



County of Simcoe
Social and Community Services
Children & Community Services
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MINUTES

MEETING DATE: 5/30/2013

MEETING TIME: 9:30 – 11:00 am
Oro Medonte Severn Boardroom

ATTENDANCE: S. Lee (LIP); T. McAlmont (County of Simcoe); R. Milne (Councillor, County of Simcoe); S. Peddle (David Busby Street Centre); I. Pozgaj (County of Simcoe); S. Rowbotham (Ontario Early Years Centre); N. Manzone (BSW Student, Coalition); R. Griffiths (LIP, recording secretary); R. Wisken (LIP); G. Webster (OPP); G. Concon (County of Simcoe); S. McGarvey (County of Simcoe)

REGRETS: M. Bergin (Catholic Family Services); A. Cayen (Colibri); B. Saniga (Catulpa)

SUBJECT: Human Services Sub-Council Meeting

1. Welcome

R. Wisken welcomed the group on behalf of G. Webster. Roundtable introductions were made.

2. Roundtable updates

S. Lee reported on the City of Barrie event that she attended May 29th. The event was hosted by Barrie Mayor J. Leham and attended by Barrie and area ethno-cultural and faith based groups. Good discussion and connections were made.

No other community updates at this time.

3. Cultural Competency Learning Symposium: Learning Together, Growing Together

Working group update-good turn out and conversation was had at the working group. Decision was made to hold the event week of March 16th, location to be confirmed at next working group meeting on June 17th.

4. 2013 Interpretation / Translation Community Survey

R. Wisken provided a brief introduction to the survey.

I. Pozgaj presented a draft research plan for the survey. It was reviewed as a group and revisions were made.

1. Background/Rationale

The Human Services Sub-Council is working towards developing an understanding of the current interpreter and translation needs for community service providers in the delivery of their services. Some of the goals include mapping of existing practices, gaps, and developing recommendations to improve access to interpretation and translation services for newcomers in Simcoe County.

The Human Services Sub-Council is also coordinating a Learning Symposium for Cultural Competency in the first quarter of 2014, which the survey results may help inform.

2. Purpose

To develop an understanding of interpretation/translation services of community agencies in Simcoe County.

3. Objectives

1. To understand the demand of interpretation/translation services of agencies delivering community services in Simcoe County.
2. To develop an understanding of current policies and practices regarding interpretation/translation services for agencies delivering community services in Simcoe County.
3. To identify regional differences of interpretation/translation service needs within the geographic area of Simcoe County.
4. To identify the information/data that community agencies use (and want to use) to demonstrate emerging demographic trends in service delivery.
5. To understand the needs of community agencies throughout Simcoe County for cultural awareness training in preparation for the 2014 Learning Symposium (March).
6. To develop a demographic profile of community agencies regarding interpretation /translation service delivery in Simcoe County.

ACTION: I. Pozgaj to update the wording of the objectives

Sample Target – Community service agencies in Simcoe County, one response per agency at the management level.

Methodology- The survey will be distributed online, utilizing the LIP distribution lists and requesting recipients forward the survey to their contacts (snowball distribution). Local organizations will be informed of the pending survey prior to its dissemination. This will allow respondents time to prepare.

4. Work Plan (2013)		
Timeline	Activity	Resource
May 30	Finalize research project plan	Irena Pozgaj, Human Services sub-council
July 4	Finalize questionnaire	Irena Pozgaj, Human Services sub-council
July	Review and approval from Clerks office	Irena, Trevor
Sept	Survey in the field	Community agencies
October	Data analysis	Irena Pozgaj, Research assistants
Nov	Final report to HS Sub-council	Irena Pozgaj, Research assistants

Dissemination- The final report will be presented to the LIP Human Services Sub-Council by the Research Analyst followed by a presentation to the LIP Partnership Council. Presenting the results of the survey at the Cultural Competency Learning Symposium would also be beneficial.

Draft Questions – I. Pozgaj will draft the questions for the survey to present at the next Sub-Council meeting for review.

5. LIP Updates

- **Newcomer Recognition Awards** – S. Lee provided an overview on behalf of the Welcoming Community Sub-Council’s Working Group. The Newcomer Recognition Awards has come into being as a result of discussion of the Welcoming Communities Framework. The formal event will take place the week of October 21-27 (National Citizenship Week). There will be 8 different categories: 3 newcomer awards, 3 awards for businesses/organizations, 1 school, and 1 community champion award. Nomination forms will be electronically forwarded to community partners and organizations through the LIP Sub-Councils. The Working Group is investigating a possible media sponsor. Surplus funds from the MIIO portal project have been allocated to be used towards marketing to promote the awards. The awards ceremony will be an evening tea. The location has not been confirmed at this time.

Suggestions from group:

- Interview recipients of awards and to post them on the website.
 - Ensure the awards geographically represent the whole County.
 - Make certain fair evaluation of nominees
- **Welcoming Communities Framework (formerly the Public Education Framework)** - document is still under construction.

- **Portal Launch - immigration.simcoe.ca.** The Portal Launch was held in Alliston at the Gibson Centre on May 3rd. Approximately 90 people were in attendance, including Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Michael Coteau, and ten local politicians. A choir, a newcomer speaker, dancer, and a community marketplace where highlights of the event. Excellent feedback was received by community stakeholders and newcomers who attended the event. The portal site is now linked to the provincial webpage. A request will be sent out shortly to community organization and partners to add immigration.simcoe.ca to their websites.
- **Municipal Deputations** – To date thirteen municipalities have responded to the call for deputations, which are in the process of being scheduled.

6. Other Business

- **Settlement Services Brochure-** The brochure was an initiative from the LIP Settlement Services Sub-Council. R. Wisken informed the group that a request form will be circulated to all LIP Sub-Councils in the coming weeks.

7. Next Meeting Dates

- July 4, 2013