



LICENSED CHILD CARE NETWORK MEETING (VIRTUAL)

Sept. 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. LHSC CHILD CARE OPPORTUNITY - HEATHER LOKKO

- Over 4000 nurses at LHSC, 30% are under the age of 30.
 - COVID had a lot to do with this as a lot of the experienced nurses retired.
- Many of the nurses are likely to be having children in the next decade or more.
- We want to support them during this time and contribute to their work-life balance with having something on site that can support them for child care.
- A lot of the work at the hospital are 12 hour shifts, extended hours so we are looking for an operator that can help with this as its not your traditional business hours.
- Looking at potential locations – we can repurpose buildings on campus or a new build across the street (40 acres of land – corner of commissioners and wellington).
- If we build large enough, we can assist other organizations such as Fire and Police, that have the long non-traditional work hours.
- We are looking for a partner that is experienced in this field to assist in the design and operation.
- There's a huge need for this in our community and we are very keen at LHSC to move this forward.

Q&A:

- If possible, we are looking for 24 hour service as the hospital is open 24 hrs. But at least extended hours for sure.

- With the extended hours, we are thinking of building a large enough facility that can accommodate overnight stays and beds.
- The land across the street is a nice area, lots of trees/nature. Looking to build a playground and making a very nice experience for the children.
- With the hospital across the street, we can have support with auxiliary services like the kitchen, we produce 900 meals a day so we can provide services there.
- We can also provide cleaning services. We have a contract with Sodexo which is our partner with the cleaning so we can extend to the child care.
- We have Clintar which is our grounds and maintenance services. We have a sophisticated facilities management services from the hospital that can be shared.
- Looking to start now, as the need is now. We previously had this service around a decade ago and it was for 100 spaces. But with our staff population being quite young now, I'd imagine the numbers have only increased.
 - Our next step would be to do a survey to see what the numbers would look like.
 - When we were hiring staff, the first question we are asked is do we have child care?
 - We know that some staff are not working their full capacity (part-time) because of not having child care.
- We are open to a single site or having multiple sites. We have a campus at university and Victoria so if there's 2 locations, even better. But our largest site is at Victoria campus.
- Our first step is to put out a RFQ (request for qualifications) to find out who out there is interested in partnering with us.
- Other hospitals that have child care partners are Parkwood, Montreal and Ottawa.
- If child care operators are interested please connect with Heather Lokko
Heather.lokko@lhsc.on.ca

2. MUNICIPAL & PROVINCIAL UPDATES – ADRIENNE SMITH, JOE WINSER, KELLY SMITH

2024 Funding:

- We are still waiting for information from the province about 2024 funding formula or the workforce information. We do keep advocating for this information, as soon as we get it, we will ensure you are informed as well.

OneHSN:

- We had a fantastic discussion about OneHSN and the waitlist. Generally the feedback from families was the language, it is extremely complicated to explain to a parent how this works in conjunction with operators internal waitlist/priorities.
- Operators are overwhelmed with calls and emails. We want to try and reduce some of that burden on you and make it clearer on how this tool is used for parents.
- We also wanted to use OneHSN for service system planning to have a better understanding of the numbers demanding licensed child care.
 - We have been collecting this data manually through our monthly reporting. With OneHSN we can work towards getting better data that might relieve some burden on reporting.

- We have an inconsistency use of OneHSN across our system as we never had a requirement to use it or use it in a specific way. So we will be looking to provide more information about a standardized use of OneHSN. We will provide training and supports to make the transition to ensure we are using it consistently.

CWELCC - Directed Growth:

- We have added information on CWELCC expansion for additional spaces in our community.
- Part of CWELCC is directed growth in our community. We will be putting out additional information and hoping to do a launch in the fall for those interested in expanding their licensed spaces under CWELCC.
- We have a defined amount of funding in CWELCC and so not every new space is going to be a CWELCC space.
- If you are interested in or have questions about growth, so if you have plans or are thinking about serving more children, please connect with us.

Fee Subsidy Family Portal:

- This is to enhance our security and safe communication with families. We receive a lot documentation from families online now and we need to update our ability to accept documents in a safe and secure way.
- We will be launching communication and tools for families on how they can do that online.

Audits:

- For CWELCC participation, we have a requirement to audit. We have had the option to audit through our master funding agreement, but we have never done that consistently.
- Now that we have a requirement, we will be sending out communication about auditing 2022. We will be doing a small sample.
- It is a random sample but there might be factors such as what the outcome was from the previous year if we audited you previously.

MIDDLESEX UPDATES:

- Service system plan survey for the county has now closed. We wanted to thank you for participating as we have over 600 responses.
- River Heights has officially opened as Sept. 18th. The site is already full which is fantastic to hear and we welcome London Bridge to the Middlesex community.

Service System Plan:

- We had gone through a large planning process in the summer. We are currently analyzing all that data from the surveys. Our goal is to bring all the data from the county and city together and present it back to operators on November 9th.
- City of London operators survey is opened until Oct. 2nd.
- We will be launching our educator (front-line staff) survey in October. Please promote that within your organization.

- I hope everyone attends the Nov. 9th operators meeting. We will have draft strategies to get your feedback on.
- If you prefer to speak to someone instead of completing the survey, please reach out to Chris Blain cblain@london.ca.

3. FANSHAWE COLLEGE UPDATE - BARB JACKSON

- There was an international cohort that continued over the summer, but majority of students are back for the fall.
- ECE diploma, full-time, in person program – 455 students enrolled
 - Online program – 95 students
 - Fast track, in-person – 16 students
 - Fast track, online - 85 students
- Child Development Practitioner apprenticeship program – 28 new starts with another 60 in various completion.

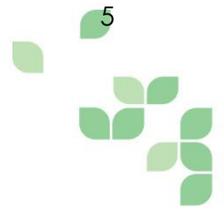
Q&A:

- Year waitlist rumor not the case for the apprenticeship program. Please encourage staff if they are thinking about doing the program.
- Ministry of Trades limits the number of seats that Fanshawe can have but depending on the classes, there is flexibility in when the class can be taken.
- Affordable – pretty much free education after stipends paid out.
- Operators receive funding when apprentices complete each level that can be put towards professional learning.
- There is a portal now that simplifies the process.

4. NATIONAL EARLY YEARS FRAMEWORK PROTOTYPE UPDATE

– CÉLINE BOURBONNAIS-MACDONALD

- Policy framework - We are in the last part of the official research. Project will end in December.
- We had one student looking at community engagement through community connectors and doing some of the research that was informing the community connectors on practice but also the system planning.
- Another student working LCCN that is completing an infographic that will be able to support you in what's happening across the country. Key pillars will be included.
- The last student was focusing more on the research end. Looking at the London Economic Recovery data to see what was happening from the perspective of employers. Accessing the perspective of employers has been difficult so this was one way to access some information that the City of London and County of Middlesex had gathered.
- We are working with the students to finalize part 3 in how will the information be used.



- Final stage is compiling what does this say, what is the framework/guideline to move forward, whether its in the coming year or through the service plan through the municipalities.
- We also have a responsibility from an academic perspective. One of the roots to disseminate to share what we are learning through this process is the whole idea of open education resources.
 - Centre for Academic Excellence at Fanshawe is helping us write, edit, and publish an open education resource. Looking to have completed by December.
 - This will be available to anyone.
 - Not like your typical textbook, it's going to be very interactive with links to various documents and tools.
- We are meeting with Strive and looking at the mentoring process and wondering how the pillars can become part of a foundational piece for that process and a possibility of a podcast of how policy is part of the work.

5. MARKETING SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE – JULIE KEENS, ALLY SCOTT

- Thank you to Ally Scott and her team at Strive for her leadership with this campaign and project!
- We finalized the videos last month that will be utilized in this campaign, and we are excited about the materials that is coming.
- We have finalized the translation and that will be sent for editing.
- The transit shelters posters are printed, QR codes will be included that will link to our website.
- Website is live: www.BigImpactECEC.ca
- We are working on redirecting our Unsung Heroes campaign to the website.
- For when the transit shelter posters will be up is pending the social media campaign when the videos go live. So we are waiting for the timing from TBK.
- We did print a lot of posters. Hoping to get the posters to every centre but also strategically placed throughout the county and city to get widespread exposure.
- Thank you to Nshwaasnangong, specifically to Liam Sands - we were struggling to find royalty free music that was representative of the indigenous community and Nshwaasnangong. Thus, Liam came and recorded his drumming and vocals for that portion of the campaign making it extra special.
- This fall the campaign will be live but please check out the website.

6. ADVOCACY DISCUSSION FOLLOW-UP – BRE PICCOLOTTO, DIANE GORDON

- Subcommittee interest form: <https://forms.gle/GnWQYwNyEJKuZEjo6>
- If you are interested in joining, the form is still open. This isn't a formal commitment but just to gauge who we would be able to tap to form this subcommittee back.
- Refer to the LCCN Advocacy Discussion June 2023 Summary Infographic that was sent with the agenda.

- We do have some people that have come forward and we are thinking about pulling everyone together in October. No dates set yet. We will invite Amanda and Jessica from EYA to hear what they are doing and what our role would be.
- We need to come up with solid terms of reference of what this group is about. What do we want this group to do moving forward?
- If interested in joining, please access the link and complete the form.

7. ALL KIDS BELONG UPDATE – LEE-ANNE CROSS

Resource Consultation

- Lots of children headed off to school this September, and we'll keep them on our caseloads until the end of September to support a smooth transition.
- Resource Consultants are enjoying getting to know new children who have arrived in centres. September is a busy time for all of us as we work together to get supports in place and develop Family Service Plans. We encourage you to keep in touch through this busy time.
- The AKB team has now received a full day's worth of training in Universal Design for Learning, facilitated by Paul Cook from the Learning Disabilities Association of London. Even though AKB's entire focus is on inclusion, we still had many "aha" moments about making environments and opportunities accessible proactively rather than reactively. The AKB team will now take some time to reflect on what we've learned and figure out how we can share this information with the community.

Program Assistant funds

- We are grateful to have received one-time funds that have enabled us to continue to provide Program Assistant supports at their current level. We have greatly exceeded our original budget thanks to this support; the support is definitely needed in the community. We don't yet have information on what next year's budget will look like.
- We will increase our reimbursement to the new minimum wage when it comes into effect in October. Again, we gratefully acknowledge the one-time funds that will enable us to make this change without having to decrease hours of support this year.

Knowledge Exchange

- We have made great progress on our Mindfulness Project funded by a grant from the Community Services Recovery Fund facilitated by the United Way. Details on registration and workshop times will follow soon, but I can tell you that the program is called Just Breathe: Cultivating Calm Classrooms through Mindfulness. The program involves three sessions for educators, activities that can be implemented in classrooms, and a kit of resources. We will work with programs to find the best times and delivery methods for the sessions.
- We have several new courses available online, including ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences Scale), Resilience, and an Introduction to Circle of Security. With support from staff at the City of London, and our one bilingual Resource Consultant, we were able to translate several courses into French. New flyers will be available soon.

8. STRIVE UPDATE – ALLY SCOTT, KAYLA BARTLETT

Skills Development:

- Cohort over the summer for the job seekers:
 - 6 francophone and 15 English potential educators completed the program.
- About to launch the second cohort beginning in October:
 - Number of job seekers – 21 English and 12 francophone enrolled
- Incumbent piece (leadership sessions that Diane and Barb co-create)
 - Registration closes in a couple of weeks and there is still space left
 - We would like a minimum of 12, there are currently 8 enrolled.
 - Please reach out to Diane if you have any questions.

Strive Update:

- Ally Scott - A new baby addition in January. There will be some staffing changes, but Stive will keep you updated on that.
- We are undergoing strategic planning. Thank you for completing the survey.
- We brought together many professionals, educators, leaders across our community to have a summit last week which was very informative. Thank you for attending and sharing your voices.
- We will keep you updated on the process as we hope to have everything wrapped and launched before I go on maternity leave.
- Our community animators have been busy, survey out focusing on the mentoring pillar. Moving on to focus groups next.
- We will continue to keep you updated on our website and podcast:
<https://www.striveswo.ca/>

Courage to Care:

- <https://www.striveswo.ca/the-courage-to-care>
- Largest conference, Nov 17th.
- This is a first time we will be coming together as a system.
- We have the 3 venues, we are supporting London, Middlesex and Elgin:
 - RBC Place London
 - Hellenic Community Centre
 - FireRock Golf Club
- Overall, we are at 40% registered. There isn't a risk of selling out but please get registered.
- The Hellenic Centre and FireRock have potentially "sold out" as we have minimal spaces at those locations as we are reserving majority of spaces for Elgin professionals at Hellenic Centre and Middlesex professionals at FireRock. For London professionals, we are at RBC Place.
- London - 443 professionals registered.
- Middlesex – 111 professionals registered.
- Registration opens until end of October.

- Please have each professional register themselves with their own email if you have a team attending. This ensures each individual can receive their ticket and parking passes.

Podcast:

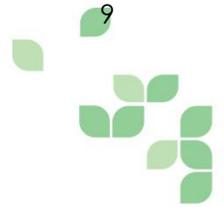
- We had over 3000 listens across 16 episodes and 9 mini-episodes.
- We have a very full fall lineup of incredible professionals, leaders, and educators coming on to share their perspective.
- If you would like to be on the podcast, we would love to have you.
- <https://www.striveswo.ca/podcast>

Professional Learning:

- We are wrapping up September with a series Communities of Practice (Cooks and Dietary Planners – they are going to do a hands-on cooking experience at Growing Chefs to experiment with vegan/vegetarian meals for children).
- Oct. 3rd - Feeling Seen in Today's World: talking about how disconnect and distance can be contributing to burnout.
- Oct. 5th – One hour information session online to get to know more about the resource centre.
- Connections with Clay – hands-on clay experience:
 - Oct. 11 - Elgin
 - Oct. 12 - London
 - Nov. 1 – Middlesex
- ECE Appreciation Day on Oct. 17th
 - There will be food and music, in person at Childreach.
- Literacy conference – connecting with nature, song, movement in terms of literacy.
 - Power of Literacy in Children
 - Outdoor Play Book Club
- Extreme Makeover - Classroom Edition
 - Oct. 25, Nov. 15, Nov. 29th
- More than Words: Defining what makes you a leader.
 - Nov. 21 & 22, 9am-5pm at Childreach
 - Can be emerging leaders or anyone in any capacity with a leadership responsibility.
- <https://www.striveswo.ca/events>

9. INFORMATION SHARING

- LCC - Community Home Child Care
 - We celebrated our 45th anniversary this year.
 - We had hosted an event at Childreach where it was free and it was great fun.



- Whitehills just celebrated our 50th anniversary this summer and we opened up our family center for children, families, and staff for celebrations for an amazing evening.

Congratulations to LCC Community Home Child Care and Whitehills!

Next meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2023, at 9:30am.