

Child Care Centres Supervisor's Network Meeting Minutes

Thursday October 15th, 2015, 6:30pm to 8:30 pm

St Thomas Day Care of St Catharines

1. Welcome and Introductions

Participants were welcomed and introduced themselves. In attendance were Melissa Andrighetti, Jennifer Ballantyne, Maria Bronizewski, Kimberly Burgess, Tracy Cameron-Booker, Valerie Chase, Jamie Ciancio, Stephanie-Ann Colucci, Robin Cotton, Ada Delong, Carmela DeLuca, Sandy Di Maria, Jacqueline Dunlop, Sister Zelerina Escat, Sister Amelie Flores, Catherine Foy, Treina Gautreau, Lilliana Gialanella, Joanne Janzen, Krystal Kwakernaat, Sally Lovelock, Grace Maskell, Rena Mills, Sharon Milne, Leah Philbrick, Maria Piscitelli, Sue Rabley, Laurie Roberto, Janet Sanders, Megan Soloman, Sandra Thompson-Winfield, Patricia Couroux (facilitator) and Ginette Wilson (facilitator and minutes)

Regrets: Helen Randle, Cynthia Bradshaw (Program Advisor) and Kari-Lyn Burkholder (Program Advisor)

2. Acceptance of Minutes from Last Meeting

The minutes were accepted by Catherine Foy, however they were not seconded due to no one present at this meeting being present at the previous meeting.

3. Acceptance of Agenda

The agenda was accepted with no amendments.

4. Updates

- Ministry of Education-Report, Kari-Lyn Burkholder Program Advisor

Kari-Lyn was unable to attend the meeting and sent the following update;

- The ministry is working towards ensuring all licenses are 100% current by December 31st. In order to meet this goal additional support is being provided, therefore centres maybe licensed by another PA.
- More information regarding Vulnerable Sector Check requirements is still coming out and currently there is no known date. Information to follow when available.
- Child Care and Early Year Act manual is still in translation and currently there is no date for its release. Checklists are available on the Ministry of Education website.
- Educators are encouraged to attend meetings, workshops and presentations related to How Does Learning Happen and the Child Care and Early Years Act, recognizing there is a lot of exciting change it's important Educators embrace and take leadership in learning.

A participant shared the following; there have been problems with the Ministry of Education website and it has been recommended that if approval is pending to phone the Ministry to check if posted. Centres must post applications as normal.

- Niagara Region Children's Services-Report, Laura Rasmussen Children's Services Manager

○Laura invited participants to the next community consultation session on Wednesday, Oct 28th from 6:30 to 8:30pm in the cafeteria, in Campbell East at Regional Niagara Headquarters. Topics for discussion:

- Niagara's Early Learning and Child Care Plan 2016-2018
- 2016 Budgets and expectations
- Wage Enhancement
- Policy changes
- Niagara Child Care Registry
- QCCN

○The Child Care Plan has been presented to council and Laura thanked everyone who attending the council meeting

○Centre's should have received Breast Milk magnets from Niagara Public Health department and are asked to share them with families.

- The second CECE Leadership Pilot Project was launched on September the 24th and 25th and included a retreat with Dr. Gillian Read as the guest speaker.
- Niagara Public Health-John Burnett lead Inspector
 - Outbreak season has started and flu clinics are being set up with vaccines available. John reminded participants that the inspectors are a resource for centres to utilize and encouraged them to contact their inspector for advice if they think there is an outbreak starting.
 - Environmental Health department has new signage that centres can access.
 - Kenny and John have been working on an electronic chart that will include helpful information regarding disinfectants indicating if they are a low, medium or high level disinfectant. This will be a computer system with a drop down menu for centres to find what level of disinfectant is required including specific disinfectants.
 - John gave clarification regarding diaper sanitization; clean diaper change area first followed by sanitation. If centres are considering changing the disinfectant then please consult your inspector.
5. Tour of St Thomas Day Care of St Catharines by Sandy Di Maria
Due to the large number in attendance the group split into two and Janet Sanders and Sandy gave tours of the centre. Thanks to St Thomas' for hosting this evening's network meeting
6. Training/Network Development Activity
- View the Ministry of Education's new website followed by discussion
Participants reviewed the Ministry of Education's website. Participants were advised that supervisors will need to complete the supervisors self-test on the Child Care and Early Years Act and to encourage their staff to complete the self-test, which is currently optional for ECE's. Supervisors will need their ID key to complete the test however ECE's will not. Everyone who completes the self-test will get a completion certificate, which is a great resource to include in CECE CPL portfolios.
A participant shared with the group that only one person can complete the self-test for supervisors using the organization's ID key, which could be a problem for organizations with multiple sites. It was also shared that the self-test for supervisors is almost the same as the self-test for ECE's.
There is also a tip sheet available on the website. Participants are encouraged to spend some time reviewing the information on the new website.
7. Discussing Issues and Brainstorming Solutions
- Round table discussion regarding the new Child Care and Early Years Act and how centres plan to implement changes
 - A discussion took place regarding centre's program statements and participants who attended the How Does Learning Happen Regional meeting held in London last October shared information with the group. This included ensuring that all points A-J in section 46(3) of the Child Care and Early Years Act are included in centres program statement, identifying how you reflect this is your practice and link to the four How Does Learning Happen Foundations. Centres have until May 27th 2016 to finalize their program statement, until then this will appear as an in progress for Licensing. There is no cookie cutter approach and program statements will be unique to each centre, as they serve different communities and should reflect this. For organizations with multiple centres, each centre should have an individual program statement specific to each centre.
Centres will be invited to Regional meetings in cohorts linked to when their licensing is due for renewal and it was suggested, by those who attended the October Regional meeting, that centres make every effort to attend as they will find it very beneficial.
8. Sharing how centres have implemented strategies gained from Professional Learning opportunities such as Susan Stacey, Tim Gill, Diane Kashin, Joanne Babalis etc. Followed by a discussion regarding speakers

that participants would like the ECCDC to coordinator for Winter 2016.

Suggestions for future professional development sessions included; conflict resolution, high order thinking questions, special needs, none verbal communication- Betty Evan's was suggested by Robyn Cotton, before and after school programs, and a guest speaker for parents regarding engagement.

9. Development Resources available at the ECCDC

- Highlight newly revitalized kits and 'The Beauty Stuff Store'. Photographs of 'The Beautiful Stuff Store' were viewed and participants were encouraged to visit the ECCDC workroom to 'Mess About' with the natural, unique Loose Parts and view the regularly changing provocations for learning. A bag of 'Beautiful Stuff' can be purchased for \$5.

10. ECCDC Resource Display

- Resource Reference List (see attached with the minutes) and Resource Display which included a Treasure Basket for Infant and Toddlers and a Loose Parts kit.
- Professional Learning Opportunities offered in the Fall Esteem including new sessions by Adam Bienenstock, Joanne Babalis and Diane Kashin, followed by a discussion regarding future needs. Flyers circulated.
- QCCN Pilot Project Training Institute
Patricia gave an overview of the pilot which will include 75 participants and will take place on the 21st and 28th November 8.30am-4.30pm at Niagara Region, St David's Road, Thorold.
- Niagara College T-shirt campaign
Niagara College ECE program T-shirt campaign flyers were circulated. If centres are interested in purchasing T-shirts they are asked to send in one order form per centre with a cheque directly to Drew Kean at Niagara College and orders can be collected from the ECCDC on December the 8th and 9th between 11am and 3pm.

11. Future network development-time, venues and discussion topics

Participants would like a Program Advisor from the Ministry of Education to attend meetings.

12. Meeting Evaluation