



Chilliwack Child and Youth Committee Early Years Sub-Committee



When: Thursday May 3rd, 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
Dan Bibby	MCFD	daniel.bibby@gov.bc.ca
Debbie Denault	Chilliwack Learning Community Society	debbied@chilliwacklearning.com
Karin Rempel	Sardis Doorway	rempefamily@shaw.ca
Kiran Sidhu	FV Child Development Centre	ksidhu@fvcdc.org
Margaret Castle	Chilliwack Society for Community Living	margaret.castle@cscl.org
Trish Ackland	Child and Youth Mental Health	trish.ackland@gov.bc.ca

REGRETS:

Nadine Clattenburg	SD33	nadine_clattenburg@sd33.bc.ca
Sara Van Basten	MCFD Guardianship Worker	Sara.vanbasten@gov.bc.ca
Sheri Josephson	Chilliwack YMCA	sheri.josephson@vanymca.org
Windy Solla	Stó:lō Nation Health Services	windy.solla@stolonation.bc.ca

1. Welcome and Introductions

Guest Tara McLaughlin from Sto:lo Nation was unable to make it to the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda - Approved

3. Approval of Previous Minutes April 5, 2012 - Approved

4. Agency Updates

Kiran (Fraser Valley Child Development Centre)

This past five years FV CDC has held an annual conference called Through the Eyes of the Child. It's a two day event with high profile speakers. This year it was advertised online only, which impacted registrations. There were 50 registered, and 100 are needed. This led to a conversation about how beneficial the conference would be. Since the organization is in a year of outcomes, they needed to be able to show that people who attended used the information. That was difficult to do, and with the lower registrations the conference has been cancelled.

This led them to some conclusions, one of which is that people seem to want to see brochures and hard copies for events. Also, people were registering past the registration closure date. Some people expressed their disappointment that the conference was cancelled. A lot of childcare providers are leaving their required training hours until the last minute, so if they were hoping this conference would help them fill that requirement, they won't receive that credit. Some people had Pro-D day and they were hoping to use the conference as their professional development.

Barb (CCS ChildCare Resource & Referral)

- Their conference is going ahead. Registration is down a bit over last year. Last week they had a volunteer appreciation open house and tea.
- Barb was in the Chilliwack Learning Community Society Shaw video.

Debbie (Chilliwack Learning Community Society - CLCS)

- Marci Bulloch, who works with volunteer tutor/learner program, is starting to collect child development brochures and booklets, written in plain language. Safe to Sleep is an example. She is looking for resource recommendations such as the Child Development Guide and Baby's Best Chance booklet.

ACTION: Barb will look for resources including Health Canada info sheets on Post Partum, Snacks, etc.

- CLCS had volunteer appreciation event.
- There are some free First Books left for ages 8 and up.

Karin (Sardis Doorway)

- Sardis Doorway's 25th anniversary banquet went very well; ticket sales were great. The day of the event there were 34 people who signed up. Sardis Doorway made over \$31,000, compared to \$18,000 at the banquet 18 months ago. This was mostly because of businesses strategically inviting key people and structuring the event to be financially effective. With the guidance of a business person in the community, tables were 'sold' to business people, at a sponsorship rate higher than Sardis Doorway would have realized on its own.
- Have 6 more mother/child times left (one per week), then are off for the summer.

Trish (Child and Youth Mental Health - CYMH)

- CYMH is very busy with a lot of foster kids. They are trying to arrange video training by Dr. Bruce Perry training (\$750), which includes seven cases of 90 minute Early Years case consultations. People are very interested. There are 15 people on the wait list but would like 25 people, after which CYMH will purchase the links and teleconference. They're hoping to start in June on Thursdays.
- UFV – Has been mentoring honor students researching parenting programs. They've been delivering the 'Parenting From the Inside Out' program, which deals with the parent's attachment, their own behavior and how that's reflected in the child. While objectively the child's behavior didn't change, the parent's distress about the child changed. The program is offered with CYMH.
- Young Parents Service Task Group
They had 37 girls complete a SurveyMonkey which asked questions about why they got pregnant, their knowledge of birth control etc. Substance abuse and birth control have come out as issues.

The group is working on: 1) something for school. 2) MCFD and CAPs are focusing on developing a maturing father's program.

The Chilliwack Youth Commission is no longer around. The Little Black Book used to have all the Chilliwack resources for kids. The task group is willing to take the lead in updating if someone can fund the original Book. Rotary has funded it along with the City.

DISCUSSION: Is print, for its cost, effective or should there instead be an electronic copy?

IDEA: Print a business card with QR code to Little Black Book online, hosted on CYC website.

ACTION: Karin will check with the City to see if there is a stored copy that can be built on rather than reinventing it all.

Margaret (Chilliwack Society for Community Living - CSCL)

- Had a great Earth Day. They partnered with Food Matters and showed their community garden at Matheson Ctr on Wells Rd. At the garden children's programs will have their own plot, but people from the community can use part of the gardens for themselves.

IDEA: Perhaps the Early Years table can partner in Earth Day next year.

- They run a summer day camp for all children. Last year was the first one. It began for families and children who found it difficult to manage the number of people present at the YMCA's Summer Camps. CSCL is opening it up now to not just the children for which they provide care, but also for the community children ages 6-12 (reverse integration). No referrals required – contact Margaret. It will be on the CSCL website.

Dan (MCFD)

MCFD is having Trauma inform practice, along with Kiran and Trish. Also focused on Dr. Bruce Perry training sessions as part of regional training. Locally they're trying to bring the learning into their practice. They're looking at fall training, including community engagement with a multi-agency process, bringing in expertise from the agencies. This training and approach impacts the way they resource kids, develop support services, and social worker case management.

Ann Davis comedy night was packed, standing room only.

5. New Business/other Business

ECD letter - endorsement

Cindy was on a conference call with the SuccessBy6 coordinator. The Early Years Community Development Institute supports all the Coordinators throughout BC and is the umbrella that everyone sits under, whether they are Success By 6 or Health (for instance). They have identified that MCFD within their strategic plan has recognized the importance of Early Child Development Early Years tables. They would like each organization to sign saying they all support EDI and exchange of information. Goal is increased partnership, information sharing, and recognition of work that is done at tables. When signing, it's to say the agency supports the letter as presented. The letter was circulated at the table for people to review and sign if they have the authority to do so.

ACTION: Cindy will follow up with the agencies to gain their signatures.

Kiwanis Results

Karin presented Sardis Kiwanis with the Early Years Sub-Committee's results of the Kiwanis's. Kiwanis will discuss the results and pass their comments and funding decisions back to the Early Years Sub-Committee through Karin.

Healthy Kids Day

Catered food would have cost \$2000-\$3500, but City Life Church is donating chili as part of their "50 Acts of Service in the Community" initiative. If you know of anyone who needs help with a 1-2 day project, let Todd know, as City Life is doing 50 short term community projects.

CYC Website Update

The site is well underway. A couple of agencies who sit on Early Years table still need to submit their information. The site will be launched at the May 17th ABC conference. One of the features profiled will be the Subscribe option. If you haven't yet signed up for it, please visit www.childandyouth.com and click the dark grey Subscribe tab at the right of each page. Cindy and Debbie are subscribed, and really like receiving event updates from the site via email. At some point this will augment or in some cases replace mass emails, since when signing up for it a person can select what kinds of items about which they want to be informed.

ABC Conference/Consultation

Registration cutoff is Monday May 7th at 4pm. There are currently about 95 registrants, and it is anticipated we'll end up with 125 attendees. Last year there were 180, including a number of teachers.

Child Development Guide

Thanks to community partners, 1000 copies will be printed. Barb, Kiran, Dan and this table contributed to the additional copies.

Update on direction of Community Celebration

Didn't discuss due to Windy's absence.

Other Notes

Cindy and the Sto:lo ECD coordinator are now working closely together.

Ann Atkins from BC Military Resource Program will attend a future meeting. She used to be a social worker with MCFD and had been part of the Early Years table a number of years ago.

Cindy's Workplan

Cindy's April activities are posted at <http://childandyouth.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/ey-april-2012.pdf>. No password is necessary to view.

6. SMART GOALS

Background (Dan) regarding Oversight Committee for Strategic Plan

Initially there was a Strategic Plan Task Group, and when completing the 2008-2012 Strategic Plan document the committee consisted of Karen MacLean, Sherry Sinclair, Dan Bibby, Shari Josephson, and Darby Wilkinson.

Feb 2, 2012 was the Strategic Planning event with facilitators Tracy Smyth and Tammy Dewar from "Raising the Village" in Port Alberni. There were 4-5 phone calls subsequent to the event. Now the Early Years Sub-Committee will put the Action Plan to the Goals section(s) and send them back to the facilitators. Tracy and Tammy will send the Sub-Committee a final product which will be the 2 year Strategic Plan document.

The following are the results of group discussion at today's Early Years Sub-Committee meeting, concerning the Activities.

1.1 Fostering optimal Child Development (Review and support a central screening process)

DECISIONS: This refers to a **Referral** Process instead of a Screening Process; a central place for screening (committee) rather than a common tool.

Means getting some of the leaders involved, including Dan Bibby, Karen McLean, Duncan McDonald, Bobbi Jacobs and James Challman. Key stakeholders to make comments as to the current method or whether it still works/will work.

New Terms of Reference are needed.

DISCUSSION: Do we have the finances and tools to make it viable (staff, technology for tools)?

A central screening process would support families/professionals to access services through "one door". Also provides better opportunity for better collaboration of services to work with clients.

Kiran still receives the occasional referral, but what was put in place a couple of years ago isn't really active right now. There are Terms of Reference specific to the group.

ACTION: Kiran will call key stakeholders to start the conversation again. **Timeline:** contacts to be completed by the beginning of September 2012, with new process by November 2012.

1.2 Partnering with community agencies to provide an annual health fair to the Chilliwack community

DECISION: YMCA Healthy Kids Day will be held on June 3, 2012. Partners are YMCA, SD33, FVDV, Child & Youth Coordinator, CCRR. We will engage community partners to participate. Hoping to reach a broader population. Will have a post event evaluation.

ACTION: Cindy will ask the YMCA planning committee if there is a ¼ size Healthy Kids Day handout available to give out to clients.

1.3 Joint Training

DISCUSSION: Offer opportunities for our partner agencies to attend 10 training sessions over the next year and agree to promote sessions.

1.4 Education and promotion of optimal child development

DECISION: Intragency involvement at community events. We can measure the success by more children screened, use of CYC website, being invited to present in the community. Have already begun activities, as on April 26th presented there was a presentation on Success By 6 to Envision. Other examples are the YMCA Healthy Kids Day and the Child Development Guide. This is an ongoing project.

DISCUSSION: Chilliwack learning community Society has a draft brochure for the Lady Bug book bins, to encourage parents to read to their kids. It's being reviewed by the parent's Literacy in Motion program.

Child Development Guides are ready for printing.

Barb: on their newsletters they have a Parent page that the agencies can give to parents. CCRR and CCS have websites listing Early Years resources.

Karin: How to reach families who don't go to the services that are provided in the community?

Debbie: Shaw Children First videos – get them from Shaw and ask Shaw to play the videos

Dan: Developmental Guide – produce and distribute 1000 by a specific date (date needs to be assigned).

Cindy: Another Social Marketing group might spin off of these actions.

ACTION: Debbie will ask Shaw for the Children First videos.

1.5 Increased inter-agency collaboration of services

DECISION: Establish or support a collaborative practice committee. An integrated plan will be developed by agency stakeholders to support family/clients pathways.

This will involve staffing time to map out potential pathways.

Need to be specific about the kinds of collaborations and collaborative activities. For example: CLCS City Wide Literacy Challenge had participation from over 30 agencies.

Indicator: Participation across a wide range of agencies in events is a good indicator.

One way we know that it has been effective is increased physical co-locations. Another indicator is increased participation in cross-agency events. An example of a collaborative project is the parenting program knowledge exchange in 2.1 below.

2.1 Joint community knowledge exchange session on parenting programs

DECISION: Bring everyone who provides parenting resources/support together for a joint community meeting on community knowledge exchange. Make it a 3 hour session without follow up. CYC can sponsor it.

ACTION: Trish committed that UFV will do it. They'll get an inventory and arrange a session. Cindy will work with them.

DISCUSSION:

Could have a parenting sub-committee.

There currently isn't a group that exists to represent the parenting community of Chilliwack.

Barb: If it's an inventory instead, it would fit more into #1 than #2.

Information Exchange, Leadership, Agencies become more aware so can pass on that to families so they become more aware.

Cindy: There is a void for knowledge exchange, information sessions, networking.

CIPC used to have information in the Resource Quarterly, which was helpful.

Barb: Parents are calling for a quick responses regarding support and answers to questions, and they don't have time or energy to go to a course.

Trish: Information Children at Simon Fraser University is a line where people can get answers. 778-782-3548.

Karin: There is a Chilliwack Mom's group on Facebook.

Barb: Would be great to have a Parenting Facebook where experts answer questions.

Kiran: In Abbotsford FVCDC was there for Ask An Expert and the amount of calls were overwhelming.

7. Community Coordinator Report – As in point 5 above, the full report is posted on the CYC website

8. Adjournment – next meeting on June 7th 2012

MAKE
Children
First

