

LCCN Meeting
June 29th, 2021
Zoom

Attendees: Tina Sartori, Amber Price, Nicole Blanchette, Lisa Wilson, Julie Keens, Kelly Smith, Diane Gordon, Paul Van Dyk, Barbara Jackson, Donna Jean Godfrey, Celine Bourbonnais-MacDonald, Jan Tomlinson, Kara Pihlak, Lexy Rancourt, Alicia Vanderwerf, Anne Rae, Kathy Harris, Lee-Anne Cross, Pattie, Amanda Seabrook, Charlene Grainger, Michaela Jardine, Cheryl Read, Meaghan MacDonell, Breanna Piccolotto, Melissa Mast, Pakinam Ghaly, Lyndsey Barber, Jamie Monaghan, Sue Mills, Karen, Kim Mitchell, Joe Winser, Michelle Brooks, Sarah Mavrikkou, Kelly Smith, Lori Tsanoff, Maria Banuelos.

Land Acknowledgement

Indian Residential School Survivors and Family Hotline: 1-866-925-4419
First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line: 1-855-242-3310
<https://atlohsa.com/>
<https://mrcssi.com/>

Municipal and Provincial Updates

2020 Federal Restart and 2021 Provincial Re-Investment Funding – Attestations and Reconciliation (Anne Rae)

- Thank you for your patience as we worked through the review of all submitted attestations. All notifications for repayment balances have been emailed out last week. Payment due date is July 31.

Emergency Child Care (Anne Rae)

- Have had 19 approved providers and 31 centre-based sites across both London and Middlesex. Licensed home child care providers were also providing emergency care.
- Reporting information and templates were sent out last week. Please reach out directly to Anne and Elizabeth (London providers) or Joe and Kelly (Middlesex providers) if you have any questions. Please submit all reports and invoices by Friday July 23rd, or sooner if possible. We will process your reports as quickly as possible to get the necessary funding out to you in a timely manner.
- We have adjusted our website to remove the list of ECC operators and information about eligibility and have replaced it with the following messaging:
 - With the elementary school year and remote learning coming to an end on June 29th, so does the Emergency Child Care program.
 - We would like to sincerely thank all of the Early Childhood Educators and support staff that have provided this critical service to eligible essential workers across London and Middlesex since April 19th.



Question to pose to group – “If you are an ECC operator, how have you been communicating the end of the program to your families? And those on your waitlist?” Is it necessary for further communication to go out at this time?

Wage Enhancement Grant (Anne Rae)

- Reminder that the 2020 Attestations and the 2021 Applications are due to the childrensservicesadmin@london.ca email by July 2nd. For clarification, hours during the closure period should have been captured through CEWS and the 2020 CMSM reconciliation therefore 2020 attestations should be reduced accordingly. However, we also anticipate the number of staff and hours will likely increase from reopening pressures; both as it pertains to the 2020 attestation and the 2021 application, given the current cleaning and screening requirements.

Child Care Fee Subsidy (Paul Van Dyk)

- Continuing to process applications within 5 business days.
- We can approve Child Care Fee Subsidy placements for the future. For example, September/ October if the child care space is confirmed.
- For families who might not need care now, we are letting them know they can access Child Care Fee Subsidy anytime in 2021 as long as they are still eligible.
- If your site would like to know more in detail the eligibility process of Child Care Fee Subsidy, please email Paul (pvandyk@london.ca).

City of London Restructuring (Anne Rae)

- Reminder that the City of London underwent a restructure which took effect May 4, 2021. The restructure included the creation of a new, integrated Child Care and Early Years team under Social and Health Development. The team is actively working to develop a structure and approach that prioritizes:
 - Delivering on our role as Service System Manager; and
 - Streamlining processes to make things simpler for operators and families

Middlesex County Update (Kelly Smith)

- ECC – In Middlesex County there were 9 ECC sites, all ECC has ended. Thank you to the 9 sites who supported the residents.
- Fee subsidy – managed like London and currently working through a large influx of new applications.
- Summer Camps – are mostly full and have very few spaces available.
- WEG – as London has stated 2020 Attestations and the 2021 Applications are due by July 2nd, 2021
- Social Services Relief Fund Phase 3 – Through the SSRF Middlesex county in partnership with Voyage continues to offering free shuttle service to Covid 19 vaccinations and other covid related medical appointments for vulnerable and or low-income Middlesex County families.



Middlesex-London Health Unit- Early years Team Update - Jan Tomlinson

- The Majority of our Nurses have been sent to do Vaccines for 3 weeks for Covid Support. Temporary Halt in Health Unit Services, Early Years team has stayed back to support parents and care providers. We have taken over the calls for newborn and infant questions.

Early Years:

- E-Update last week it was around the Version 6 Covid Guidance update. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact us.
- Screening for Symptoms after Vaccination; Ask for Screening but mild symptoms due to recent Vaccine they can continue to Work.
 - Dr. Summers Message: After Vaccine wait 24 hours before seeking Covid Testing.
 - Stay home during symptoms, they should resolve in the next day. Seek testing or medical if these symptoms continue.

Questions:

Jamie Monaghan: Will there be an Ease of Outdoor Restrictions: Is there any Update? Can we also ease up on screening especially for Winter, allowing parents to come into the building?

Jan's Answer:

- The majority of Childcare cannot get Vaccines due to young age, so we want to ensure safety.
- With Cohorts: There can be multiple groups outdoors, but they must keep distance from the other group(s).
- Regarding parents, screening can be done independently before drop-off. Indoor drop-off I will ask but we are just not there yet.

Kara: I recall the face shields and goggles for Covid Safety, when will these measures be removed, while keeping the mask on?

Jan's Answer:

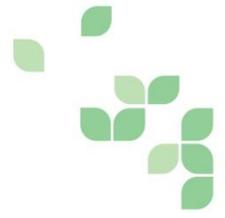
- I do see it changing soon however we want to ensure all get the vaccine and we avoid a 4th wave.
- One thing to note is that eye protection is not required while outdoors, but Masks must remain on.

Tina: Also, the excessive cleaning since transmission of covid is not primarily from surfaces. Will this change?

Jan's Answer:

- I believe it will be changing but we want to ensure children are safe since they are unable to get vaccinated. If you have a specific area question, please contact us and we will send out information's and direction.

Nicole: My concern is that some educators are still not wanting to get Vaccinated. What will happen? Will there be penalties when removing restrictions? I am interested in a Meeting to discuss this however we do need it to be in French.



Jan's Answer

- We can do presentations and have a French speaking support, please email the EarlyYearsOutreach@mlhu.on.ca for more information.
- I believe we may see a push for the Vaccine and if the staff choose not to get vaccinated, they will have to do a couple more steps to discuss and get education from the Health Unit.

Jan Answering Common Emailed Questions:

- Group water play: Is acceptable, 1 cohort at a time, Children hand washing before and after and removing water after the group is done.
- Sprinklers: Accepted
- Sand: Accepted, with hand hygiene and toy cleaning, rack sand if able
- Playground; Accepted, with hand hygiene and 1 cohort at a time, Clean when visually dirty.

*Clarifying Hand Washing: Before and After the specific play area is interacted with not just before and after playing outdoors. Hand Sanitizer and Cleaning wipes may be used outdoors.

- Myth: Who says, Vaccines should be prioritized by older adults as they are more offered to all populations is important. Research for 12 and under is ongoing, anyone 12 and up now able to get vaccines.

National Early Years Framework Prototype Update – Céline Bourbonnais-MacDonald

- Interviews are being scheduled; Interviews will be about 40 Minutes.
- Interview Participants: Parents, Child Care Providers, Early Years Professionals, & Employers
- Specifically looking at feedback on what participants want to see in policy framework going forward.
- An Email was sent out with information on the research and how to connect with the research group.
- We hope to create a mock/prototype of the Early Years policy framework. Our goal is to have focus groups in 2022 to reconstruct and pull apart the research. We want to share the research and the steps to others to provide a foundation on how they can bring their voice on the topic.
- We did not receive the grant, there is a real tension in the research field between qualitative, quantitative, etc. Regardless, the research project is moving forward.

LCCN Internship – Amber Price

- Hello everyone, I am Amber Price, the LCCN Intern who has been working with Diane and Celine on Multiple Projects. I have been asked to share some of the ongoing projects from LCCN. As part of my role, I have been taking the minutes at LCCN's Meetings and Advocacy Meeting. I have been building a contact chart and email list for the various sub-committees and Meetings of LCCN. Along with the contact charts I have created a poster in hopes to bring more partners and organizations to the table.
- Lexy Rancourt and I have also just finished an article that will be shared with the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care. It highlights the work of LCCN's Advocacy Sub-

Committee. It will be added to their ELCC voices Project on the Advocacy Efforts from various Early Learning Communities across Ontario.

- I have also been working on creating a Timeline regarding LCCN's Historic Journey

Skills Advance Ontario (SAO) Project – Meaghan MacDonell

- Cohort 1 of the Job Seekers will begin their 10-week training on July 5, 2021. There are 16 confirmed participants with 2 additional applications currently being processed so they will likely be moving forward with a cohort of 18.
- Cohort 1 is an entirely Anglophone cohort. Revisions are being made to marketing and communication strategies ahead of Cohort 2 to increase the recruitment of Francophone participants.
- The Incumbent Training is currently being finalized as well. This is a unique curriculum and growth opportunity for those already employed in child care who may be seeking to further develop their skills and advance to managerial/director positions. This training will focus on skills and knowledge beyond the pedagogical (i.e. Human Resources, Financial, Policy, etc.).
- The Incumbent Training is also ideal for employers looking to develop the internal capacities of their staff and is designed to support succession planning.
- Both branches of the project (job seeker and incumbent) will require community support. Job seekers will need sites at which to complete the professional work experience component of their training and similarly, in lieu of a placement, Incumbents will be paired with a mentor (ideally the director/supervisor at their current place of employment).
- There is financial compensation available for those able to host Job seekers and/or act as Incumbent mentors at a rate of \$20/hour to a maximum of \$1000.
- CCFL has hired a Job Developer to match trainees with sites/mentors. This individual will be reaching out to LCCN members directly. In the meantime, you can get more information here: <https://www.ccflondon.ca/en/employers>

Advocacy Subcommittee Update – Kara Pihlak

- Advocacy is slowing down, to bi-weekly meetings for the summer.
- I was a guest at the AECEO June Meeting to Share LCCN's Advocacy Efforts with about 200 people.
- We have been in touch with Janet Davis, a former Toronto City Council Member. She gave her perspective and shared a lot of information on her advocacy efforts throughout the years.
- More advocacies will be happening in the fall, with a few meetings over the summer. If you are interested in joining, please contact me at oakpark1@bellnet.ca

All Kids Belong Update – Lee-Anne Cross

- We have drafted a plan to resume in-person services; these will gradually increase in alignment with the provincial re-opening steps. This plan has been reviewed by Middlesex-London Health Unit, and we will continue to follow all provincial and ministry of ed guidelines. At this point we can start to provide more regular in-person visits to a maximum of one centre per day; by step 3 of the provincial re-opening, we can visit a maximum of two centres per day.
- Program Assistant contracts are being sent for summer programs. The next round of requests (for September through December) will need to be received by late July so that we can send contracts in time for September. We know this is challenging as enrollment



may not be complete yet, and September always brings some surprises. Just provide as much information as you can. RC's will be in touch regarding the process and dates. We will continue to use the "temporary" application form that was used throughout the pandemic. If you think you will need Program Assistant support, please reach out to your Resource Consultant for assistance in completing the request form. If you are not sure who to contact, call Lee-Anne.

Strive Update – Amanda Seabrook

- July 15th Moving the cultural and racial conversation forward, this is a follow up to the previous meeting from last summer and last week with Leroy Hibbert from Luso Centre.
- July 22nd we are having a COP outdoor play, with Dr. Jennifer Vanos, Biometeorologist regarding outdoor spaces, heat protection, air pollution, and climate change.
- July 28th, COP with RECE Shelley Secrett from Rainbow family sessions who will share about mandalas for mindfulness and well-being.
- July 29th, Leroy Hibbert's session on cultural diversity; if you have not been to the pervious sections I recommend joining. August 12th there will be a follow up meeting regarding the July 29th Meeting.
- Strive is also working on pre-recording webinars over the summer months

Next Meeting: September 28th, 2021

**Unless something comes up that needs our attention :)