



LCCN Meeting: October 26, 2021

Via Zoom

Attendees: (49) Amber Price, Kara Pihlak, Barb Jackson, Amanda, Tamara Blaney, Anne Rae, Kathy Harris, Kyra Pol, Karen, Deborah Haroun, Diane Gordon, Nicole Blanchette, Tina McAllister, Pakinam Ghaly, Julie Keens, Heather Bywaters, Shari Carter, Kelly Smith, Celine Bourbonnais-MacDonald, Pauline Neable, Lee-Anne Cross, Amanada Seabrook, Tina Sartori, Bashir, Pattie, Joe Winsler, Melissa, Kyra, Donna Jean Godfrey, Charlene Grainger, Brooke Babington, Nicole Buteau, Trever Fowler, Jingyi Chen, Jan Tomlinson, Paul Van Dyk, Elizabeth Gough, Heather Turnbull, Joanne C, Lori Tsanoff, Cheryl Read, Breanna Picoletto, Meaghan MacDonell, Shelby Secoura, Cristin Hildenbrand, Dana Hansen, Lexy Rancourt, Diego Beltran, Jean- Baptiste, Karen Heffernan.

Municipal Updates:

Wage Enhancement Grant (Anne Rae)

As a result of the pressures of COVID-19, the WEG reconciliation for 2019 did not occur in 2020 which is the usual process. So, we are in the final stages of reconciling both 2019 and 2020 at the same time. Communication regarding the reconciliation for both years should be out this week.

2022 Child Care Rates (Anne Rae)

A reminder that the 2022 child care rates are due to our office by October 31st. As SSM, we have the responsibility of balancing affordability for families with support of the system. The intention of the 2021 One-Time GOG is to mitigate the percentage of the child care fee increases not entirely eliminate the increases required for 2022. We understand there are currently additional pressures facing operators (specifically recruitment and retention) and respect the business decisions agencies need to make for sustainability.

National Child Care Framework (Trevor Fowler)

Conversations continue between provincial and federal partners on the National Child Care Framework. While we have no concrete details or timelines at this point, we are optimistic an agreement will be reached. Currently, the SSM is engaged in an OMSSA Children's Services working group to put forward London's priorities as part of a submission to the provincial and federal governments.

Child Care and Early Years Providers Meeting (Trevor Fowler)

A reminder that the Child Care and Early Years Providers Meeting is scheduled for November 4, 4:30 – 6:00pm. At the meeting, participants will have an opportunity to: meet the new Child Care and Early Years team at the City of London; hear provincial, City, and County updates; and engage in discussion with their colleagues on priorities of interest.

Middlesex County Update (Joe Winsler)



There is no waitlist for fee subsidy currently and applications are steady right now.

Centres are struggling to attract ECEs resulting in rooms remaining closed and centres having waitlists for care.

Middlesex London Health Unit: Jan Tomlinson

- Questions
 - o Mixed Cohorts during small number times (Early, Late Pickup): Ministry says yes!
 - o Tips: Make sure attendance is accurate, have who is in the same room together in identified. For mixed cohorts, avoid using an unvaccinated staff
 - o Parents being Inside/ can we have tours? You can't prohibit them, and tours must follow parent guidelines. Follow guidelines (limit of parents based on physical distancing rule, screen, mask and take attendance of parents) Operational Documents highlights guidelines.
 - o Other illness active: Chicken pox (reportable to health unit), Croup, Pneumonia, gastrointestinal illnesses. Stay home; symptom free with stomach bugs for 42 hours, 24 hours symptom free for running nose, sore throat, etc.
 - o Travel? State of limbo, over the boarder with unvaccinated children, children cannot attend childcare or school; they must stay home 14 days* with vaccinated parents

Vaccination? Are you still doing meetings to discuss vaccinations: Yes, we can come to meet with a group, someone with the same cultural background representing may help too.

Are we able to ask for Parents Vaccine proof? I am not sure, you may have to connect with your representative; I would say: you may ask but you cannot deny entry. If they are volunteering or students, they follow staff guidelines.

In turns of mixing cohorts, can we do this for in a pinch? : At this point you can plan for this, just make sure ratios and precautions are all followed and put in place.

Send Questions to: EarlyYearsOutreach@mlhu.on.ca

National Early Years Policy Framework- Celine

- Right now, we have 1 set of interviews left, we are still looking for employers. Please keep reaching out
- The plan is for in person focus groups and building the final national policy framework prototype which would lead into a Town Hall 2022.
- We are currently in the middle of a grant application, if this is granted the cost will cover focus groups and the Town Hall 2022.



SAO Project Update: Meaghan MacDonell:

All successful candidates from Cohort 1 have now been placed in their professional work experience opportunities. These work experiences are for a minimum of three weeks.

One individual deferred their placement because they have transitioned into full-time studies pursuing a diploma in ECE.

One individual who has already complete their professional work experience requirement has been hired at their host site!

Cohort 2 entered their third week of training yesterday (Monday, October 25).

There are 11 Anglophone participants, and 2 Francophone participants.

In order to effectively meet target sets at the onset of the project, the project team is considering expediting Cohort Three in to run in January 2022. This would run concurrently with the incumbent training, which will host its first cohort in January 2022.

Incumbent Training: Diane Gordon & Barb Jackson

- Title: Organizational Leadership in Early Childhood Education
- Diane and Barb are to facilitate the training
- Free 12-week training program that will be offered outside of work hours. It was created by supervisors of Early Years Organizations
- Self directed online; about 8 hours a week
- A community of practice every 2 weeks for 2 hours lead by Barb and Diane
- Mentors check in & Feedback Sections will be made for about 1 hour weekly
- Training Areas: Governance, Organizational Finances, Human Resources, Key Stakeholders, Marketing and Communications, and Leadership and Professionalism
- January 10th start date- March
- Orientation January 4th.
- We are looking to have 10 participants for cohort 1 and more information will be sent out soon.
- History: Need for succession planning, felt that there was not a lot of ECEs in leadership roles that have vast knowledge on these roles.

Will there be a formal invitation?

- Strive, LCCN will be distributing promotional papers sent out soon.

Registration with Anne Marie Curtin at Literacy Links South Central Annemarie@llsc.on.ca



LCCN Advocacy – Kara Pihlak

- Early Years Town Hall: Wednesday, Nov.24th, 7pm-8:30pm
- Panel Discussion: Kate Graham (Parent), Jeff Rice (Employer), ECL Student, ECE Staff, Childcare Director
- 1 hour of questions + 30 minutes of audience questions
- Strive registration for Town Hall coming soon

Stephen Leece: Setting up a second meeting with him regarding National framework

AKB Update: Lee Anne Cross

Resource Consultants:

Will be doing program assistant requests, for January 2022, we will be reaching out soon to discuss program needs for the new year.

Hope to have contracts out by early December to ensure we are set up for January programs.

Will be meeting with supervisors and coordinators, for an annual service review. This will be a discussion guide to ensure each program has opportunity to share what is working well and what needs improvement, and how we can work better together.

We will soon be drafting our annual plan for 2022, setting targets and work plan. If you have any priority that you would like to be focused on connect with Lee-Anne Cross, AKB.

Strive Update: Amanda Seabrook

November Events:

- Nov 4, The Intersection of ECEC and Homelessness
- Nov 10, Strive Virtual Community Meeting
- Nov 13, Building our Resilience Conference
- Nov 17, Community of Practice
- Nov 23 Understanding trauma & Connecting with Autism Ontario
- Nov 24, Community of Practice
- Nov 25, Community of Practice: Be well

Information Sharing:

Space availability: Getting asked about spaces, if anyone has open space for children please let me know so I can direct parents to you.

- Chelsea Green has Preschool space available
- Tiny Hoppers Summerside London has Toddler and Preschool spaces in mid November.
- Orchard Park has 1/2 day open 9 -12
- Children's Place 1 space, and can open 1 group of 8 if I hire 1 more staff



Does anyone have open at 6am?

- Bright Beginnings opens at 6:30, however we are full
- Parkhill opens at 6:30

Has anyone mandated Vaccination in their centre?

- Some centres have for staff
- For new hires, we ask for vaccination but for older staff we are worried they will move on to another centre if we ask for vaccination and we will have to close some rooms.
- Salvation Army mandated vaccination for November and have lost 3 ECEs.
 - o Do you know if the ECEs leaving are going to another centre?
 - o Answer: Not sure what they plan to do

Wish: The mandates were from government or health unit as it has caused issues within the centre, between staff, etc.

Poll: Meeting Times Preferred Moving Forward

Tuesday Poll: 62% Remain Same (Morning Time)

AM (40%), PM (23%) or Anytime (38%)

Day of Week Poll: Monday (28%), Tuesday (75%), Wednesday (53%), Thursday (48%), Friday(20%)

Next Meeting: November 30, 2021 at 9:30 am