

Strive Community Meeting Minutes

Friday January 10, 2020

Attendees: Ally Scott, Sheri Spriggs, Lauren Goosens, Jan Gaudet, Cora Burns, Jessi Keenan, Kim Mitchell, Kelly Walker, Holly Gerrits, Kathy Harris, Cheryl Read, Linda Grainger, Kelly Smith, Aimee Kelly, Tanya Hutchinson, Sheila Foster, Anne Rae, Sheryl Third, Lori Wilson, Meaghan MacDonell

Present via Zoom: Kinderville, Teresa Sulowski

Agenda item and Discussion	Actions
1. Welcome and Introductions	
2. Agenda approval / additions	Agenda approved. No additions.
3. Approval of minutes from November 8, 2019	Minutes approved.
<p>4. Updates from Project Manager</p> <p>a) Provincial Centre of Excellence</p> <p>3rd cohort of pedagogists will soon be moving in to their immersion phase. All three cohorts are being hosted for week-long knowledge exchanges in Toronto.</p> <p>b) Strategic Plan</p> <p>Leading Inspired Learning - Strategic Plan 2020-2023</p> <p>Our new strategic plan is now available on our website. If you haven't had a chance to check it out, please do so and share it with your teams. It was a really great process and we are thrilled with the result. We are excited to start working towards our new goals and direction for Strive!</p> <p>http://striveswo.ca/wp-content/uploads/Strive-Strategic-Plan-WEB-SPREADS.pdf</p> <p>We are currently preparing a poster that highlights our various strategic directions and provides a high-level overview of the new plan as well as outlining how Educators can become involved. This poster will be double-sided, in both French and English, and each site will receive their own copy.</p>	



This plan would not have been possible without the input and support of this community, so our deepest thanks again!

c) Elgin Updates – Sheri

- The HDLH? Showcase event was held in December and was well attended. Educators had submitted artifacts (such as pieces of documentation, photographs, etc.) that reflected on How Does Learning Happen? Great program resources were awarded to participants.
- Elgin Children’s Services have moved in to their new office space at 230 Talbot Street in St. Thomas. Everyone is getting settled in and it is nice to have the entire team together on one floor now.
- Elgin will continue hosting their Leadership Community of Practice sessions into the Winter. These sessions began in the Fall and have been really well attended and received by all levels of leadership across the county.
- Following their Tools of Mentoring session at Fanshawe College Elgin Regional Campus in the Fall calendar, Sheila Bedford and Sheri Spriggs will be offering some follow-up sessions. Many young and newly graduated Educators now find themselves in a position of mentoring ECE students and identified that they would benefit from some additional support addressing such things as how to share critical feedback. All organizations supporting placement students will be welcome to attend.
- A new childcare centre has been approved for construction that will have 88 licensed spaces. It will be centrally located in St. Thomas and the intention is to have it ready by the end of 2020.

d) Middlesex Updates

- The Overcoming Barriers to Inclusion conference for Middlesex professionals held in November was a success. They have received great feedback from attendees.
- 2 new childcare centres have opened in the county in both Arva and Komoka. A third new centre will be opening soon.

e) Web Updates

Member Profile

A member profile feature is now also live in our Strive Online Member’s Area. This feature allows you to reset and/or change your password and update any of your personal contact details (i.e. new email address, change of employer, etc.).

New Registration Format

We have added a drop-down menu for registrants when identifying their organization/employer. We are hopeful this will help streamline the registration process and our stats collection.

Any organizations missing from the list can be relayed to us by selecting ‘Other’ and filling in the site information in the text box. We will update and amend the list as we go.



<p>Block Module</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The online block module authored by Diane Kashin and Cindy Green is now live! This was a long, laborious process from conception to finish but we are incredibly proud of the results. Diane wrote an accompanying blog post that illustrates their intentions behind this learning opportunity https://tecribresearch.wordpress.com/2020/01/09/are-you-playing-with-blocks-thoughts-about-all-ages-block-play/?fbclid=IwAR393akm4VhweaJLQEcQo1BnrKFoGoP_zSlwSk228a0IRO1iIT2TNYcSly7I Strive members receive a 20% discount to register which they can access via a private link in the Strive Online Member's area. 	
<p>5. Professional Learning Opportunities</p> <p>a. Winter Professional Learning Calendar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration for the Winter 2020 Professional Learning Calendar is officially open. An online preview of the calendar went live this past Monday, January 6. We are excited to see the community's response! Happy registering! Kirsti Cheese, Community Connector System Coordinator applied for funding through the City of London's 2019 Access, Affordability, Capacity Building/Quality One-Time Funding Opportunity with the aim to continue supporting the Community Connector Training for Licensed Child Care Providers initiative. Her application was successful which means we are now able to offer that training, as well as the London and Middlesex sessions of Understanding Trauma featured in our Winter calendar at no cost to London and Middlesex professionals. Dinner will also be provided at all three events. While we had already committed to continuing our support of his initiative, irrespective of cost, we are thrilled to be able to make it more accessible to participants by eliminating the potential barrier of cost. Winter Rethink: Our biggest and most beloved event of the year will be Saturday, March 7 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Carousel Room in the Western Fair District. This year, we will RETHINK the foundation of Belonging. What does it really mean to belong? What influences one's sense of belonging? How do you know when it has been achieved? Holly Brown, Mariela Garnica, and Hussein Ghoneim from LUSO Community Services will share information about the effective settlement of Newcomer children and families. This presentation will build knowledge on our role in helping Newcomer families effectively settle in Canada and feel a sense of belonging. We will explore barriers and challenges experienced by Newcomer families with young children and 	



<p>reflect on how to make early years play spaces culturally rich and welcoming for diverse families.</p> <p>Lisa Clarke, from laLa Wellness will engage us in reflecting on the power of self-talk. How do the stories we tell ourselves and the things we allow to occupy our minds impact our perception of how we fit in to the world?</p> <p>The day will also incorporate inspiring stories from Educators within our own community.</p> <p>The City of London's 2019 Access, Affordability, Capacity Building/Quality One-Time Funding Opportunity also allotted some funding to help us offer Winter Rethink at no cost to London and Middlesex professionals (Elgin and out of area registrants will still pay the \$25).</p> <p>We are well aware that cost can often be a barrier to participation in professional learning so we are so happy and grateful for the City's support. That being said, we have been quite transparent with the Strive community about our struggles with attendance and accountability particularly in relation to "free" events. Our hope is that professionals will exercise appropriate thoughtfulness and intentionality when they register and if they should no longer be able to attend, will let us know ASAP. No fee for registrants DOES NOT mean no cost to us. We greatly appreciate everyone's support and understanding.</p> <p>We will be looking for approximately 40 table facilitators for the day. The table facilitator's role is to keep the discussion focused, advance and deepen the discussion by asking questions and providing an opportunity for all voices to be heard. They are essential element to the success of the day and is a great opportunity for personal and professional growth. If you have team members attending that you know would be a good fit, please contact ally@striveswo.ca.</p>	
<p>6. Information Sharing (Organizational, Community, Provincial)</p> <p>a) LCCN and LCCN Advocacy</p> <p>LCCN did not receive any additional funding through the City of London's 2019 Access, Affordability, Capacity Building/Quality One-Time Funding Opportunity in order to continue and expand the Unsung Heroes recruitment and retention campaign. This is obviously disappointing but the advocacy sub-committee is still incredibly grateful for the opportunity to engage in this important work in the first place. The video, landing page, etc. will continue to live on in perpetuity, and the community is encouraged to continue engaging with the content and sharing it.</p> <p>https://unsungheroesece.com/</p>	

The *Make A Lasting Impact* campaign video has been viewed over 10,000 times and the website has been visited 4,898 times, averaging 57 visits a day since the campaign launched. This is hugely successful!

Our congratulations to the amazing, passionate and dedicated team who made this campaign possible. What a gift to our profession!

LCCN will be offering their support to Fanshawe's Celine Bourbonnais-MacDonald as she engages in research around developing a prototype for a National child care policy.

7. Community Updates

- Milestones opened their new addition. Infant care began in the space on December 16th. They are very happy with the results.
- The Oxford Childcare Advisory has announced their intentions to support Oxford professionals/organizations to become Strive Members!
- Fanshawe College will be initiating a fully online ECE diploma cohort of 40 students in September 2020. All told, Fanshawe is supporting over 1,000 ECE students across streams and across campuses.

Fanshawe wants to extend their thanks to the childcare community for their ongoing support of students on placement.

- The Indigenous Centre of Excellence will be hosting a knowledge exchange via Zoom from 2-4 pm on Wednesday, January 22. The topic will be around the importance of storytelling in the early years.
- Childreach's annual Soup & Chili lunch fundraiser will be Friday, January 31st from 11:30 am -1:30 pm. It's an all-you-can-eat lunch for a minimum donation of \$10. All proceeds support Childreach community programming. It's a great event for an even better cause. Please join us!
- The Elementary Teacher's Federation of Ontario will begin rotating strike action on Monday, January 20th.
- New College of Early Childhood Educators membership stats for 2018-2019 released following their Annual General Meeting.

Some highlights:

- 53, 756 members in good standing as of June 2019. 6,022 of those members are in District 8 (South West Region).
- 4,430 applications received this year and 3,807 certificates of Registration issued this year.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 57% of members are employed in licensed child care; 35% in education (i.e. schoolboard) ➤ 79% work full time, and 21%-part time ➤ Sector demographics by gender: 97% female, 3% male ➤ Compliance: 79% of members acknowledge compliance, 666 members acknowledged non-compliance for 2019 (527 complied within 30 days, 61 complied within 90 days, 40 were suspended, 17 resigned, and one was deceased). ➤ 562 members self-identified as Indigenous, 1509 identified as francophone <p>Access full report here: https://www.college-ece.ca/en/Documents/Annual_Report_2018-2019-EN.pdf</p>	
<p>8. Open Spaces for Conversation</p> <p>Ideas for Spring 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business/HR support https://striveswo.ca/events/lets-de-mystify-succession-planning/ https://striveswo.ca/events/lets-de-mystify-succession-planning-2/ • Understanding and responding to the current “culture of entitlement” • Joy! • Toddler CoP • Mental health for children and educators • Adult resilience <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=43adV3m5w3M&feature=emb_logo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we balance our pedagogical beliefs in the context of rules, regulations and policy • Consent in the early years • Storytelling • How to network/collaborate • Coffee and conversations (informal opportunities to gather) • Recruitment and retention • How to manage schedule changes 	
<p>9. Next meeting: February 14, 2020 1:00 to 3:00 pm @ Childreach</p> <p>Please register in advance so we know to expect you: https://striveswo.ca/events/strive-community-meeting-february/</p>	

