

Meeting Minutes

Strive – April 13, 2018

Katie Stortz, Tanja Linkes, Lindsey Carrothers, Ruth-Ann Whitley, Sheryl Third, Laurie Tustanof, Lee-Anne Cross, Denise Dunbar, Kelly Smith, Kelly Walker, Tanya Hutchison, Cheryl Read, Sheri Spriggs, Lori Wilson, Amanda Benton, Ann Rae, Diana Millian, Cora Burns, Pat Chenier, Jessie Keenen, Emily Paulger, Jennifer Fenn, Christie Popescu, Tanya Wilson, Lauren Goossens, Kathy Harris, Theresa Sulowski, Pauline Neable

Present via Zoom: Barb Jackson, Kinderville

Regrets: Holly Gerrits

1. Welcome and Introductions

Sheri welcomed everyone.

2. Adoptions of Agenda

Adoption of Agenda as presented

3. Approval of Friday March 9, 2018 minutes

Minutes we approved and can be found on the Strive website under Community Engagement.

4. Impact Story – Creating Connections through Leadership in the Community

Tanya and Christie from Milestones had an opportunity to facilitate a leadership event for Strive. They were fortunate for the opportunity and were able to talk about being in new leadership roles. They liked having the opportunity to support others and bring them together to provide resources for each other. Sheri shared the importance about bringing in these ideas that help move our community forward. Milestones spoke to their succession plan where they mentor staff and support them in their leadership role.

We want to continue bringing these skilled professionals to facilitate and share their stories to help guide us.

We encourage the community to come and represent their organization on the professional learning committee. This will help us learn more about what everyone has to offer and how we can work together to move forward. It's important to have the right people at the table, to speak on behalf of their organization and to take information back and share it effectively.

5. Updates from Project Manager

5.1 Organizational change

Darren Barkhouse is no longer with Strive. Strive has streamlined and created efficiencies. Ally has taken on the role of Project Coordinator, combining the communication and social media aspects while taking on more of the professional learning collaboration as well. The bachelor of Early Childhood Leadership intern, Meaghan McDonnell will be joining the team from May to August.

5.2 Financials

There has been budget approval from the City to go ahead with our 2018 proposals. This includes all feature events and website enhancements. We have been asked to submit a work plan for the rest of 2018. We are continuing to look at our outcomes, deliverables, measurements, etc. to demonstrate the impact of the Capacity Building funding. Continuous feedback from the community is helpful in moving forward with this process.

The Strive team continues to work with adHome on the professional learning platform. Once this



is finalized, everyone will be notified about next steps for registration. At this point London, Middlesex, and Elgin will be included in the Members Only section of the professional learning platform.

5.3 Centre of Excellence

UWO and ORA were successful with the Provincial Centre of Excellence and Secretariat bid. The Secretariat develops cohesion across all three centres. There are almost 50 supportive partners/organizations who have been participating in Zoom meetings for updates. We should have a clearer understanding of the work in May; however dynamic initiatives are in the works such as pedagogical leadership and mentorship.

We will invite someone from the Centres of Excellence team to join this committee.

6. Committees – Questions or clarifications

Professional Learning Committee – The Spring/Summer Community of Professional Learning calendar is available digitally on the website and social media and registration is live on Universe. Hard copies should be available next week and the electronic reminder will go out May 1st with the eBlast. Sessions are responsive to the community needs and interests, with multiple formats and venues considered.

You can find the newest workshops and events here:

<https://striveswo.ca/our-events/>

Mentoring Working Group – The Mentor Appreciation Event on April 5th was a great evening. Participants enjoyed light snacks, networking, and an opportunity to view a video created by two Bachelor of Early Childhood Leadership students, which highlighted the benefits of mentor/mentee relationships and the impact placements have on student’s learning. There was almost 60 door prizes, counting the lovely spring flower arrangements on the table, and each participants received a Strive umbrella and an Ontario Wildflower Mix (pollinator seed mix) seed packet “ Growing the Seeds of Mentorship”

The video can be found on the Strive website under Mentoring

<https://striveswo.ca/services/mentoring-service/>

Fanshawe College has highlighted the event on their website as well:

<https://www.fanshawec.ca/programs-and-courses/academic-schools/school-community-studies/ece-mentorship-appreciation-event>

Thank you to all who organized, contributed door prizes and attended!

The next centre tour will be on May 15 at the YMCA in Wortley. There was a great turnout at the Adelaide London Bridge site tour.

7. Action Conversations: Transforming policies and engagement practices as our sector transforms.

Lively Action Conversations focused on professional learning and building leadership capacity within our centres and in the Community.

-We want to revisit what professional learning looks like.

-Consider the importance of succession planning – Providing opportunities for emerging leaders ie. Sharing impact stories, presenting at Winter Rethink, leading article studies and site tours.

-We want to come back to the measurement piece. We document children’s learning; do we document the educators learning in the same way?

See additional notes: Action Conversations: Transforming Practices April 2018

8. Information Sharing (Organizational, Community, Provincial)

Early Learning Centre Project – The Passion Project – Tanya Wilson mentioned she has been creating recognition posts on the Early Learning Centre’s FB page and has offered to highlight educators from others organizations as well. The Strive Advisory Committee will add this to the agenda for further dialogue.



**9. Open Spaces
Conversations**

No time remaining

**10. Next meeting:
Friday May 11, 1:00-
3:00 at Childreach**



