



Chilliwack Child and Youth Committee Early Years Sub-Committee



When: Thursday June 7, 2012 at 1:00 to 3:00

Where: Central Elementary 9435 Young Rd, Rm # 119

Recorder: Annette Williams

Co-Chairs: Kiran Sidhu and Cynthia Parasiliti

ATTENDANCE:

Barb Presseau	CCS – Childcare Resource and Referral	presseau@comserv.bc.ca
Cindy Parasiliti	Child and Youth Coordinator	chwkchildand youthcoord@gmail.com
Darby Wilkinson	CCS	wilkinsond@comserv.bc.ca
Karin Rempel	Sardis Doorway	rempefamily@shaw.ca
Kiran Sidhu	FV Child Development Centre	ksidhu@fvcdc.org
Sara Van Basten	MCFD Guardianship Worker	Sara.vanbasten@gov.bc.ca
Sheri Josephson	Chilliwack YMCA	sheri.josephson@vanymca.org
Trish Ackland	Child and Youth Mental Health	trish.ackland@gov.bc.ca
Windy Solla	Stó:lō Nation Health Services	windy.solla@stolonation.bc.ca

REGRETS:

Dan Bibby	MCFD	daniel.bibby@gov.bc.ca
Debbie Denault	Chilliwack Learning Community Society	debbied@chilliwacklearning.com
Margaret Castle	Chilliwack Society for Community Living	margaret.castle@cscl.org
Nadine Clattenburg	SD33	nadine_clattenburg@sd33.bc.ca

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Agenda - Approved

3. Approval of Previous Minutes May 3, 2012 - Approved

4. Agency Updates

Barb (CCS ChildCare Resource & Referral)

- Lately CCR has been doing a lot of PR. In May they attended Jump Start Day at Canadian Tire. YMCA and Big Brother/Big Sisters were also there. It was good exposure. Were invited to Fraser Valley Birth Fest, but they couldn't go because of JumpStart. They also attended the Healthy Kids Day June 3. In July they will participate in Aboriginal Supported Child Development & Aboriginal Infant Development's annual Story Time in the Park. Recently various CCR's were given pens and bookmarks. Chilliwack used theirs by giving a pen and bookmark to every Kindergarten child.
- Webinar series from [Early Years Community Development Institute](#)

Darby – (CCS)

- CCS is undertaking two large projects over the next few years. One of them is a new performance management process, which has been researched over the past year. It's called Efforts to Outcomes. Phasing in the new system throughout CCS is scheduled to be complete by March 2014.
- They are now fully CARF accredited for MCFD funded programs. The entire agency will be CARF accredited going forward. There are 24 Early Years programs, so it will be a busy transition for them.
- StrongStarts end June 22nd with the annual Cultus Lake Family Gathering.
- Kekinow Family Place is now reopen, a couple times per week.
- Carol Dorn is still on a leave of absence from Downtown Family Place. This location is still operating, but it isn't taking on additional programs.
- Families in Motion and Family Literacy at Central Gateway are over for this 'year'. Some students are moving onto the UFV campus next year.

Nadine

- Chilliwack School District partnered with the YMCA Healthy Kids Day instead of doing the Ready Set Learn fair, and loved it. The cost was significantly lower for the Healthy Kids Day than the Ready Set Learn fair would have been.
- Programs are still operating at Central Gateway, but there is a structural change. They have had four part-time coordinators, but will now have one full-time coordinator. The money for this position will be run through the Society. Gateway will be adding more programs for community families and children, including Sto:lo programs that are currently being offered on the South Side. If Gateway can't offer a particular program that is on the South Side, Sto:lo will instead arrange for transportation from Central to where the program is offered. On June 18th from 4-6pm Sto:lo will come to Central Elementary School/Gateway for building blessing and blanketing ceremonies.
- There was a meeting with Ann Davis, as they are considering partnering with Gateway. They might offer women's group(s) with a capacity of 12 women per group. Sample topics would be pattern changing and empowerment.

Trish (Child & Youth Mental Health - CYMH)

- CYMH
Had 25 participants for the Bruce Perry webinar on May 21st and there was a wait list. There might be more sessions in the fall.
- Young Parents Service TG
Think they have a curriculum to put in Chilliwack schools for grades K-12. They will see if they can facilitate from "The Fourth R" to present to the Chilliwack School Board for their approval. There are 21 lessons throughout the year, with a manual.
For the Red Book, they've designed a business card with the QR code which will lead to the online Red Book.

ACTION: Everyone send Trish links for youth, for inclusion in the project.

Karin (Sardis Doorway)

- There is one session of Sardis Doorway left. Yesterday they had their annual outing for the children, while the moms were at Doorway being pampered. A few local businesses closed their businesses for the day to provide the services to the moms.
- Right From the Start – did not receive funding for childcare. They're looking for free space to host it in the fall. FVCDC had hosted it previously, but won't this year because attendance at

that location hasn't been high enough. The bus route drop-off spots aren't easy for the moms to manage.

ACTION: Nadine will talk with Karin about using Gateway space. Sheri Josephson might be able to share the YMCA space at Gateway.

- Sardis Doorway has other proposals out for consideration.
- <http://www.sardisdoorway.com/> website has been developed.

Sara (MCFD)

- Adoption team is involved in Adoption Celebration Day on June 16th at lunchtime; for kids that have been adopted out of their care. 35 adults and 25 children are expected to be in attendance.

Sheri (YMCA)

- Chilliwack's Healthy Kids Day moved this year from Saturday to Sunday to align with the National Day. Traffic was slower to arrive this year (after 10:30am). An estimated 600 people attended, which was lower than on better weather days. Given the weather the attendance was good. Presenters said there were a fair number of vulnerable and hard to reach families. 300 free books were given out, between the School District and other groups. There were 31 organizations and 6 funding sources. Overall the event was successful, particularly the partnerships. They would like to see the partnership continue again next year. City Life Assembly pitched in at the last minute and provided food, which was a \$3000 savings. There were 500 bowls of chili and buns given out.
- The YMCA is continuing to operate licensed spaces for children under 6. Elaine Jackson will be retiring, date to be announced. Person who oversaw school aged programs is also moving on. They're considering after school program for children over 6, at community schools on a drop-in basis 1-2 days/week, starting in September.
- They're looking at redesigning their website and tweaking Children & Families programs.

Kiran (Fraser Valley Child Development Centre)

- Wrapping up for the year the Supported Child Development program and working on school transition meetings. There will be 1 ½ staff over the summer and are still trying to pursue summer programs. They're offering two summer programs in Chilliwack for children on case load, who are referred to CDC. The Self-Regulation (social) program is full but they are trying to increase the number that they can have, plus not everyone who is signed up shows. Extra Therapeutic program isn't full. They're doing Kindergarten Readiness programs in Abbotsford, which are full. Thanks to Darby's group for allowing them to use the licensing space.
- Have an approved grant for more Kindergarten Readiness groups. They would prefer for parents to not always have parents on site, and have had a conversation with licensing about what they can do for childcare. Licensing was very supportive and the conversations are continuing.

5. New Business/other Business

a. Early Development Instrument (EDI) Boundary Changes – Table Endorsement

Cyndie met with the Yarrow Elementary's principal, Nathan. There have been boundary changes on the Early Development Instrument (EDI). They need to capture a larger number of children when doing assessments. Cultus Lake, Yarrow and Greendale will be together. As leader of EDI in Chilliwack Nathan had called Cindy to discuss the change. He asked her to discuss the changes with Early Years table because she will be working more closely with that group, and because he wanted the table to be informed of the changes. He has asked for a

letter from the table saying we've discussed it and there are no issues. Due to financial changes: they are doing the EDI every other year instead of annually.

DISCUSSION: Not comfortable with Greendale and Chilliwack Mountain being put together. One possible response to Nathan: "We've discussed it and our only concern is the grouping of Greendale and Chilliwack Mountain." (recommended by Nadine).

Barb's recommendation: get clarification about Chilliwack Mountain and send the letter of acknowledgement without a caveat.

ACTION: Cindy will contact Nathan for clarification of the boundaries, particularly Chilliwack Mountain, and inform the Early Years Sub-Committee members of the new boundaries.

b. Healthy Kids Day – covered in point 4, Agency Updates (Sheri from YMCA)

c. Chilliwack InterAgency Parenting Committee (CIPC)

This was a sub-committee to the Child and Youth Committee (CYC). Initially its tasks were larger than what it has emerged into the past couple of years, which became primarily pulling together the Parent Resource Quarterly newsletter. Recently the CYC agreed to dissolve CIPC and place the calendar/newsletter on the CYC website. There is currently \$1839.52 in CIPC's bank account, the statements which Darby has been receiving. Carol Dorn and Mary Ives are signers on the account. The CYC voted that the bank account be closed and remaining money be put into a cheque payable to Chilliwack Community Services (CCS) and deposited into CCS' Early Years fund. Things typically paid for from there are: gifts, door prizes, community celebration costs. That fund currently has a zero balance.

DISCUSSION: Can the Newsletter be put on the website? The challenge is the commitment – would like an organization to take it over? CCS has done it in the past but is not able to do this now. It can be a big job to contact each agency monthly to update the information. Karin said that when she was maintaining it the information didn't change much and the agencies were getting good at sending the updates. It was printed quarterly. Cindy shouldn't take it on unless other responsibility is removed from her.

The new CYC website has online resources, but the newsletter presents it in a different way that agencies can easily print and give to parents.

ACTION: Nadine will ask the school's assistant if she can take it on. If the answer is yes, then the Early Years Sub-Committee will have a representative go back to CYC committee and say that community members would still like the newsletter and someone is willing to take on its updating and electronic distribution.

d. CYC Website Update

- Make sure the website wording and vocabulary suit the target group with as few clicks as possible.
- Consider adding the Parent Resource Quarterly newsletter.
- Some users aren't finding the website to be smartphone compatible.

e. ABC Conference Consultation

There's a meeting on 21st to review the results of the day. 180 attended, similar to last year (175).

f. Child Development Guide

Currently at the printers.

g. Community Celebration

This is typically in November. Windy is prepared to take the lead on it and has possible entertainers. There is conversation about it perhaps becoming a gala.

DISCUSSION: Need to get different attendees, otherwise its like “preaching to the converted”. The lunchtime spot was to attract the business community. What about children & families being targeted as attendees. Get a dynamic guest speaker who can engage the audience interactively. Maybe there could be a couple of options to educate and celebrate. Free food gets young families to come.

What’s the intent of the event and therefore the intended audience? Is it to bring money in or is it to spread word about Early Years? Why do we do it? What’s the message? What has been our target to attracting business’ attendance?

YMCA possible partnership: If partnering with the YMCA fall event, begin at 9am while Zumba is in parking lot, and have the option that others can listen to an informative session. Gary Knacken, used by the YMCA, is a great presenter who is experienced presenting to kids at schools. Could have him deliver a presentation to kids ages 4-5 while the parents go to a workshop. Offer different sessions for different age families/parents. Andrea from the YMCA will call a debrief meeting from Healthy Kids Day, so there can be a conversation at that meeting about partnership and possible ideas. Ask businesses to sponsor the November celebration. YMCA does this, and asks them to also participate by being there that day in some capacity.

Barb shared some results of Public on Public Perceptions of Early Learning and Child Care, www.childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/12/05/focus-group-summary-and-analysis-public-perceptions-early-l. The focus groups targeted families’ perceptions about early learning and child care. Responses showed a lack of awareness about early learning being a critical component to a child’s development.

City of Chilliwack Transit could have a booth to get transportation feedback from families, but also to educate families about transit safety and bus routes.

Gala Idea: Windy thought evening would be preferred, either a weekday or weekend. Parents and children invited. Windy talked to the Regional Manager of Bank of Montreal about the November event, and she would like details and costs. Typically the YMCA event costs \$2500 plus \$3000 in kind. The school board also contributed \$5000. Gala would be at least \$10/plate. Money drives a gala, and we don’t have money so for this year it might not be possible, but we could look forward to planning ahead for a future year. Maybe instead Windy would like to be part of the Healthy Kids Day committee and contribute ideas for a partnered event.

If we want to reach two audiences it’s two different events.

How about a thank you dessert party for the businesses, post event to the Healthy Kids Day, and then have a sponsorship presentation.

Businesses can be the best advocates at a provincial level. Ie: having Envision lobby on the organization’s behalf.

Perhaps don’t do anything from a celebration perspective but will still honour International Children’s Day.

h. CYC Leadership/Steering Group

NOTE: This topic came up in discussion, and was not on the original agenda.

Darby has been asked by the CYC Leadership group / steering committee to rejoin the Early Years Sub-Committee and will be doing so for a limited period of time (perhaps 6 months). Representation from the steering committee will take the messages back and forth between the two committees.

The leadership (steering) committee, which was previously the Finance Group, has Terms of Reference draft. They follow the same concept that Abbotsford has for their Leadership Group. They look at the provincial/regional impacts to bring to the Early Years table. It's a reporting committee. It changed from being a Finance Group because there isn't much money at the table anymore; there might be \$30,000 to discuss on an annual basis. This committee was in part a strategy to retain other organizations/groups that can't attend as many meetings. To date they've have had 3 meetings of 1 ½ hrs each.

Adopted a lot of items from Accept Abbotsford (Karen MacLean reference). Terms of Reference have been designed to work along with the Early Years table.

DISCUSSION: Does this affect the Terms of Reference for the Early Years Sub-Committee? One committee isn't above the other Sub-Committee members. Was it this committee that changed the number of Strategic Planning Goals from three to two? It was at the steering committee meeting that discussion ensued about whether it made sense to have three goals or whether two of them could be incorporated together. This was also in part a result of feedback from Wayne Green from UFV, who represents Successby6, and Raising a Village saw the rationale for amalgamating two of the goals and it was done by ensuring items from the one were moved to the other. It was broken into steps that were achievable in a shorter time frame

ACTION: Cindy will get the Terms of Reference from Dan and forward to the Early Years Sub-Committee.

6. **SMART GOALS** – not discussed

7. **Community Coordinator Report** – Cindy's full May report is posted on the CYC website at <http://childandyouth.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/EY-report-may.pdf>. No password necessary. One highlight is that Cindy is partnering with her Sto:lo counterpart; they meet twice per month and work together on common strategies.

8. **Adjournment** – no meeting until September 13th. In place of the July meeting Cindy will email the Sub-Committee.

