



MINUTES

MEETING DATE: January 10, 2013

MEETING TIME: 9:30 am – 11:30 am

ATTENDANCE: L. Beattie, (CONTACT); D. Brown, (Social Enterprise for Canada); M. Desbiens, (College Boreal); M. Fisher, (211 Community Connect); Y. Konrad, (ESL – Gibson Centre); C. Kouassi, (Conseil de la Cooperation de l'Ontario); S. Lee, (LIP); Coun. R Milne, (Town of New Tecumseth); D. Myers, (recording secretary); C. Persaud, (Turning Points); I. Pozgaj (County of Simcoe); Y. Skybin, (YMCA); C. Vanderkruys, (Barrie Public Library); R. Wisken, (LIP); M. Zeng, (Barrie & Area Chinese Assoc.)

SUBJECT: Welcoming Communities Sub-council Meeting

1) Welcome & Introductions

Welcomes were extended by R. Wisken and introductions took place.

2) Finalize Draft of Public Education Framework

S. Lee prepared the changes to the Education Framework from the last meeting. The content is being developed into a new format to be presented to the Partnership Council. The new document will be formatted and sent out electronically.

3) Library Hub Model Update

Due to the new staff change over to CIC, the model will be reworked in January after meeting with the new director. Other library staff may be involved.

4) Immigrant Directory Update

R. Wisken reported this as a priority for this sub council and the development has been supported by several sub councils. The completion date goal is March 31, 2013. Recent content has been added to the Employment Chapter (Working in Simcoe County) and will be added to the portal. Other sections in chapters that are in progress are Education and Health. Discussion took place pertaining to distribution of the directory (languages, methods and locations).

ACTION: Content for the Connecting chapter will be presented to this group for review

5) Physician Recruitment Job Fair

A copy of the invitation for physician recruitment hosted by RVH recruitment was reviewed

(Thurs, Jan 31, 7-9pm). Purpose of the event for LIP viewing it as an opportunity for County of Simcoe, representation re newcomer attraction and to promote immigration and retention. Who could attend, how & what material would be delivered was discussed; what other reps or organizations and individuals (doctors) will be there to deliver their own material and resources would be taken into consideration. Inform other township. Purpose is to deliver a welcoming message.

ACTION: D. Brown, Y. Konrad, C. Persaud, Coun. R. Milne reps will attend - post signs (themes on easels) and provide document package

Send R. Wisken an email of other ideas for content and delivery for this event. Other townships may also be informed.

ADD to next meeting for debrief of venue.

6) Portal Content Review

I. Pozgaj delivered an update of the portal project development (content on website). A site map in progress was shared showing an overview of the portal (areas, categories and how it will be organized). The on-screen mock up was presented reporting soft launch dates will be throughout March, and official launch & marketing in April 2013. Language delivery of the portal was discussed. Content was reviewed of the WELCOME to SIMCOE section and feedback was received of specific information (adding "volunteering" and a map re location of services). The portal will have links to the GIS map. Accessibility was discussed re language, visual & hearing, 211 connection for provisions re interpretation.

7) Welcome Package

Discussion of what material should be provided when invited to events took place. Decision was to follow the examples of what is used at the upcoming job fair.

ACTION: observe what other groups provide at venues (eg RVH physician recruitment)

8) Priority Setting

Discussion of what the 2013 schedule should include took place. The main focus is events & awards. Determination of what goals and methods in a work plan format was developed. Each sub-council is developing work plans outlining their priorities for 2013 and the action items that will take place to support the priorities.

CULTURE EVENT: discussion of what ideas & events could be organized; how to create and encourage other organizations to host a venue. The library is doing a multi cultural event. Encourage other community events being established to include a multicultural component. Offer help of LIP as a resource to other groups that are organizing venues. Where funding and man-power can be sourced to support multi cultural events was discussed. Using the portal for advertising and marketing purposes was recommended.

ACTION: A committee will form to source out funding and other resources.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: C. Vanderkruys, Y. Skybin, Y. Konrad, M. Zeng

AWARDS: What kind of a venue or method should be created was discussed; what the celebrations & championships should represent and their criteria

- WHAT: awards will be based on the 4 themes: Readiness, Opportunity, Celebrate and Inspire
- WHO: age groups, student, senior, employee & employer, business, non-profit group or individual, families, application method

- LOCATION: geographic places for campaign info
- WHERE: advertising locations and venue locations
- HOW: application process would be put in place; advertising method was discussed (press release, electronic messaging, flyer on email, etc).

ACTION: A committee will form to prepare and plan this venue and establish timelines necessary

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Coun. R. Milne, D. Brown, S. Lee, M. Fisher, C. Vanderkruys. The committee will bring feedback of a plan back to the next meeting. The library will also be organizing a celebration event which may share some of the LIP culture celebrations.

9) Other Business

C. Kouassi suggested also seeking out who moved from within Canada to Simcoe County as newcomers. S. Lee communicated that the Local Immigration Partnership defines newcomers/immigrants as individuals who have arrived to Canada from a different country of origin.

10) Next Meetings

February 7, 2013 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. (R. Wisken will chair in C. Vanderkruys' absence)

March 21, 2013 9:30 – 11:30 am