



County of Simcoe
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Children & Community Services
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SUB-COUNCIL NOTES LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

SUBJECT: Employment
MEETING DATE: 9/12/2013
MEETING TIME: 9:00 am – 11:30 am
LOCATION: Oro Medonte Severn Boardroom
ATTENDANCE: J. Duncan (YMCA); H. Hie (Employment Services Georgian College); R. Holt (LIP); B. Hoysa (MTCU); D. Newell (Northern Lights); d. Pacheco (TRACKS Employment-Collingwood); M. Terrace (Social Enterprise for Canada); P. Whittington (Georgian College); R. Wisken (LIP); R. Griffiths (LIP-secretary of record)
REGRETS: : J. Davie (Career Solution Corporation); K. Low (Northern Lights); K. Scott (County of Simcoe); L. Woodrow (Career Centre-Barrie)

1. Welcome / Introductions

P. Whittington welcomed the group with a special welcome to R. Holt returning to her role as LIP Project Coordinator. Round table introductions were made.

2. Notes from Last meeting

Group reviewed the Notes from the previous meeting. M. Terrance had a few minor corrections. R. Griffiths will make the edits in the notes and repost.

3. Roundtable Updates

H. Hie - Providing a fall fair, end of September. She will forward the flyer to R. Griffiths to post on the Portal. Youth Employment Fund has provided increased funding providing 4-6 month placements that are jointly paid between employers and Employment Ontario.

M. Terrance – will be retiring, this will be his last meeting. P. Whittington thanked him for his contribution to the Sub-Council and wished him well on behalf of the group.

B. Hoysa – JCP just started; two positions just filled by Northern Lights. October 9th – OLMP meeting; Queens University Data gathering system will be highlighted.

D. Newell– the next Brown Bag Lunch event will be held September 19th at 231 Bayview Dr., Barrie.

D. Pacheco – welcome center providing language services in her area. Skills tracks federal program starting again next week.

J. Duncan – Open house last week was very well attended by current and past clients; classes started back last week very busy. Childcare is provided.

P. Whittington – Technology OSLT course started Tuesday; three of four spots have been filled, however they are still looking to fill the last spot. On September 23 the business OSLT course begins. Information can be found on immigration.simcoe.ca

4. Professional Development Working Group

- Next Steps

P. Whittington provided a brief overview of the day. Discussion took place as to whether a written resource as a follow up checklist to the day would be beneficial. P. Whittington will further develop a draft of what that checklist would look like.

5. Newcomer Education Working Group

H. Hie reported that the PowerPoint was revised based on the group's feedback. A small one page guide was created as an overview and background to the presentation as suggestion from the feedback received. Currently the group is in the process of branding the presentation to the LIP and considering branding it to look similar to the Immigrant Directory.

ACTION: H. Hie to add the Portal link.

Hyperlinks are included that outline services that are available. . Primary users would be OW and employment service providers. Each manager can be the owner and responsible for presenting S. Lee suggested adding the Partnership with County logo, along with Employment Ontario.

6. Immigrant Employment Council (IEC) Update

S. Lee provided a presentation on the IEC to the Simcoe Muskoka Workforce Development Board (SMWDB) in May, 2013. The SMWDB voted, at their June meeting, to support the IEC. A successful application to Municipal Immigrant Information On-line (MIIO) was made in partnership with the LIP and SMWDB. The proposal included; the creation of a separate URL for employers to enter the portal, technological enhancement of the portal to support the IEC and a single six month staff position to be housed with the SMWDB whose role would be to develop content and review the Portal content under the Working Section. The IEC Coordinator would also be responsible for building the preliminary steps of developing the governing structure of an IEC. A suggestion was made that the IEC could consist of half employers, LIP, settlement organizations, and community stakeholders would complete the council. Once the infrastructure is in place other funding opportunities would be available to continue to support the IEC. Newspaper and radio ads will not be funded; however outreach to employers is covered under funding.

Employer Brochure –Revisions are still in progress, a further update will be given next meeting.

7. Welcoming Communities Framework

R. Wisken provided a brief overview of the framework as a priority out of the Welcoming Communities Sub-Council.

- **Review Employers and Employees section**

The group was provided time to review the Employers/Employees draft page. R. Wisken captured edits and suggestions. These will be incorporated into the document and presented at the next Welcoming Communities Sub-Council on October 3, 2013 and further to the Employment Sub-Council on October 24th.

ACTION: R. Wisken will edit the draft incorporating the changes and edits provided by the group. The edited draft will be provided at the next meeting in October.

8. Community Plan Report Card

- Review and update - R. Wisken and S. Lee jointly provided an overview of the Report Card. The document is an ever shifting document that should include activities from all Sub-Councils as well as community activities.

ACTION; B. B. Hoysa and H. Hie to research compiling data to add to the Community Plan under improving Labour Market Outcomes and report back at the next meeting.

ACTION; Entire group will review the report card and bring back measurements that can be displayed on the report card.

Group is encouraged to review the document and provide any feedback/additions to the report card.

Group discussed adding mentorship under the inspire heading.

9. Human Rights Commission

- [Policy on Removing the “Canadian Experience” Barrier](#)

S. Lee shared the new Human Rights Commission Policy Removing the “Canadian Experience Barrier” that was introduced this summer. A representative from the Human Rights Commission will be making a presentation to the Local Immigration Partnership Council at their next meeting, October 7, 2013.

10. LIP Updates

- **Portal**

MIIO Advertising campaign in Brampton will be live shortly.

- **Newcomer Recognition Awards** – October 23, 2013 – Nominations are now open and posted on immigration.simcoe.ca. A nomination package was provided to each attendee and where encouraged to nominate someone and to share the link to the portal with their contacts.
- **Cultural Competency Learning Symposium: Learning Together, Growing Together - March 2014** – S. Lee provided an update from the Human Services Working Group. Discussion of keynote speakers; opening speaker, Winnie Wong (on of Immigrant Magazines’ Top Canadian Immigrant, 2013), lunch speaker OPP Commissioner and closeout speaker from the University of Ottawa who will discuss organizations cultural competency self assessment. There will be numerous workshop presenters, as yet to be determined. Suggestions from the group; at least one workshop should be employment focused, an Employment Ontario service provider would be ideal to provide information as well.
- **ACTION:** Group will consider suggestions and partnerships for workshops, to be discussed further at the next meeting.

- H. Hie suggested the facilitator from the Employers Professional Development Cultural Competency be invited to provide a workshop at the Cultural Competency Learning Symposium; Learning Together, Growing Together in March 2014.
- H. Hie also recommended L. LaRoche to provide a workshop on employment specific cultural competency.

11. Other Business

P. Whittington met with a representative from Randstnad looking for a Mandarin speaking book-keeper, if someone knows an individual who might fit that need please contact her.

R. Wisken – is leaving her interim role as LIP Project Coordinator, and has taken a job with the Welcome Centre.

- Newcomer Case Studies

J. Duncan has recently worked with a Polish lady, a newcomer (who has been in Canada for 4 years), and who recently was laid off from her manufacturing job. She is currently looking for more permanent work, however her English is not very strong. She lives in Innisfil and the family has only one car therefore has trouble attending daytime classes to improve her language. Group discussed different possible transportation ideas as well as possible funding opportunities for transportation.

12. Next Meeting: October 24, 2013 9:00am - 11:30am
November 28, 2013 9:00am - 11:30am