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# LICENSED CHILD CARE NETWORK MEETING (VIRTUAL)

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**Oct 25, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m.**

**PRESENT: NOTE THIS LIST IS NOT INCLUSIVE**

Kara Pihlak, Adrienne Small, Jan Tomlinson, Barbara Jackson, Celine Bourbonnais-MacDonald, Shari Carter, Lisa Wilson, Strive SWO, Joe Winser, Kelly Smith, Pakinam Ghaly; Diane Gordon; Jean-Baptiste; Lee-Anne Cross; Cheryl Read; Maureen Kilworth Children's Centre; Heather Bywaters; Trevor Fowler; Adrienne Small; Tina McAllister; Pattie; Anne Rae; Charlene Grainger; Tamara Blaney; Sheri Nicol; Julie Keens; Tina - Montessori Academy of London; Karen; Cristin; Donna Jean Godfrey; Kimberly Mitchell; Bright Beginnings; Kim Mitchell; Nicole Blanchette, La ribambelle; Lacey Jackson; Kinderville; Diego Beltran; Barb Nowicki; Sontai Sem; Tiny Hoppers

## Land acknowledgement

### 1. MUNICIPAL & PROVINCIAL UPDATES – TREVOR FOWLER, KELLY SMITH FOR THE CITY/COUNTY

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**Oct. 24th Professional Learning Opportunity – Only One You**

- Hope you found the session impactful yesterday.
- Variety of options in the afternoon to support wellness.
- Thank you to the organizers that made that day possible.
- Submit attestations to [ChildrensServicesAdmin@london.ca](mailto:ChildrensServicesAdmin@london.ca), please reach out to Chris [cblain@london.ca](mailto:cblain@london.ca) if you have any questions.

**CWELCC Opt-in or Opt-out**

- Deadline to submit your intention to opt-in or opt-out is Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> for both the City and County.
- Thank you to those that have declared their intention either way. If you haven't and are serving children and is eligible to participate, there is a provincial requirement to notify us of your intention to opt-in or out.
- Please submit the form to [ChildrensServicesAdmin@london.ca](mailto:ChildrensServicesAdmin@london.ca), if you can submit before Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> that would be greatly appreciated.

**Memo sent regarding 2023**

- There was a memo sent to licensees about 2023. If you did not receive that, please email [trfowler@london.ca](mailto:trfowler@london.ca)

**Middlesex Update:**

- Welcome to 2 new sites that have opened in Ilderton
  - Koala T. Care, serving 18 months to 12 years
  - EYES Child Care, serving 18 months to 6 years

**River Heights:**

- Construction is under way and hopefully it will be up and running between July and September of 2023.
- Many families have emailed to be on the waitlist for that site - 26 families, 35 children.
- A provider has not been selected yet, so we have been notifying families that once a provider has been selected their information will be forwarded to that provider.

## 2. MIDDLESEX-LONDON HEALTH UNIT- EARLY YEARS TEAM UPDATE

- TRACEY ASHBY

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**Newsletter:**

- Last e-newsletter went out last week on Tuesday Oct 18
- We encourage everyone to sign up to receive the e-newsletter – it is for everybody
- If we receive several questions in our email box on a particular topic, we try to address it in the next newsletter

**Childcare Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day October 18th**

- A message from Dr Alex Summers:
- Today, as we celebrate and acknowledge Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day, I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your incredible work through the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Child Care workers and Early Childhood Educators play an essential role in caring for and enriching the lives of children in our community, supporting families to create healthy environments for healthy children. The challenges of the pandemic highlighted the essential work that you do. In the face of uncertainty and constant change, you adapted to the demands of the virus. Your dedication has been remarkable, and the Health Unit is very grateful for your diligence and commitment.
- We celebrate the difference that you have made in the health of our children, and we thank you.

***In terms of COVID-19 – STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK – is the new rule***

- This guidance is for both COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses, as symptomatic people are asked to stay home regardless of testing negative for COVID-19. This significant shift is an outcome of COVID-19 moving from being a pandemic to endemic infection. Precautions reflect actions to take for any respiratory illness.
- This means:
  - Staying home until you have no fever, and your symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours (or 48 hours if you have gastro-intestinal symptoms).
  - After isolating, wearing a mask (for 2 years of age and older) when out in public for 10 days from when your symptoms started.
  - Avoiding non-essential visits to vulnerable individuals at risk of severe infection and highest risk settings (e.g., hospitals, long-term care) for 10 days from when your symptoms started.
  - Following this advice whether you have tested positive OR negative for COVID-19. Isolation is dependent on the presence of symptoms.
  - Note:
    - Asymptomatic individuals with a positive test result do not need to stay home unless symptoms develop – If symptoms develop, you should isolate immediately.
    - Unvaccinated close contacts do not need to stay home.

#### **Flu shots**

- Should be available at least by early November

#### **Daily Screening**

- Daily confirmation of screening for children and staff/provider is not required, but individuals should continue to self-screen every day before attending childcare using the provincial childcare screening tool.

#### **Mental Health Tip of the month**

- School Mental Health Ontario has developed a series of Stress Management and Coping Virtual Field Trips for the Early Years\* (and up to secondary as well). Each “field trip” has ideas, activities, and resources for both professionals and young children. There are even suggestions for involving parents. The six “field trips” available are:
  - Breathing Strategies
  - Muscle Relaxation Strategies
  - Visualization Strategies
  - Distraction
  - Thought-Changing
  - Gratitude
- <https://smho-smsso.ca/blog/online-resources/excursions-virtuelles-pour-la-gestion-du-stress-et-ladaptation-strategies-de-respiration/>

### 3. NATIONAL EARLY YEARS FRAMEWORK PROTOTYPE UPDATE

– CÉLINE BOURBONNAIS-MACDONALD

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#### **Research:**

- research on hold; will construct prototype #2 with existing data
- will use prototype #2 (with data from EY professionals – London & Middlesex; child care providers – London; no parents, employers in both London & Middlesex); ongoing impact of pandemic, scheduling will resume after the EY Town Hall
- building connections with London/Middlesex Economic Development groups/organization for employers' perspective

#### **3rd Annual EY Town Hall:**

- Date: Nov 30/22, 7 til 8:30 p.m.
- combination of face-to-face and streamed
- students working on invitations to VIPs; will be sent today (looking at up to 150 in person)
- interactive event that will include knowledge building and sharing; with the use of technology will look at providing update on the pillars as part of the closing of Town Hall

### 4. SKILLS ADVANCE ONTARIO (SAO) PROJECT - JOB SEEKERS UPDATE – MEAGHAN MACDONELL

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#### **Job Seeker Training:**

- 24 Anglophones participants
- 3 Francophones participants
- Host sites for professional workplace experiences are needed.
- Professional workplace experiences are a minimum of three weeks and financial incentives are available for eligible employers.
- If you have identified vacancies at your child care organization or would like additional information, please contact:
- Adnan Osman: [Adnan.Osman@ccflondon.ca](mailto:Adnan.Osman@ccflondon.ca) or
- Alexandra Briosso: [Alexandra.Briosso@ccflondon.ca](mailto:Alexandra.Briosso@ccflondon.ca)

### 5. ADVOCACY SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE – KARA PIHLAK

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- We have been working with Celine's team for the EY Town Hall on Nov. 30th
- Advocacy team met on Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> with Terrance Kernaghan, Peggy Sattler and Teresa Armstrong. They are NDP members of provincial parliament for London West and Fanshawe. Some of the ECL students were able to join and express their concerns and Julie and 9 home child care providers were also there to share the home child care aspect.
- We discussed and shared about the CWELCC program as their knowledge is limited.

- What the MPPS have asked from us if we have 3 questions that we would like to ask the provincial government, they will bring up in question periods.
- If you have any questions for the province in regard to child care, please email Jennifer Son by Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - [j\\_son158553@fanshaweonline.ca](mailto:j_son158553@fanshaweonline.ca)

## 6. ALL KIDS BELONG UPDATE – LEE-ANNE CROSS

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- We still have one Resource Consultant on medical leave for a few more weeks, with only part-time replacement. Let Lee-Anne know if more support is required. It continues to be a busy year for everyone.

### **Survey**

- As part of our ongoing program evaluation model, we regularly survey the community about various aspects of our program. This year we are offering the opportunity for classroom educators to complete a survey about the outcomes of working with AKB Resource Consultants. In November we'll make the survey available electronically and in hard copy, and will circulate flyers with all of the necessary information. We know how busy your educators are, and we appreciate any time they can devote to providing us with some feedback.

### **Program Assistant Contracts**

- City of London provided one-time funding to address some new Program Assistant contract requests, and to increase some others for the months of November and December. We were not able to increase all contracts but distributed the additional funds as thoughtfully as possible. We appreciate that the City keeps these needs in mind and is working closely with AKB to get more supports to the community when possible.
- Our rate of reimbursement for Program Assistant hours went up to \$15.50 as of October 1st to reflect the new minimum wage. Programs should invoice at this rate for their October hours.

### **Self-Regulation Workshop**

- We had tremendous response to our 5-session workshop on Self-Regulation with over 70 people registering or expressing interest. It's inspiring to see people willing to make a five-week commitment to really delve into this topic. We'll monitor how this session goes and offer it again in the future.

### **Coffee Time**

- Next Coffee Time is November 10th from 1-2pm or 6:30-7:30pm

### **Plan for 2023**

- We're now starting the process of working with our Advisory Committee to develop our plan for 2023. This plan always contains targets for the amount of service delivered (number of children served, knowledge exchange events provided, Program Assistant hours provided), but also includes additional goals to ensure that AKB develops various aspects of its program to better meet the needs of the community. This includes things like

improved processes, new knowledge exchange topics or areas of focus, exploration of new ways of delivering our services to the community. We encourage you to let us know of any ideas, suggestions, or priorities for AKB in 2023 that will help us to better meet the needs of your programs and educators.

- You can contact me directly by phone or email or use our ongoing Survey Monkey link to send your ideas.
- The link is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AllKidsBelong>

## 7. STRIVE UPDATE – MEAGHAN MACDONELL

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### **Upcoming Professional Learning & Networking Opportunities:**

#### **COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE: BE WELL**

- Thursday October 27
- 6:30 – 8:00 PM
- Via Zoom
- Facilitated By: Rebecca Higgins, MSW, Mental Health Educator

Join this Community of Practice where we explore and reflect on all areas of self-care and personal wellness, from the emotional, to the psychological, to the social, physical, and professional too. Participants will be introduced to a variety of practices and tools, hear from wellness professionals, and together, cultivate a strong social support network.

This month, Mental Health Educator and author, Rebecca Higgins, will introduce us to writing as respite. Through various writing prompts, we will consider writing as a tool for reflective practice, as a safe place to put hard things, and as an opportunity for creative expression and play. Participants are encouraged to bring a pen and notebook/paper for this session. No writing experience required.

Self-care is a personal journey and one that is ever changing. We want this to be a space where we can continue to grow in health and well-being together, making our self-care an habitual priority and not an after-thought.

[Community of Practice: Be Well - Strive \(striveswo.ca\)](https://www.striveswo.ca)

#### **FLOURISHING TOGETHER: THE LESSONS OF INTERGENERATIONAL LITERACIES**

- The 11th Annual CYN Family Literacy Conference for Professionals
- Saturday November 5
- 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- Boler Mountain
- Facilitated By: Dr Rachel Heydon and Sandra Poczobut with a special opening from Knowledge Keeper and Cultural Educator, Liz Akiwenzie.

The sharing of literacy practices and cultural knowledge across generations is fundamental to the wellbeing of individuals, families, and communities. Intergenerational literacy learning takes many forms – from shared-site intergenerational programs involving young children and seniors, to informal engagement between family members – and all have something to teach about what it might mean to flourish in and through literacy.

In this session we invite you to witness illustrations of intergenerational literacies-in-action so as to explore what they can teach about the natures of literacy and wellbeing and how they can be fostered through each other.

We will share stories, images, texts, commentaries, and curricula hand-picked from decades of intergenerational program development, experience, and research, all with an eye to their potential for sparking discussion, reflection, and pedagogical action.

This session will be of interest to all literacy-involved professionals, especially those looking for ways to bring depth, joy, and meaning back to their daily practice and the diversity of children they serve.

Breakfast will be served.

[Flourishing Together: The Lessons of Intergenerational Literacies - Strive \(striveswo.ca\)](https://striveswo.ca)

### **SITE TOUR: KIDSKO**

- Monday, November 7
- 6:30 – 8:00 PM
- Kids Ko Childcare Centre

Site Tours bring early years professionals together to co-reflect on the powerful role of the environment in our work with young children and families. Site tours take place in early childhood settings across the local system and offer participants the opportunity to step outside of their own centres and organizations for a tour and meaningful dialogue with colleagues. The diverse ways in which our sector observes, reflects, collaborates, and documents our lives with children are highlighted.

On November 7, you are invited to join us at Kids Ko Childcare Centre! Since first opening their doors in January 2020, Kids Ko has been dedicated to providing a safe, engaging and joyful environment where every child has the courage to take chances, learn new things and discover that anything is possible. Care, kindness, and connection are at the core of what they do and their energetic and passionate educator team embody those values to the fullest.

[Site Tour: Kids Ko Childcare Centre - Strive \(striveswo.ca\)](https://striveswo.ca)

### **KIND LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE WITH DARCI LANG**

- Wednesday, November 9

- 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- Best Western Plus Lamplighter Inn & Conference Centre
- Facilitated By: Darci Lang, Motivational Speaker and Author of Lead the 90%: Kind Leadership

Leading through a 90% lens involves compassion, confidence and kindness in a world that demands acceptance, inclusion and understanding. Confident, caring communicators keep their teams motivated and engaged while cultivating happy and healthy workplaces.

But what does it take to be a kind leader and why are kind leaders desperately needed in our world? These two questions are the basis of Kind Leadership.

After almost three decades of working with hundreds of leaders, Darci Lang's presentation is filled with tools to help you learn how to develop a kind attitude towards yourself and others.

This session is for child care operators, supervisors and leaders and will build upon the conversations from Heartwork and so much more...

On June 13th, 2022 Darci Lang focused on the 90%, inspiring the audience to live their lives to the fullest and connect with people who matter most.

Did you miss this session? [Click Here](#) to watch the recording!

Come discover how Kind Leadership can transform how you lead.  
Breakfast will be served.

[Kind Leadership Conference with Darci Lang - Strive \(striveswo.ca\)](#)

### **RETHINKING DOCUMENTATION WITH SUSAN STACEY**

- Tuesday November 22
- 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
- Via Zoom
- Facilitated by: Susan Stacey, MA

In this virtual session, author and educator, Susan Stacey will help us reconnect with our purpose and our why through pedagogical documentation. Together we will explore and re-discover the many reasons for documenting, through examples and dialogue and consider how we might reengage with our documentation practices "post-pandemic."

#### About our facilitator:

Susan Stacey is an author and teacher educator, specializing in topics around Emergent Curriculum, Pedagogical Documentation, Reflective Practices, and Inquiry. She has spent many years collaborating with early years professionals around the world, and is nourished by the practices and thinking from Reggio Emilia. She is presently working on a 2nd edition of her book on Pedagogical Documentation, and on the Nova Scotia Early Years Framework Educators' Guide.



[Rethinking Documentation - Strive \(striveswo.ca\)](https://striveswo.ca)

## 8. SCHOOL BOARD UPDATES — AMANDA BENTON

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### **Strike**

- Over looming cloud is whether if CUPE is going to go on strike or not.
- If it causes schools to close, it will definitely create child care challenges for families.
- We don't know anything until the media releases, since its being done at a provincial level as opposed to a local level.
- We don't know if schools are going to close or not, it is possible.
- When they decide if they are going to strike, they have to give 5 days' notice.
- Our senior administration team are putting together a board plan but that hasn't been completed yet.
- If we hear anything, we will share with everyone that will be affected.

## 9. INFORMATION SHARING

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### **Regarding the memo from the municipality:**

- A big question is around the 2.75%, particularly with everyone budgeting for next year. If we can get an idea of what that 2.75% is on and what it includes.
  - Trevor: We have the meeting next week and have invited Karen Callaghan, our Early Years advisor from the province. We are hoping to have a Q&A session on CWELCC and 2023. She will be one of the folks on the panel so she will be to answer any questions as well.

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**Next meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2022, at 9:30am**