Click here to enter text.

1. Welcome

M.Greaves welcomed the group.

2. Roundtable Updates -

P. Whittington – a proposal was submitted to CIC to support youth still in school, the agreement is still under review, they are anticipating an update by next meeting. OSLT for newcomer adults is underway at Georgian College. Additional information can be found the Portal, (immigration.simcoe.ca)

 Celebration Package – R. Holt presented the Celebration Package presentation to the group.



- Review Purpose (To develop a toolkit that promotes and celebrates Simcoe County's wide range of cultural diversity. This resources will be shared throughout the variety of learning environment in Simcoe County)
- Review Outline

Key discussion points:

- L. Vanderwater asked who the target audience would be for this group.
- Discussion occurred regarding the different age groups that the Celebration Package would address and how to handle each one.

- The group agreed that reviewing the "how and why" of the document is important.
- Concern was brought forward that four separate documents, based on age, might not be as useful as a single document, however the group decided that separate documents targeted at specific age groups would be easier and more likely to be used.
- Adding local resources is a very important component for elementary and secondary sections.
- The final document would be produced in 2014-2015; if the group is looking to have it printed, quantities could be included in next year's budget.
- Suggestion, followed by discussion of having the final document translated into French and possibly other languages as well.

Develop Working groups

Early Years – L. D'Ambrosio - Best start network provide the final review. Elementary and Secondary – L. Vanderwater & T. Khrystynko; S. Lee to check if S. Messenger could be available, B. Shoreman will send someone from the Catholic School board,

Post Secondary – Georgian College Ben Yang (Georgian College), Lakehead, Laurentien, College Boreal

Adult Education /ESL- P. Whittington will assign someone to sit on this Working Group.

Libraries – suggestion to connect with Welcoming Communities and the libraries to form this working group. LIP will connect with the group to create the working groups.

Approval through the trustees of each school board would be necessary at the draft level.

4. Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS)

- Next steps S. Lee updated the group on the call for proposal possibly for 2014. She received contact information for York Region to connect with them.
- Key Discussion Points:
- Recruiting from another region to present on the SWISS program in their area.
- Brought forward that number of students that require services are low.
- Suggestion that a proposal could be made for a Youth Settlement Worker, as different models across the province.
- N. Martins reported on the program in her large area and different models with funding through CIC.
- M. Greaves indicated that the College would want to be involved.
- Suggestion that the group has a presentation to further the understanding of the priority.

5. Improve Language Training Opportunities

- Coordinated Language Assessment Referral System (CLARS) S. Lee updated the group on the presentation in August. In the Settlement Strategy unique partnerships are indicated for language training.
- 6. Sub-Council Description Statement M. Greaves introduced the "elevator pitch".

White board brainstorming – Education System, identify need, gaps, increase awareness, provide support, support learning environments, newcomer, encourage, participate in broader initiatives, celebrate, bring together all education, improve newcomer experience, inclusiveness, creating pathways, sharing, attract, recruit, integrate, retain, language training, seamless integration of students, positive outcomes, achieve goals for newcomers through education, success-Canadian born and newcomer students, diversity.

R. Holt will draft a draft statement to be presented to the group, she will send out to the group, prior to next meeting, for review.

7. Community Plan Report Card – Tabled until next meeting.

8. LIP Updates

- Newcomer Recognition Awards October 23, 2013 are now posted on the Portal (<u>immigration.simcoe.ca</u>) included in each package to the group are nomination forms. The group was encouraged specifically to nominate for the Education through Multiculturalism. But also if you know of someone who should be nominated be sure to nominate them. Suggestion to have documents translated into French next year.
- Cultural Competency Learning Symposium: Learning Together, Growing Together - March 2014 – Keynote speaker; Top Canadian Immigrant, Winnie Wong, OPP Commissioner as lunch time speaker, closeout speaker still to be confirmed from University of Ottawa.
- Portal if you have any information you would like posted please e-mail R.
 Griffiths at robin.griffiths@simcoe.ca

9. Other Business

None at this time.

10. Next Meeting Dates

October 31, 2013 1:30pm-3:30pm December 12, 2013 1:30pm-3:30pm