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SUB-COUNCIL NOTES LOCAL IMMIGRATION PARTNERSHIP

SUBJECT: Employment Sub-Council Notes
MEETING DATE: 10/24/2013 **MEETING TIME:** 9:00 am – 11:30 am
ATTENDANCE: J. Duncan (YMCA); H. Hie (Georgian College); R. Holt (LIP); K. Low (Northern Lights); D. Newell (Northern Lights); M. Whal (YMCA Midland); R. Griffiths (LIP, recording secretary)
REGRETS: S. Laycock (SMWDB); K. Scott (County of Simcoe); P. Whittington (Georgian College, A. Hutton (Barrie Career Centre); L. Woodrow (Barrie Career Centre); T. Plaxton Smith (Barrie Business Centre); R. Wisken (Welcome Centre)

1. Welcome / Introductions

M. Whal introduced herself as chair and round table introductions were made.

2. Roundtable Updates

H. Hie (*Georgian College*) – Agreement was signed with CIC on October 17th to start the Newcomer Youth program. The program is for youth under 29 who are in school and helping integrating them into the part time labour market, as a pilot project in Barrie. The hope is to widen the project in the future to encompass all of Simcoe County. There will be support and for employers to help them to provide a welcoming work environment for the students experiencing their first employment. J. Palmer is the lead for this one year project.

M. Whal (*YMCA Midland*) – Working on fine tuning a mentorship program within the employment center. She suggested that organizations could work together on a mentoring partnership. Because of the influx of newcomers in Midland they YMCA is now providing programs every week

D. Newell (*Northern Lights*) - Train in trades, an excellent turnout by high school students as well as the public.

K. Low (*Northern Lights*) – good turnout at expos to which they attended.

J. Duncan (*YMCA Simcoe/Muskoka*)– Brown bag lunch is taking place once again in Innisfil

3. Next Steps

- Professional Development Working Group – P. Whittington is the lead and was not present to provide an update.
- Newcomer Education Working Group – R. Holt discussed the presentation that H. Hie provided and was sent to Corporate Communications. The suggestion that the presentation H. Hie will look it over and then send to service provider managers. The presentation is based on the Newcomer Directory. When employment services provide a presentation they were asked to provide an update to the Employment Sub-Council.
- Sub-Council priorities – table when larger group is available.

4. Sub-Council Description Statement

- To engage a range of service providers to develop innovative strategies to address labour market issues for newcomer/emigrants in Simcoe County.
- To build a highly skilled workforce in Simcoe County- through employment and training opportunities.
- To add the prosperity in Simcoe County.

ACTION: R. Holt to edit ideas and send out the group as a whole prior to the next meeting.

5. Employment Workshops at Cultural Competency Learning Symposium; Learning Together, Growing Together

Discussion if members of the group that could provide a workshop at the March event. R. Holt gave a brief overview of what the workshop would look like. H.Hie has provided a similar workshop; however discussion of the resources that are not available in Simcoe County. H.Hie offered to take the lead, D. Newell indicated that D. Tracy may be able to assist. R. Holt will follow up in a few weeks with H. Hie.

6. Community Plan Report Card

- Discussion on data collection; R. Holt gave an overview of the Community Plan, discussing what data could be tracked within the service providers current collection parameters.
 - H. Hie indicated that their tracking system is limited to what data they have access to. H. Hie will provide what can be tracked at next meeting.
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7. LIP Updates

- Portal – if anyone has items or events to post on the portal please send them to sclip@simcoe.ca
- Newcomer Recognition Awards – October 23, 2013
R. Holt provided an overview of the evening's event. The event was well attended.
- Immigrant Employment Council Update – Contracts have been signed. Interviews for Co-ordinator position will occur shortly.

8. Other Business

- Newcomer Case Studies (J. Duncan) – relayed a story of client from Korea who had just been unsuccessful in completing her trades test as a hairdresser. She has very little resources to take the re-test. D. Newell suggested that she could come to one of their offices and they can refer her to MTCU for translation. J. Duncan will connect with them for connect with her.

9. Next Meeting: November 28, 2013; 9:00 am – 11:30 am
January 16, 2014; 9:00 am – 11:30 am
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