

When: September 12, 2013 1:00-3:00
 Where: Central Gateway, 9435 Young Road, Rm 119

Recorder: Karen Steegstra

Co-Chair: Trish Ackland & Kiran Sidhu

ATTENDANCE:

Kiran Sidhu	FV Child Development Centre	ksidhu@fvcdc.org
Trish Ackland	Child and Youth Mental Health	trish.ackland@gov.bc.ca
Karen Steegstra	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
Jackie Ayer	Chilliwack Community Services	ayerj@comserv.bc.ca
Katrina Bepple	Chilliwack Hospital Health Care Foundation	katrina.bepple@chhcf.org
Karin Rempel	Sardis Doorway	rempelfamily@shaw.ca
Kathereen	Meadow Rose Society	help@meadowrosesociety.com
Sheila	Meadow Rose Society	

REGRETS:

Charlotte Debruyn	Chilliwack School District	charlotte_debruyn@sd33.bc.ca
Mandy McMahon	YMCA Early Years manager	mandy.mcmahon@vanymca.org
Pauline Pigeau	Fraser Health	Pauline.Pigeau@fraserhealth.ca
Shannon Carmichael	Central Gateway for Families/ Community School Coordinator	ccecss@gmail.com
Donna Dixon	Chilliwack Hospital Health Care Foundation	donna.dixon@chhcf.org
Tara McLaughlin	HeadStart Coordinator	Tara.mclaughlin@stolonation.bc.ca
Sara Van Basten	MCFD Guardianship Worker	Sara.vanbasten@gov.bc.ca
Tamara Kelly	Stó:lō Nation Health Services	tamara.kelly@stolonation.bc.ca
Yvonne Tumangday	Stó:lō Nation	yvonne.tumangday@stolonation.bc.ca

1. Welcome and Introductions

Kathereen and Sheila from the Meadow Rose Society were welcomed to the table. Kathereen and Sheila provided the group with the background and focus of their society; to provide emergency baby supplies to parents in need. Currently they have files for 150 clients. They ensure that clients are not taking advantage of the services available on a regular basis, but

only use when in need. They rely on donations for all of their supplies. Also have “Givers” in rural locations who keep a stocked bin of supplies for parents in need in these areas.

2. Approval of Agenda – New Business items added; National Child Day and Priority Grant

3. Approval of Minutes of last meeting – June minutes approved. **Karen will post minutes to website.**

3. Business Arising from the minute

1. Review of Gateway Budget

Jackie provided a budget sheet and was able to bring clarity as to where funding provided by the Early Years table is being spent. Because of the changeover of positions, Community Services had not applied for the grant available 2012-2013. Contact was made with the United Way and an application for the 2012-13 and for 2013-14 grant money has been submitted. The \$26,000 provided to Family Place and the Family Resource Centre comes from MCFD Early Years Grants. Now however, MCFD has eliminated grants, and instead does contracts. This provides more money and allows the centre to be open for longer hours and more days during the week.

Jackie shared how Downtown Family Place is scheduled to move to the Neighbourhood Learning Centre in January. Staff is doing their best to make the transition for clients as positive as possible. The NLC will also have a licensed daycare open 6 am – 6 pm. Better Beginnings will also be running out of the new centre.

Dan said there would be about 10 agencies providing services at the NLC.

Jackie told the committee that in her search to find clarity in the Gateway Budget, she learned of an account that Community Services held for the Early Year’s Committee.

Between that account and what remains in the CIPC account, there is \$10,143.00. This total will be added to the Early Years Budget. **Action: Dan will bring a revised budget to the next meeting.**

2. Early Years Budget

Debbie made a request to the table that the \$1800 from the CIPC account go towards the CYC website to cover associated costs. **Action: Debbie will bring a break-down of how the Website Steering Committee intends to use the funds before the Early Years table will make a decision.**

It was noted that funding the website was part of the Early Years Strategic Plan.

Discussion continued around the Early Years Budget and how exactly money was being spent. There were questions regarding the \$50,000 set aside for the Coordinator and Administrative support. There were also questions whether the Coordinator’s salary was funded by Success By 6 or by MCFD.

Trish made the motion to reinstate the Finance Task Group in order to keep better track of funds. The table agreed; Trish, Katrina, Dan, Shannon and Karen will form this task group. Jackie stated that she would be willing to provide mid-year and end of the year reports.

4. New Business/other Business

a. Party in the Park Update – Karen shared about her participation in partnering with the Chilliwack Hospital Health Care Foundation at the child focused Party in the Park. It was a

great opportunity to profile the CYC. Karen also share about participating at Prospera's Cinema Under the Stars. Monies raised will go towards Success By 6 initiatives.

b. Childhood Expo – Karen has been working with Charlotte to coordinate this event. It seems that there will be good participation from agencies. There has been some thought whether it should be held at a different time of year. After this year's event will be able to determine better, what is a good time to hold an Expo.

c. National Child Day – The event at City Hall will take place on November 19th this year as Council meets on Tuesdays. Karen met with John Martin's assistant and the constituency office would like to collaborate to support an event on November 20. **Action: Karen will create a task list, so Early Years members can determine where they can best assist.**

d. Priority Grant – Karen gave some examples of possible ways the money could be spent. She said the purchase of a Bouncy Castle is not a good idea, since it requires multiple people to set-up and supervise. At most events, Karen is representing the CYC on her own. Instead she would like to see the money spent on an easy to set-up canopy, banners with Early Year's messaging, and giant sized games. She also encouraged the committee to brainstorm on different wording as a way to encourage parents to participate in "Developmental Screening". It was though that rather than purchasing a 'Bouncy Castle', the committee could rent them for specified events.

5. Strategic Plan – Goal Activity Updates

- a. **Website Update** – Karen gave a brief update. Activity during the summer had slowed down somewhat.
- b. **Upcoming Training Opportunities/Workshops** – Not covered

6. Task Group Updates

- a. Social Marketing/Healthy Kids – Not covered
- b. Young Parenting – Not covered
- c. Terms of Reference – Not covered

Coordinators Report – At the end of June, I represented the CYC at the opening of our new library in Sardis. A beautiful facility and much needed for the south side of Chilliwack. It was great to hear the celebrity readers, Mayor Sharon Gaetz and a player of the Chilliwack Chiefs. In July I represented the CYC at "Kids in the Hall". This Aboriginal literacy event was well attended and included lots of fantastic activities and fabulous reading material for children and youth. In July I also partnered with the Chilliwack Hospital and Health Care Foundation at the child focused "Party in the Park". We rocked the Safari theme and had kids waiting in line to play "Get the Safari Animal Over the Angry Hippo into the Oasis" for a glow stick, and spinning the wheel to determine what exercise they had to do to earn a veggie snack pack. Thankfully we had staff from downtown Envision Credit Union volunteering their services to help us out. Photos of this event are posted on the Chilliwack Child and Youth Committee Facebook page.

Yes the CYC now has a Facebook page, and it would be great if you could like it. It's one more venue to promote the goings on of the CYC, our website and our partners.

In August I represented the CYC at Prospera's "Cinema under the Stars" at Watson Glen Park. Prospera Credit Union organizes and sponsors this amazing event and has chosen to donate all the proceeds raised to "Success by 6" initiatives. It was a great event to create awareness around the importance of the Early Years and make community connections.

Throughout the summer I worked with Charlotte DeBruyn on making our first Early Childhood Expo, to be held, September 14, a success.

I spent time in the summer creating, updating and refining Early Years and CYC documents. I also completed modules in the online course of Community of Caring Response Training. <http://www.communitycarestraining.com/> Lots of good information on understanding and responding to mental health issues in the community. I highly recommend it! Last week I was able to meet with the Constituency office of John Martin and was encouraged to hear how they want to collaborate on events like National Child Day and our annual Consultation. I am hoping to meet soon with Laurie Throness and with Mark Strahl to encourage them to support the \$10 A Day Daycare.

I look forward to another year of working alongside all of our partners of the CYC

7. **Agency Updates** – Not covered
8. **Next Meeting:** October 3, 2013
9. **Adjournment:** 3:00pm

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