

## Child Care Centre Supervisors Network Meeting Minutes

September 25, 2014 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • Branscombe Early Learning and Family Centre

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

### 2. Acceptance of Minutes from Last Meeting

Minutes were accepted and seconded

### 3. Acceptance of Agenda

Agenda accepted with no additions

### 4. Updates

- Ministry of Education Report, Jen Stewart, Child Care Licensing Service Program Advisor attended and shared the following
  - *How Does Learning Happen* – sessions being rolled out across the province, Toronto filled up quickly, more sessions being offered provincially, regionally (November 18 in London) and locally (November 13 in St Catharines).
  - *How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years* document is being mailed out to all operators by area, however hard copies can be ordered on line. Alternatively, hard copies can be picked up from the ECCDC along with copies of *Think, Feel, Act*.
  - Two program advisors have retired from the London Region. The job postings are on the Ministry of Education website.
  - Child Care Licensing Service (CCLS) is up and running for licensing.
  - With changes from the new documents and licensing, child care centres are nervous about how licensing will go (program plans; okay not filled in completely at start, developmental goals, planning for materials, add to as it progresses). Centres will be supported through the changes by their Program Advisor.
- Niagara Region Children's Services Report, Darlene Edgar, Director of Children's Services attended and shared the following update:
  - CATCH – was developed in the U.S. but needs to be more Canadian specific (i.e. nutrition needs modification). The CATCH kit has great resources and includes seed to table, music and movement, parent engagement and nutrition. The pilot project involved seven centres and phase 2 will involve 42 centres, half will use the kits and half will not. Application forms will be going out to programs shortly. The second phase will be partnered by Public Health Department for child care operators, along with Brock completing the research. CATCH will have a QCCN style roll out and will eventually be incorporated within QCCN. Niagara is quite a bit ahead of other areas across the Province in this respect.
  - iPad project is underway. It is being piloted by the ECCDC and funded through Niagara Region. Educators use iPads within the classroom. Good apps have been applied to the iPads. The pilot extends until the end of March 2015.
  - Niagara Region and the ECCDC will be rolling out the new technology project to 75 centres. This will be useful, as many forms required by licensing are online forms.
  - Next community consultation event will be on October 23, 2014. This is the final event working on the child care plan for Niagara.
  - Additional funding from Niagara Region for child care centres will be available in October. Centres will receive a letter with the amount that they will receive.
  - Over the next two years additional funding for salaries at \$1.00 per hour per year for two

years. Currently working on a framework which will be put out to the community.

- Congratulations to Power Glen and Beamsville Co-operatives on their retrofits within DSBN sites both with full day child care options.
- Niagara Public Health Department, Andre Laflamme, attended and shared the following update
  - Chris Gaspar is the program manager.
  - Food Safety Signs have changed and will be distributed by Inspectors. If you would like them sooner, you can contact your Inspector and he/she will send them out to child care programs.
  - Child care centres were encouraged to use their Inspector as a resource.
  - Chapter 10 of the manual has been updated. Copies will be going out with the Inspectors, but if you would like one before your inspection then it can be downloaded from the Public Health website.
  - Child care centres asked if storage cupboards for dishes have to have covers – yes the cupboards need to have doors.
  - Can kitchen and children's laundry be washed together – yes and no – if the children's laundry is soiled it must be sent home; however, if it's just general dirt then it's okay to be mixed. If an outbreak then separate it from everything and clean it on its own.
  - If there is an outbreak it's okay to take it to a public laundry, so that the outbreak doesn't contaminate home laundry.

## **5. Tour of Branscombe Early Learning and Family Centre**

Leah Philbrick gave a great tour

## **6. Discussing Issues and Brainstorming Solutions**

- Round Table Updates
  - Ferndale – before and after school program conflict with programming regarding children using staff's own iPads. So gave the children an old computer and pliers. The children loved taking it apart. "I did it with my bare hands".
  - ACW Connaught – switching to an emergent curriculum. Asking for donations of baskets and photo frames. Trying to make classrooms look more "homey" with curtains. Working on playground with fundraising dollars, executive director went to the Pedagogical Leadership conference in London and shared photos of classrooms with centres.
  - St. Catharines Regional – acting supervisor has moved to another centre. Currently on the emergent journey; spending time on all sites including supply staff, following child's lead, supporting and taking advantage of all the new training through the ECCDC, supporting a group of parents with children who have attention deficit.
  - Western Hill – updates to classroom and outdoor playground, making spaces more natural, bringing nature indoors, staff turnover over the last few months so hooking staff up with PD and the new documents.
  - Niagara Nursery School – more natural inside, arts out on the playground, use the forest to gather natural items, more plants and working on public garden.
  - Northend Co-op – finished repainting entire preschool using more natural colours.
  - Kids Kastle – repainted with more natural colours, as garden and outdoor time are not a requirement makes it hard to do, finding emergent journey a bit challenging to do with 48 children within three groups. Possible ideas: use a greenhouse with a light to grow plants, grow vegetables from vegetable scraps.
  - Fort Erie Co-op – numbers are a little low. On the emergent curriculum journey.
  - Power Glen – lots of changes, see above. Now have four members of staff, working through glitches, enrolment is great. Exciting time.

- Fort Erie Regional – working on emergent curriculum, getting together with supervisors to go over Ministry of Education documents, which is relayed to the staff, Region funding dollars used to purchase equipment.
- Port Colborne Regional – moving to an emergent approach, staff are at various comfort levels. Participating in iPad project. Outdoor playground is moving along incorporating emergent practices (pallets in with branches/logs to create a room). Kijiji is a great resource to utilize, as it has a free items section.
- Stamford Green – new additions to playground. Roof being renewed. Repainting centre with earth tones using funding.
- St. Thomas – moving forward with emergent programming, using additional funding to support this.
- QCCN phase 2 training postponed, as it is being revised in line with Ontario’s new Early Years documents. Once completed, phase 2 training will be rescheduled and there will be update evenings for educators who have attended phase 2 training in the past.

## **7. Training/Network Development Activity**

- “Continuing the Momentum” – no new updates
- Watched *Learning Environments* video. Due to technical issues and time this was cut short; however, participants liked the examples and were encouraged to view the videos and reflect on their environments.
- Reviewed *The Environment is a Teacher*, Karyn Callaghan, M. Ed, followed by reflective question discussions.

### **ECCDC Resource Display**

- Resource Reference List and Resource Display, see attached with the minutes.
- Professional Learning Opportunities & Needs
- ESTEEM, please click on link, <http://www.eccdc.org/professional-learning/workshop-registration-esteem/>

## **8. Meeting Evaluation**

## **9. Next Meeting Date and Venue**

Tuesday November 4, 2014 • 6:30-8:30 pm • Power Glen Early Learning and Child Care Centre

## **10. Questions**

- Would the iPad project be available for the school age groups?
- Continue with *Think, Feel, Act* videos and questions.



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**Resource Library & Workroom Services**



Resource Listing  
 Child Care Centre Supervisors Network

Catalogue Number	Item	Type	File Number
5076	Designs for Living and Learning – Transforming Early Childhood Environments	Planning & Research Documents	IND.0014.02
5739	Inspiring Spaces for Young Children	Planning & Research Documents	IND.0036.02
5102	Rating Observation Scale for Inspiring Environments (ROSIE)	Planning & Research Documents	EVA.0005.02
666	Natural Playscapes; Creating Outdoor Play Environments For The Soul	Planning & Research Documents	OUT.0013.00
5446	Cultivating Outdoor Classrooms – Designing and Implementing Child-Centered Learning Environments	Planning & Research Documents	OUT.0009.00
5555	Leave No Child Inside: Outdoor ECE Program Environments - A Study Guide for Early Childhood Educators (Powerpoint)	DVD	VID.0053.00
5557	Visionary Infant and Toddler Program Environments - A Study Guide for Early Childhood Educators (Powerpoint)	DVD	VID.0060.00