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# LICENSED CHILD CARE NETWORK MEETING (VIRTUAL)

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**Nov. 28, 2023 @ 9:30 a.m.**

## Land acknowledgement

### 1. MUNICIPAL & PROVINCIAL UPDATES – TREVOR FOWLER, JOE WINSER, KELLY SMITH

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#### **CCEY Staff Changes**

- Trevor Fowler will be leaving CCEY and joining the City Manager's Office as Director, Strategy and Innovation, beginning January 8, 2024 and Shirley Glover will become the new Director of Child Care and Early Years.

#### **Service System Plan**

- Currently working on the service system plan and hoping to get it out in January/February to council.

#### **Courage to Care**

- Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> - Thank you to Strive for all their work on this. Thank you to everyone for attending, it was a great day!

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

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- No current updates to share.
- We are looking at some big changes at the health unit but that will be shared with the community in December.
  - Around a 2.5-2.8 million deficit within our budget for public health.
  - So there will be massive changes at the health unit.

#### **Conversation around Immunization Records**

- Look at possibilities to streamline this process for parents, centres, the health unit.

### 3. NATIONAL EARLY YEARS FRAMEWORK PROTOTYPE UPDATE

– CÉLINE BOURBONNAIS-MACDONALD, AMY ANGER

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#### **CWELCC Infographic**

- 4 categories:
  - Access – Space availability, type of child care available
  - Affordability – reduced child care fees for families



- Quality – wages, qualified employees
- Inclusion – plans to support diverse communities.
- Review of wages across all provinces.
- Amy will provide a copy of the infographic to be distributed to the network.

#### 4. MARKETING SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE – NICOLE BLANCHETTE

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##### **Little Moments, Big Impact**

- Launches January 2024
- Produced videos in 4 child care centres:
  - La Ribambelle – La Tamise
  - London Bridge – Huron Heights
  - Kids Ko
  - Nshwaasnangong
- Total of 20 short clips for social media,
  - 16 in English, 4 in French
  - Interesting, short, fun, and hoping they can go viral
- There's 4 version of posters, 200 of them printed and to be distributed in schools/bus shelters in London/Middlesex
- Thank you to everyone on the committee, Strive, and TBK that helped us produce the videos.
- [www.BigImpactECEC.ca](http://www.BigImpactECEC.ca)

#### 5. ADVOCACY SUBCOMMITTEE - NICOLE BLANCHETTE

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- We have 2 co-chairs:
  - Nikki Nourse from London Bridge and Jennifer Miller from Parkwood.
- We have discussed what are next steps/actions and are excited about a few ideas.
- Next meeting is Dec. 7, 2023.
- Stay tuned!
- Thank you to everyone that has joined the committee.

#### 6. SCHOOL BOARD UPDATES – AMANDA BENTON, HOLLY GERRITS, ANN LAMBERT

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##### **New Child Care and Family Centre**

- 88 space child care and family centre being built at St. Anne's and YMCA will be the provider for the child care and Childreach is the lead agency for the family centre.
- Construction starting December.
- Estimated time for everything to be completed will be January 2025.
- This is the 9<sup>th</sup> family centre.

##### **New School**

- We have been approved to build a new school in the north east part of London (possibly north of Fanshawe Park Rd).



- The school will have an 88 space child care attached to it. The RFP will be going out today at noon through Bids & Tenders.
- Questions deadline to the board will be Dec. 12.
- Closing date for applications will be Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Hoping to award the provider by Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>.
- The province has provided new floor plans for schools with child care centres attached to it. The child care doors from classrooms actually enter into the school hallways so it really builds that partnership and makes the child care feel a part of the school.

### **Expression of Interests**

- We have an old child care location at John Paul II high school at Highbury and Oxford.
- It's a very small centre – 3 rooms (2 preschool, 1 toddler), we did have an EarlyON program that was utilizing the space.
- We would like to see if there's interest from operators offering child care in the high school.
- The play area is a great space and great opportunity to collaborate with the high school.
- Right now just an expression of interest, then from there we will make it a formal RFP process.
- Click [link](#) for more information.

### **Catholic School Board**

- The school board spans Windsor, Woodstock, Chatham, Lambton, Owen Sound.
- We are waiting for a lot of construction expansion that will affect the child care.
  - Some of these were approved in 2016/2017 and we are still waiting.
  - We are asking for more funding as the cost of construction is no longer the same as 5-6 years ago. We are patiently waiting for child care in Windsor and Owen Sound.
  - In Woodstock, a child care centre has started a new French program. Demand is high and parents just want more programming.

## **7. FANSHAWE COLLEGE UPDATE – BARB JACKSON**

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- We are finishing up the semester. There are 3 sections graduating at the end of December.
  - They are keen to register with the College of ECEs and we are doing that in class together, pending their transcripts.
  - I know a lot of them are working in licensed child care locally.
  - Feedback from students - A lot of them are staying but temporarily (few months to a year) as they will go where they can get their permanent residency more quickly. Domestic students that are working in the profession will continue to stay.
- Back in session in January
  - Orientation Jan. 2, classes start Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - There be more 3 more groups that will be finished in April.
- Advocacy – 2 groups of students that are sending letters to elected officials around the immigration pathways in Ontario. 1 group already sent their letters to Minister David Piccini, he is the minister of Labour, Immigration, Training, and Skills Development.



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

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### Resource Consultation

- Caseloads continue to be busy with an average of 35 children and 16 centres per Resource Consultant. We typically aim for an average of 25 children.
- Our goals for 2024 will include looking for new and better ways to cope with increased caseloads. We'll also look for efficiency in the development of Family Service Plans and documentation. We'll work with our Advisory Committee and with all of you to see if we can come up with some more efficient and effective ways to accomplish some of these tasks.

### Program Assistant funds

- We are meeting to review Program Assistant contract requests next week and anticipate sending contracts by December 8th. Please keep in mind that we received a significant amount of one-time funding in 2023 that was used to support Program Assistant hours. We don't have budget details for 2024 yet, so we don't know if we can maintain the current level of support.
- The contract review is completed by a committee that consists of myself and 7 AKB staff members; every application is carefully reviewed, and we make every effort to distribute hours as equitably as possible.

### Knowledge Exchange

- Our Mindfulness Project funded by the Community Services Recovery Fund is almost ready to roll out. The flyer has begun to be circulated and we're gathering information on what delivery methods and times will work best for programs. A corrected French version of the flyer will be circulated. The curriculum itself is being translated by Across Languages. We can be flexible in working around other opportunities your centres may be participating in. We'll be in touch with plans to roll out training.

Thank you for a great year; we look forward to working with you in 2024!

## 9. STRIVE UPDATE – ALLY SCOTT, AMY PETRARCA

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### Courage to Care

- Huge thank you to everyone that made Courage to Care on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> happen.
- We are very proud of accomplishing on putting a conference for 2000 people.
- We will be sending out feedback forms to participants later this week.
- We are working hard on the reconciliation process for attendees.
  - This is not a perfect process so please double check with your teams.
  - People could have attended but didn't check in.
  - Those lists will be sent to you later today.
- So proud of our team and community! Thank you to our funders!
  - Hope, Tina, and Mike did an incredible job!

### Strive Updates



- This is Ally's last meeting until 2025 (on maternity leave).
- Thank you to everyone for the incredible year and excited to see where we are a year and few months from now.

### **Professional Learning**

- There are only a few left, not many spots available.
- We did see an uptake in registration after the Courage to Care conference.
- Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>:
  - Community of Practice: Infant Educators
  - Extreme Makeover Classroom Edition
- Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>: Community of Practice: Be Well
- Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>: Empower your Mind

## 10. INFORMATION SHARING

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### **Immigration/Permanent Residency**

- We got commitment for funding for a training/education day. Many of us not knowledgeable on this and need the support.
- Advocacy subcommittee will be meeting on Dec 7<sup>th</sup> and coming together to come up with a workplan on this. More to follow!

***Happy Holidays!***

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**Next meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, at 9:30am.**