



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

SUBJECT: Human Services

MEETING DATE: 9/5/2013

MEETING TIME: 9:30 am – 11:30 am

ATTENDANCE: R. Holt (LIP Coordinator); C. Laxton (Youth Haven-Barrie); S. Lee (LIP Manager); T. McAlmont (County of Simcoe); R. Milne (Councilor, Town of New Tecumseth); B. Saniga (Catalpa/CAPC/BICS); J. Duncan (YMCA Simcoe Muskoka); R. Wisken (LIP Coordinator); R. Griffiths (LIP, secretary of record)

REGRETS: A. Cayen (Colibri); S. Goruk (Barrie Chamber of Commerce); S. Peddle (David Busby Street Centre); G. Webster (OPP); D. Woods (Child Youth & Family Services Coalition of Simcoe County)

1. Welcome

R. Wisken welcomed the group on behalf of G. Webster who was unable to attend. Round table introductions were made. A special welcome was extended to R. Holt, LIP Coordinator, who has returned from her parental leave.

2. Review of Notes of Meeting of July 5, 2013

No edits or concerns were expressed.

3. Roundtable updates: Newcomer Programming

S. Lee – a teleconference with MCI is scheduled for Friday September 6th, to further discuss a funding opportunity for an Immigrant Employment Council (IEC) in partnership with SMWDB.

R. Milne - reported that the Town of New Tecumseth hosted a BBQ for local migrant workers. The event was both well attended and well received.

J. Duncan – YMCA Newcomer Centre hosted an open house on Thursday August 22nd. The event was very well received by the 30 plus attendees. The first issue of the “The Newcomer” newsletter has been published and will be posted on the LIP page and the Portal.

B. Saniga- Invited the group to attend a “Night at the Movies”, Sept. 9th in Orillia and Sept. 10th in Alliston, to celebrate 10 years of building awareness about Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FASD) in the community. Catalpa Community Support Services is celebrating their 40th anniversary on September 26th in Barrie, Orillia, Alliston, Collingwood, Midland and Bradford.

4. 2013 Interpretation/Translation Community Survey

R. Wisken updated the group on the 2013 Interpretation/Translation Community Survey. Feedback received from the group has been incorporated in to the final survey and introduction letter. The survey has completed all levels of approval. It will be live in the field September 9th through October 7th. The group was encouraged to forward the survey to their contacts.

5. Update: Cultural Competency Learning Symposium: Learning Together, Growing Together

- Next Working Group meeting – Thursday October 10th 9:30 am
- All funded Settlement Services are scheduled to have exhibits at the Symposium.
- Gulshan Alibhai from Ryerson has agreed to be the MC for the day
- Workshop Updates/Responses:
 - *S. Lee* – WayPoint is unable to provide a workshop as the day coincides with the move of their office; further follow-up is required with Sick Kids, Cultural Competency workshop; Ontario Works will also host a workshop focusing on interpretation and translation; Community Health Centre forwarded the request to Partera International who is interested in hosting a health focused workshop.
 - *B. Saniga* – Suggested she could provide a hands-on workshop focusing on modifying a program to adapt its delivery specifically to newcomers.
 - *T. McAlmont* – Has sent out request for workshops, however, has not received responses yet from Peel CAS.
- *R. Griffiths* – Winnie Wong (a judge, an advocate for newcomer women in abusive situations and a 2013 Top Canadian Immigrant) has agreed to be the opening keynote speaker.

6. Review Welcoming Communities Framework: Broader Public Sector

R. Wisken provided an overview of the framework, introducing the four different categories; General Public, Broader Public, Employee/Employers and Newcomers/Newcomer Associations.

The group focused on the Broader Public Sector section; reviewing the draft providing R. Wisken with feedback, including:

- Cultural Competency should be acknowledged as developmental, ongoing and evolving training
- Suggestion to add 'support newcomer groups in building their capacity'
- Niche programming for newcomers, specific programming
- Building advocacy to hear what newcomers are requesting

7. Newcomer Recognition Awards Update

Nomination forms are now posted on the Portal. Included in the handouts to the Sub-Council are the Award Criteria, Nomination Form, Rules & Regulations and a Poster to advertise the awards. The group was encouraged to forward the Nomination form to their contacts.

8. Newcomer Client Case Studies

This is a new standing item on the agenda that the Employment Sub-Council participates in and is being brought forward to this group. This is an opportunity for sub-council members to share their experiences and learn from each other. Client confidentiality will be respected.

9. Portal Update

S. Lee indicated that if there are any items to be posted on the Portal they should be sent to R. Griffiths.

Marketing - Funding for a marketing campaign was awarded for a bus shelter campaign in Brampton. There will be two distinct ads, the first focus on "Quality Family Life in Simcoe County" the second, "Working and Doing Business in Simcoe County". Portal traffic will be monitored via Google analytics to indicate the success of each advertisement. A third campaign will be run after analysis of the first two campaigns.

Immigrant Employment Council – funding was requested to enhance the portal to include a separate URL specifically for an Immigrant Employment Council (IEC). This initiative is in partnership with the SMWDB who will hire a staff member to support the IEC. A teleconference is planned for this Friday to further discuss the funding proposal.

Francophone Portal - content has been reviewed by the LIP team, the website will be online shortly.

10. Other Business

No other business at this time.

11. Next Meetings

Thursday October 17, 2013, 9:30 am – 11: 30 am

Thursday November 21, 2013, 9:30 am – 11: 30 am