



LICENSED CHILD CARE NETWORK MEETING (VIRTUAL)

June 27, 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; Oakley Frechette; Haille Ifabumuyi; Jennifer Smith; Elise Sauder

Land acknowledgement

1. ADVOCACY CONVERSATION – STRIVE, EYA (EARLY YEARS ADVOCATE) LONDON

- We had an advocacy sub-committee that was led by Kara Philak who supported a variety of advocacy efforts and initiatives including the LCCN town hall.
- As Kara has left, work has been on hold as we have not had anyone taking over her role.
- Conversation sessions and discussion (30 min break out room) to discuss the needs for advocacy and what it should look like in the future.

EYA LONDON

- Amanda Seabrook and Jessica Phillips, co-chairs of EYA London.
 - EYA London is specific to London/Middlesex/Elgin
 - Anyone is welcome to our meetings, and we hope to advocate for their regional needs/wants.
 - Allied collective and extension of AECEO's provincial body and we advocate for decent work and professional pay across the province and specifically to our geographic communities.
 - We are self-determined even though affiliated with AECEO.
 - They do give us some resources, funding supports etc.
 - In Ontario, we are one of the many COPs through the AECEO:
 - All Nations Circle of Practice
 - Student Early Childhood Educators of Ontario
 - Community of Black ECEs

- Rise Up Toronto
- Early Years Coalition of Waterloo Region
- Sudbury COP
- Newcomer Services Community of Practice
- Peterborough Kawarthas Early Childhood Education and Care Practice
- Thunder Bay and Ottawa
- And many more
- We meet monthly with the leaders of the other COPs
 - Share what needs we have heard from each other's communities.
 - With London, Middlesex, and Elgin – we all have different needs and common goals and recognizing that we come together provincially and see how we might be able to support one another and share tactics/experiences.
- Our goal is to provide a space for ECEs and child care workers to share what they need and want as far as advocacy.
- Both of us are not on the floor with children, so we often have the flexibility to communicate and collaborate with AECEO and make things like the province-wide day of action happen.
- Purpose is to hear from and amplify the voices of those on the floor with children.
- Teresa Armstrong reached out to AECEO to find out if something was happening for the province-wide day of action and she spent a long time with us in Wortley.
 - We were able to address some of the questions she had
 - And point out some of the unique and strengths about London as she had thought it was like Toronto.
 - So this collaboration with the provincial can connect us with politicians and make our regional voice heard
- We support all child care and early years operators both for-profit and non-profit, we support the sector as a whole.
- To attend a meeting, connect, or find out about any events:
 - **@EYALondon on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter**
 - All child care workers are welcome (cooks, dietary workers etc.) are welcome.
 - You do not have to be a member of AECEO to attend EYA London.

Break Out Room Discussions

Provide a few words that come to mind when you think of advocacy.



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

Parent-Caregiver Survey

- Part of our development of the service system plan.
- Open until September 1, 2023 @ 4pm.
- Please share link with your families:
 - [Getinvolved.london.ca/CCEY](https://getinvolved.london.ca/CCEY)



- Available in multiple languages: English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese.
- Paper surveys available in those languages, as well as info cards.
 - so, if you need them, please reach out.
- We do have community connectors meeting with families.
 - If you have or know of an event where they could come and join, please let us know.
 - Equity denied groups: francophone, indigenous, black and racialized, low-income, low proximity to child care.

Operator Survey & Educator Survey

- We do have an operator survey that will be coming shortly in the next couple of weeks.
- Targeting supervisors, managers, directors etc.
- Also a shorter educator survey will be coming out later as well.
- Thank you in advance for putting in that time to complete the survey!

Save the date Nov. 17, 2023.

- System-wide professional learning day.
- Theme: Courage to Care
- Well under way in planning. You will receive additional communication about the event.
- Another fantastic opportunity to learn together and highlight all the good work that educators and child care workers do in the system.

CWELCC Audits

- This is a new thing for our community.
- We always had that opportunity within our contracts but never have taken that up. But we do have the requirement do that this year.
- We will be sending out more information regarding this process.
- It is a sample of operators so it doesn't necessarily mean that you will be audited this year, but there is a possibility for some operators.

Middlesex County

- Access & Inclusion letters have gone out for approvals and deferrals.
- Surveys:
 - The County does have their own Parent-Caregiver Survey.
 - Please reach out to Kelly ksmith@middlesex.ca or Oakley ofrechette@middlesex.ca for the survey link.
 - The first question of "where do you live" this will determine which survey families will complete, it will redirect them to the city or county survey.
 - Middlesex also will have an operator survey for the County that will be coming out later.
 - Educator Survey – ECEs, support staff, for anyone who is not an operator or director.
 - We already have over 400 responses from families, so we appreciate everyone's efforts in getting this survey out there.

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

- TRACEY ASHBY

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- Look out for the e-newsletter, please subscribe for a great way to receive information from the Middlesex-London health unit.

4. NATIONAL EARLY YEARS FRAMEWORK PROTOTYPE UPDATE

– CÉLINE BOURBONNAIS-MACDONALD

Barb Jackson

- Celine is enjoying her travels overseas for the next several weeks. We are fortunate to have the support of the Interns as we work through the research data and coding. We continue to collaborate with our community partners including LCCN and Childreach. We have had the opportunity to be involved in the Recruitment and Retention campaign with the LCCN Marketing subcommittee as well.
- We continue to organize parent focus groups in both London and Middlesex. We had the opportunity to network with Theresa Armstrong at the Day of Action in Wortley Village and had some discussion around a parent event Theresa is hoping to host in the summer to learn more about the challenges families are facing regarding child care. There may be a possibility to partner to learn more about the parent perspective.
- We are beginning to think about how to extend our work into the fall with the Interns' Solutions course. This update will be provided as we have more information. We will update you as a potential parent event evolves. Kathleen and Camilla will provide more specific updates around the work they are doing. Thank you for all of your hard work, Kathleen, Camilla, and Amy.

Camilla Crews

- Adding additions to the blog and creating the Fanshawe ECE Policy Journey to help highlight the work and perspectives we bring to the existing blog. Limitations of the research have accrued from the perspectives of London employers. To address this limitation, I have completed the coding of the London Economic Recovery YouTube Video (2021). I have created a transcript for the Middlesex Childcare Provider focus group and am currently coding these conversations. Our next steps are to organize parent focus groups in London and Middlesex. I will continue my work with the research team to build and complete prototype 3 by the end of my internship.

Kathleen Lee

- Working alongside and supporting the Childreach organization with engaging with family stories within the community, through the stories they share and the experiences they are going through. A great learning opportunity for me is thoroughly reading the family stories and coding them to fit into specific categories. The next step for Childreach and my role as an intern is to code the 2022 stories, pull key points, quotes, and meaningful connections to create a referral tracking visual or presentation that is connected to all family centres in London on what services the centres provide and how they can help those within the community. Another step is looking at making an article to connect with parents and families to give them the opportunity to share their stories and experiences, as well planning to integrate a podcast which gives the same information as the article, but families can hear it and connect to the emotions behind what is being said. I am also working on a blog piece with the Early Years Policy Framework team that connects to the prototype of each pillar.

5. MARKETING SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE – NICOLE BLANCHETTE

- Meeting on Thursday with TBK.
- They will be showing us the clips they worked on for the social media campaign.
- Worked on the copyright for the landing page for the campaign.
- Has been translated in French.
- Nothing to show yet, will know more on Thursday.

6. ALL KIDS BELONG UPDATE – LEE-ANNE CROSS

- Resource consultant caseloads continue to be very busy.
 - Average of 38 children each and 16 centers which is very high.
- A reminder that a lot of the resource consultants use their vacation time during the summer. If you are having difficult contacting anyone, please reach out to the AKB office or contact Lee-Anne Cross directly. We coordinate so not everyone is off at the same time.
- Through one-time funding from the City, we have an additional enhancement facilitator on board. Her time filled quickly as there is so much need in the community. But she is an additional resource.
- We are actively developing a plan utilizing the mindfulness grant that we received. We are focusing on a plan for calm classrooms through mindfulness. Hoping to roll out training and resource kits in the fall. Will be in touch in the summer to let you know how centres can participate.
- Two of our staff just completed their online training in universal design for learning in the preschool years. Made us think about how we support classrooms and what information we can be sharing. Rest of team will get training in the fall and will bring that information to the community.
- *Q: Do you see a correlation between the pandemic and the needs of the children?*
 - Hard to say, but across the province we are seeing increased in children that are having difficulty in self-regulation, as well as in staff that had their lives disrupted for a couple of years. No data that confirms it though.
 - We see an increase in children expressing themselves through challenging behaviour because they are having difficulties with self-regulation. That's why we applied for the mindfulness grant as it links so closely with the other work around self-regulation.

7. STRIVE UPDATE – ALLY SCOTT, HAILLE IFABUMUYI, KAYLA BARTLETT

Save the Date – Nov 17, 2023 – Professional Learning Day

- Email communication coming out soon.
- Event will be in- person, expecting around 2000 educators.
 - Will be split over 3 venues due to our size.
 - Wrapping up planning and will get all the information to you in regards to location, facilitators, and what the day will look like.
- Theme is Courage to Care. Will focus on 3 different areas:

- Care for the children.
- Care for the land.
- Care for ourselves.
- Huge thank you to our professional learning committees!

Podcast: <https://striveswo.ca/podcast/>

- We released an episode last week.
- Liz Gannon, our resource intern hosted an episode for the first time.
 - She hosted Liam Sands who is an educator at Nshwaasnangong Child Care Centre and they talk about the impact he has as an indigenous male educator and the role that plays.
- We have had over a 1000 listens over the 9 episodes we had so far.
- If you want to be on the podcast and have something you want to talk about, please reach out.

Mentorship Survey

- Went out live last week and is going well so far. 82 responses so far.
- We currently only have English but the French will be up soon.
- Please share with your teams. It's for students, leaders, operators, educators etc.
- Will be live until July 7, 2023 and it will take 15 mins to complete.

Professional Learning Events

- **July 11th – READING THE RAINBOW WITH MELA SWAYZE**
 - <https://striveswo.ca/events/reading-the-rainbow-with-mela-swayze/>
- **July 20th – STRIVE BOOK CLUB: DISFIGURED BY AMANDA LEDUC**
 - <https://striveswo.ca/events/strive-book-club-disfigured-by-amanda-leduc/>
- **July 27th – Community of Practice: Be Well**
 - Picnic in the park, games, conversations.
 - <https://striveswo.ca/our-events/>

8. INFORMATION SHARING

- Diane Gordan and Nicole Blanchette are part of the advisory committee for the Ministry of Education and will be meeting with the Ministry regarding the CWELCC formula.
 - They have updated the formula, but we can't share it with everyone yet and they are asking to share our comments.
 - They have received over 550 feedback responses.
 - They have made changes and we have questions to ask and will advocate for what we think is fair and what needs to be done.
 - We expect the formula to be finalized by August.

Next meeting is Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 9:30am.