



LICENSED CHILD CARE NETWORK MEETING (VIRTUAL)

Mar. 28, 2023 @ 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

2023 Expansion of Licensed Child Care in London and Middlesex

- Thank you for attending the info session on expansion under CWELCC. If you weren't there, we will be sending out any reporting, presentation, and details on the expansion process after April 4th.
- Any questions childcare@middlesex.ca or ChildrensServicesAdmin@london.ca

Service System Plan

- We have a services system plan that guides us at the strategic level across London and Middlesex child care sector. Our current plan runs 2019 to 2023. We are actively in the process of planning and beginning implementation of updating that service plan.
- Large part will be listening to families and operators on what our priorities are going to be for the next 5 years. We are committed to working with you to make the best outcome.

Spring Operators Meeting

- We don't have a date set yet, it will likely be in May.
- Working with Middlesex to identify a potential location. We will host a hybrid style meeting so for those that can't attend, it will be virtual.
- This will be an opportunity for us to come together and share some updates. And use that as form for some really good conversations on the service system plan.

Middlesex Updates

- We are working with the city around the Early Years plan.
- Trying to wrap up on all these different workbooks that have come in. So thank you so much for all your hard work.
- We are also getting together the Middlesex County sites on April 13th in Komoka and we're happy to have Celine join us for that meeting and talk about childcare in Middlesex County. We have up to 20 attendees so we looking forward to seeing you all.

2. ONEHSN/ONELIST DISCUSSION

- Discussion about the role of OneHSN in the community, how we use it as operators, how we use it as SSM, and how families use it. As we think about our strategic priorities and the future of the sector locally, what role does OneHSN play.

History

ONE HSN started Nov 2012 with 3 main benefits:

- Parents- one place to list their information; do not have to contact each location
- Child Care Providers (CCP) - when a space is available the system helps find another child; it can also help smaller sites be more visible and effective in filling spaces
- CMSM- provides Children's Services with real time data on demand for child care in the CMSM.

Challenges with current use of OneHSN

1. For operators

- Use and management with organizational waitlist policies
- Use of OneHSN to provide data

2. For families

- Confusion about purpose and use
- Continued need to reach individual operators

3. For the Service System Manager

- Challenging to understand 'true' waitlist
- Cost and return on investment

Chatham-Kent

- All operators are mandated to use OneHSN as formal, centralized waitlist; built into agreements
- Operators need training and understanding of role
- SSM and utilizes built-in reports and finds them useful
- Some data challenges as children are not automatically removed from the registry
- Overall believe it's easy to use for operators and parents

Hamilton

- Does not use OneHSN; use of OneHSN was mandated when it was in place
- Stopped using in 2019 after concerns about unreliable data, continued need for individual operator waitlists, parent concerns about communication
- Use their own searchable GIS map for families to find care; families contact each centre separately – functionally equivalent to what they were getting from OneHSN before

Discussion

1. What challenges do you see with London-Middlesex's use of OneHSN?
2. If we were to make better use of OneHSN to address challenges, what would it look like?
 1. What would we need to have in place?
3. If we considered not using OneHSN, what alternative approaches could we take to meet operators' and families' needs?
4. Considering challenges, options, and the discussion so far, which approach initially makes the sense (including status quo)?

3. MIDDLESEX-LONDON HEALTH UNIT- EARLY YEARS TEAM UPDATE

- TRACEY ASHBY

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- I don't have any updates from MLHU which is probably a good thing. We didn't have a newsletter in April, but one will be coming out in April. Also, I really encourage people to reach out to our early years outreach team. We're still getting the odd questions coming in on a weekly basis. And that's wonderful as we triage and send to people within our organization to get your answers.

4. NATIONAL EARLY YEARS FRAMEWORK PROTOTYPE UPDATE

– CÉLINE BOURBONNAIS-MACDONALD

Focus groups: 1) Middlesex child care providers will meet on April 13/23 to review prototype #2 and provide their insights; 2) continuing to work on contacting employers through various community groups; 3) similar process with family centres to see if we can piggy back on existing parent meetings – much fatigue from pandemic and other research studies make this process more challenging.

Interns for summer: we will have the pleasure of working with three very passionate ECL students as interns and researchers over the months of May – mid August; Barb and I will introduce them to you at the April meeting. They will focus on several tasks, one being the writing of a guide/manual to help Early Years leaders facilitate policy discussion. They will support ongoing work with Kirsti Cheese (community connector work) and with LCCN co-chairs while continuing to refine the Early Years policy prototype.

ECL students' capstone project update: Jadin Albert, Amanda Beattie, Emily Foster, and Jennifer Son (interns and student researchers – May – mid August 2022) will be sharing their capstone project on April 6/23, which is based on what and how they have built their understanding of policy in the ECEC field; all the best to them as they near the end of their program and move towards graduation.

Reminder of Early Years website/blog: we continue to post weekly blogs on the following website and look forward to the next group of student interns/researchers to share their perspectives as they get immersed in the leadership within the Early Years sector in London-Middlesex.

- **Link:**

<https://www.google.ca/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwjwraqmTtP39AhXzjokEHXGZAx4QFnoECA8QAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fourecepolicyjourney.ca%2F&usg=AOvVaw0mJnGMJkiArb-gNOcwl63V>

5. ADVOCACY SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE – DIANE GORDON

- A reminder that we're going to be having that discussion at our next meeting around advocacy and the future of advocacy subcommittee within LCCN. I'm hoping everyone can attend, and we'll probably do some breakout sessions again like we did today.

6. MARKETING SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE – NICOLE BLANCHETTE

- We have filmed in three different child care centers. The last one was Huron Heights.
- We are going to gather this week to look at the raw footage to determine what we think is great and how we can use it and build upon it for our marketing campaigns.
- There is a fourth shoot and that will happen at the indigenous child care center but a date hasn't been set yet.

7. ALL KIDS BELONG UPDATE – LEE-ANNE CROSS

Resource Consultation

- High numbers of children continue to place demands on all aspects of our program. Resource Consultant caseloads are currently at 36 children and 15 programs each. We'll continue to respond as quickly as possible but there may be delays.
- Transition to school meetings will begin soon, so Resource Consultants will be working with educators and families to help gather the necessary information to facilitate a smooth transition.

Program Assistant funds

- Contracts for May through August for childcare, and May and June for school age programs, will be sent by the end of next week. Please keep in touch with your Resource Consultant with regard to school age summer programs so that we can work with you to request Program Assistant funds for those programs.

Knowledge Exchange

- Several AKB staff have begun to learn more about Universal Design for Learning. UDL is a framework that supports the development of learning experiences that are inclusive, accessible, and challenging for all learners. It uses the approach of "what is necessary for some is beneficial for all." We're excited about what we are learning, and we look forward to sharing our new information with the community.

8. STRIVE UPDATE – ALLY SCOTT, MEAGHAN MACDONELL

Community Animator Role

- I would like to introduce everyone to Haille Ifabumuyi. She may be familiar to some of you as she comes to us from Child Care Fee Subsidy with the City of London.
- She joins our team as a Community Animator who will support London and Middlesex.
- We also have Kayla who is a Community Animator that will be supporting Elgin.
- They are going to be supporting mentoring and diving into: What's worked with mentoring across our system? What hasn't worked? What's currently working within your organizations? What's not working? What is working in other areas? What's not working?
- They will develop an intentional proposal, multi-pronged approach to this gap that we're seeing around this preconceived notion of what mentoring is and has been and how we can really transform that idea.
- If she reaches out to you, she really is here to collect the voices of the community across London and Middlesex. She is here for you. She is an asset to you. And really is a kind of a neutral third party to help us dive into this expansive topic.
- haille@striveswo.ca

Leading Inspired Learning Podcast

- This came out of our professional learning committee table, they've been asking for a podcast for years, and now we've done it.
- We're trying really hard to go local with our community voices. The first episode is just our team. The second episode, we had Jenny Britt from the YMCA of Southwestern Ontario

join us and talk about outdoor play. We have already recorded the next few episodes that are coming and we really are trying to hear voices from our community.

- Third episode is launching tomorrow. Bre hosted this episode in conversation with Danielle who's currently doing her PhD in gender and gender justice in the early years. It's a really, really great listen to kind of go off of what we started talking about last week at Rainbow Families and how we can support gender creative kids, how we can really create, gender inclusive environments in our programs.
- You can access the podcast here: <https://striveswo.ca/podcast/>
- It's also available on Spotify on Apple Podcasts, and SoundCloud.

Professional Learning Update

- There will be monthly professional learning updates on the podcast as well. They're less than 10 minute episodes to share what's upcoming, and how it all connects to the work that we're doing.
- <https://striveswo.ca/our-events/>
- **Inspired Creativity: Ways to ignite curiosity and spark interest.**
 - [April 4th 6:30 to 8:30 PM in London.](#)
 - Jamie Fenton from the London Children's Museum will be facilitating this session and she'll be hosting us right at the Children's Museum.
 - We're going to explore the benefits of process versus product. She's going to share about how to thoughtfully integrate, pedagogical documentation into the work that we're doing with children around creative expression. And we're going to dig in and interrogate our individual comfort levels when it comes to making a mess.
 - [April 5th, 6:30 to 8:30 PM in Elgin.](#)
 - She's going to be at the Masonic Center of Elgin which is on Fruit Ridge Line doing the same presentation, but in Elgin County.
- **Metis 101**
 - April 5th
 - <https://striveswo.ca/events/metis-101/>
 - We have a virtual presentation with the Metis Nation of Ontario happening and is a repeat presentation that we have offered.
 - Two of the early learning and care team members from Metis Nation of Ontario will be facilitating this session.
 - Opportunity for them to introduce Metis culture and ways of life and highlight some of the special uniqueness about Meti culture and Metis people.
 - Great opportunity to further our commitments, to truth and reconciliation, and thinking about how we are creating culturally, responsive learning and care environments.
- **Community of Practice: Outdoor Play**
 - Wednesday, April 19 6:30 – 8:00PM via Zoom.
 - <https://striveswo.ca/events/community-of-practice-outdoor-play/>

- This is an opportunity for anyone who's interested in or passionate about outdoor play or pedagogy.
- Connect with one another and share their experiences, share resources, share their ideas, their concerns, their triumphs, their challenges, all those good things, as we sort of consider what it means to be with children in outdoor spaces.

- **Community of Practice: Infant Educators**
 - April 26, 6:30 – 8:00 PM via Zoom.
 - <https://striveswo.ca/events/infant-educators-april/>
 - For anyone who is interested in and who works in or supports an infant program to come out and engage in co-reflective conversation about really some of those unique challenges that come with caring for our very youngest in our play settings.
 - Come together to share their experiences, their ideas and resources. These conversations are ongoing, so they are monthly.

- **Community of Practice: Be Well**
 - April 27, 6:30 – 8:00 PM via Zoom.
 - <https://striveswo.ca/events/community-of-practice-be-well-april/>
 - Where we investigate all areas of well-being and personal wellness. The goal is to make the way we take care of ourselves, an active present conversation, something that we are prioritizing, and then also to build a really strong social support network.

- **Movie Night: Gratitude Revealed**
 - May 4, 6:30 – 8:30 PM at Childreach
 - <https://striveswo.ca/events/movie-night/>
 - Screening the documentary, Gratitude Revealed.
 - This is from Louie Schwartzberg who is an award-winning filmmaker, it essentially explores how to live a more meaningful life through gratitude.
 - We are going to watch the movie together and have some conversation afterwards.

- **Focus on the 90% with Darci Lang**
 - May 16, 6:00 – 9:00 PM at Lamplighter Inn & Conference Centre in London.
 - <https://striveswo.ca/events/focus-on-the-90-with-darci-lang/>
 - She will share her “Focus on the 90%” philosophy, which is essentially a belief that she holds that we walk around holding up an invisible magnifying glass and where we choose to focus, that is how we live our lives. But we can choose to focus on the positive things. Like the 90% of things that work out really well, or we can focus our magnifying glass on the 10% of things that don't go right. And that decision will fundamentally affect how we feel, how we engage with others and how we live meaningfully.

- We are going to be serving dinner so it'll just be a really nice evening to come together as a community, share meal together and then hear and enjoy Darcy's presentation.
- **Messy on Purpose**
 - March 29 at the Masonic Center
 - <https://striveswo.ca/events/messy-on-purpose/>
 - This is a repeat opportunity with Kristen Cancula who is a creative coach and artist.
 - Interrogate that idea of process over product experiences with young children and with ourselves.
- **Community of Practice: Be Well**
 - March 30
 - <https://striveswo.ca/events/community-of-practice-be-well-march/>
 - We are extending our conversations from our opportunity with Kristen Neff in February to chat about self-compassion and how we can think about integrating those practices into our personal and professional lives.

9. SCHOOL BOARD UPDATES – AMANDA BENTON AND HOLLY GERRITS

EDI (Early Development Insurance)

- Every board received communication from the Ministry last week regarding the implementation of EDI (Early Development Insurance) again. It has been on pause for quite some time, however the time period offered this time, is very short. We are questioning the ability to logistically implement EDI within the short period of time.
- There's such value in building community profiles based on EDI if the completion is a high percentage.
- The last time that our board completed EDI was in 2018, we had 97.5 completion rate. The data we received was true and very useful. Because there is such a short time frame, we have about 400 kindergarten classrooms, we would need at least 800 release days within four to five weeks.
- We are thinking about what planning looks like and we do know many boards are questioning the ability to complete this in a well-informed way. We will keep you in the loop. The next meeting, we will know what reaction the ministry is offering towards this.

Classroom Allocations

- We have begun projecting enrollment for September. We have 413 kindergarten classrooms currently this year. We are projecting 434 classrooms for September, so that's close to an additional 20 kindergarten classrooms across Thames Valley.
- Classroom allocations are being presented and distributed to our administrators this week which will indicate to each school, how many kindergarten classrooms they are allocated based on their registration that they have received to date. We can change and alter the classroom allocations right through until June and then again in September when we know we have those families that are registering at the last minute into September. Then we

reevaluate each classroom and each school, then determine if there needs to be any fluctuation in changes. But currently we are projecting 434.

River Heights

- We're thrilled to work together with London Bridge in the establishment of the River Heights, Child Care Center, as well working with Middlesex on the early on Child and Family Center services.
- I have no doubt in my mind that the center will be completely full soon after September whenever it gets open because there's a multitude of families waiting for it to be built.
- When we first designed it, we were excited. We had this exclusive space for an EarlyOn and Family center and the funding that we were offered did not meet the construction funding needs. So, we needed to sit down at the table and rescope a bit and we did come up with a collaborative idea. We're working together with London Bridge and with Kelly, Joe, and Cindy at Middlesex to see how we can creatively collaborate to use the spaces to the ultimate best for the community.

10. FANSHAWE COLLEGE UPDATE – JANET FOSTER

- We are on our last three weeks. So, we're in marking city zone right now, but we did have open house on the 25th last Saturday. We had a full house, the ECE booth was never empty in meeting with potential students.
- Our may intake will be starting May 1st and its full at this moment. As of yesterday, it said there was 56 on the waitlist and the majority would be international intake.
- Our part-time program is waitlisted for May and September. The part-time online program has become a very successful program as students usually take three courses per term but can take up to 3 course per term.
- 95 to 100 grads will be graduating in June, which is exciting for us as well. And graduation is going to be June 13th.

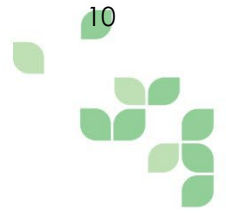
11. INFORMATION SHARING

Sao Program:

- SAO program that we used to have on our agenda every month has received a grant to extend it for another year. I'm sure we'll hear more about it in the upcoming weeks.

Advisory Committee:

- There's an advisory committee for the Ministry of Education. Diane, Barb, and Nicole are on the committee to represent our region. We cannot disclose what was discussed but you can be assured that we do voice ourselves the best we can with the platform that we have. We did talk about the funding formula for 2024.
- A Ministry Representative would be available in the future to meet with larger groups like ours. We will make sure that we put forth our interest in in that. It would be a virtual meeting



with our networks. So, we look forward to having that opportunity with everyone at the table.

Next meeting is Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 9:30am.