



YOUTH MATTERS
A subcommittee of the Chilliwack Child and Youth Committee
Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 27th, 2013
CSCL's Mathieson Centre – 45195 Wells Road (8:00am-9:30am)

Co-Chairs: Collette Bohach (BBBS)

Recorder: Karen Pedersen (CSCL)

Present – Collette Bohach, Melanie Voth, Steve Andrews, Andy Kizmann, Gurleen Dhaliwal, Margaret Sigsworth, Rohan Arul-Pragasam, Kirk Savage, Cathy Preibisch (Chance), Kevin Craig, Jeff Gates, Karen Pedersen, Steve Dove, Karen Steegstra

Regrets: Natalie Karam, Carol Petek, Kathryn Plotnikoff, Jessica Adams-Loupret, Kelli Paddon

1. UPDATE – CYC CO-CHAIRS –

- Susan Edgcombe has completed her 2 year term as co-chair.
- The new co-chair, taking Susan's place is Julie Unger (Director – CSCL)
- Co-chairs are now Dan Bibby (MCFD) & Julie Unger (CSCL)

2. CHALLENGE DAY –

- **Accommodations:** Decision on which offer to go with...
 - Royal Hotel → Offering \$65/night (per room) (double room with queen sized beds)
 - Coast Hotel → now offering \$89/night (per room) with a \$50 gift certificate to Preston's Restaurant.

Action: Karen will confirm with Coast Chilliwack Hotel

- **Travel:**
 - Natalie contacted Challenge Day to inquire if they'll fly into Bellingham or Abbotsford (suggested flying into Abbotsford to avoid detainment at border).
 - Still waiting to hear back from Challenge Day.
- **Attending other Challenge Day Events before ours:**
 - "Open" Challenge Day happening in Surrey on November 5th, 6th & 7th, 2013.
 - If interested in attending, contact coordinator's name: Helen Jutla, by email at jutla_h@sd36.bc.ca or by phone at 604-507-2284.

NOTE: Currently our November 21st event (SSS) is an Open Event. Listed on the Challenge Day website (<http://www.challengeday.org/calendar.php>)

- Is this something we want to do?
- **Fundraising Team:**
 - Met after May's Meeting (May 23rd).
 - Grant applications have been submitted to Superstore, Future Shop, National Bank, Envision Financial, and an RCMP Grant has been started.

Update: Kelli → where things are at with the RCMP Grant (in collaboration with Cst. Tobi Araki)

- **Discuss at next meeting**

DONATION UPDATES:

School District → \$5000.00 has been received and deposited

Kiwanis Club of Sardis → \$1500.00 has been received and deposited

Kiwanis on Chilliwack side already approached

MCFD → Waiting for the \$5000.00 from Dan Bibby

Envision Financial → rejection of grant application. However, they suggested a different grant through Envision (First West Foundation). We have followed up with the First West Foundation → waiting to hear back.



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Future Shop → mentioned that majority of their money has already been spent this year...but they will get back to us. Waiting to hear back.

Superstore → Forwarded to store manager. Waiting to hear back.

National Bank → Grant has been directed within the company for further review. Allow 6-8 weeks to review.

Discussed other options for Donation requests (see donation list)

Action: Melanie to approach Scott Paper re: Kleenex donations

- It would be very helpful if every member on the Committee selected just one business to approach for donations (so it's not left to the 3 members on the Fundraising team). Review the list and select which business, service club, etc to approach.
- Marketing Letters are available to present to the businesses, service clubs, etc.
 - **Venue:**
 - Is there an official booking procedure in place in order to confirm the venue for Challenge Day (Nov. 19, 20, 21)?
 - Kirk Savage - Chilliwack Senior - parking could be an issue - possibly bussing youth
 - Volunteers arrive an hour earlier than starting time (9:00am - so volunteers arrive at 8:00 - recommendation to car pool) - Maybe a volunteer or two to direct/monitor parking ie - reserve staff parking as school is in session. Revisit in October. Volunteers could park in Church beside CMS - Christ Lutheran
 - Procedure to book facility -

Action: Youth Matters Committee will email Kirk Savage to book the facility (CMS) for Challenge Day

- **Food:**
 - CSS Foods Program will be preparing the food the 3 days of Challenge Day.
 - Method of booking -
 - Is there an official booking procedure to confirm this for the 3 days.

Action: Kirk will confirm the booking for CSS with Brian (CSS Principal)

- What cost is it per person? \$7.00/per person is what was listed on the Price List.
 - Water provided?
 - **Priority to discuss at September Meeting** - Prepare for the selection process for the students - discuss at the September meeting.
3. **SUMMER MEETING -**
- Thinking we'll need at least 1 meeting during the summer.
 - Who is available to attend a summer meeting?
 - Preference of July or August???
 - Sign-up sheet showing preference - July or August, 9:00am meeting time (see list below)

4. **PROGRAM/AGENCY UPDATES:**

- **Karen Steegstra** updated, CYC is participating in Party in the Park children's area
- **Melanie Voht** updated her various committee activities - send Melanie information re: youth at (high) risk - how to best engage the youth - getting a local "Youth Bed"- Cyrus Centre presented on how they function in Abbotsford. MCFD is looking at developing a similar model here in Chilliwack
- **Steve Andrews**-Anne Davis - exciting program getting youth employed/job ready- Pass information on to schools
- **Andy Kizmann** - New ED for Restorative Justice in process of being hired
- **Margaret Sigsworth** - 1 in 5 youth have a gambling problem. Hoping to get into elementary schools to share information/prevention



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- **Rohan Arul-Pragasam** – Challenge identifying high risk youth and who to refer those identified to – risk factors, social emotional concerns, suspensions, foster children, aboriginal...Different expectations for school – trying to deliver supports where needed – this should be starting in elementary school. Tracking those students suspended. Community obligation. Will attempt to coordinate supports with members of the Youth Matters Committee.
- **Steve Andrews** asked: How are existing programs facilitated?(ie Chance, Stolo)
- **Rohan Arul-Pragasam** responded: programs are there, but if not right person facilitating program, it fails – multifaceted. Goal to support youth in their schools – programs exist but students lack basic academic skills to transition from Middle School to High School
- **Melanie Voth** added: higher risk – youth not in foster care (Youth Agreements), but involved with MCFD – Rohan responded: - not designated on ISS – how does School District collect this information? **Steve Andrews** added: – looking at youth who are not so acute, maybe missed because they are not the most visible – **Rohan** will keep committee updated
- **Steve Dove** – Summer activities available throughout the summer – REAL program – Reconnect- these two programs are working together, - Wednesday evening meal provided – Youth therapy program running over capacity – two month waitlist. – Young parents (age 15 – 21, moms primarily, but open to fathers) supports are available. Also have the Fathers Program – run by Sandi Dorn and John Stallingworth. Family Services supports families, also with youth – **Steve Andrews** – Theresa at Anne Davis Society is starting a Mother/Daughter group
- **Cathy Preibisch**– Summer is challenging for her students – school is their connection and where they find supports. Successfully transitioned a number of students from Chance to mainstream schools
- **Kevin Craig** – Distance Ed – question about his role in Challenge Day – cap on number of youth? **Collette** responded: 100 students, inclusive of all groups, collection of all youth, and their leaders (leadership youth as well as those not participating in positive behaviour)
- **Steve Andrews** asked – looking for youth with low self-esteem? **Andy Kizmann** responded – all youth – mix from every group – everyone part of the change-breaks down those separations
- **Jeff Gates** – Summer Camps at Sardis Fellowship– youth run the children's program - they work well together
- **Karen Steegstra** will contact Rob Skinner for Summer Youth Activity Schedule to post on the CYC Website
- Several options were suggested for assisting families with summer activities/camps: Chilliwack Children's Foundation, Jump Start
- **Collette Bohach** – recruitment drive for Big Brothers – recommend volunteers! Older youth, 14 + are waiting for matches - very important at this time.

Future Agenda Items:

- *Discussion on who to invite to participate to Challenge Day and how the committee will determine who to invite to participate in Challenge Day*
(Flagged for September 2013 Meeting)
- *Swag Items for Challenge Day to give to Youth and/or Adult Volunteers that participate*
(Flagged for September 2013 Meeting)
- *Volunteers to monitor/direct parking. As parking is limited at CSS. Look at parking at Church beside CMS – Christ Lutheran.*
(Flagged for September/October 2013 Meeting)

Next Meetings @ Mathieson Centre (9:00-10:30am) – Summer (TBA)

- **Jeff Gates – August**
- **Steve Dove – July or August**
- **Margaret Sigsworth – July or August**
- **Gurleen Dhaliwal – July or August**
- **Andy Kizmann – July or August**
- **Steve Andrews – July or August**
- **Melanie Voth – July or August**