

# Meeting Minutes

## Strive – June 8, 2018

**Present:** Barbara Jackson, Lauren Goossens,, John FitzGibbon, Irma Pedersen, Teresa Sulowski, Sheryl Third, Jessi Keenan, Ruth-ann Whitley, Kelly Walker, Kelly Smith, Cheryl Read, Elizabeth Gough, Emily Paulger, Cora Burns, Ally Scott, Meaghan MacDonell, Sheri Spriggs

**Regrets:** Tamara Blaney, Patricia Gere, Michelle Brooks, Anne Rae

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### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Sheri welcomed everyone.

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### 2. Adoptions of Agenda

As presented

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### 3. Approval of Friday April 13, 2018 minutes

Approved. Minutes can be found on the Strive website under Community Engagement.

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### 4. Impact Story –

Erika Murray, an RECE from Strathroy shared how her recent experiences at two of Strive’s professional learning opportunities - *‘Wee’ Wonder: Exploration of Everyday Materials for Infants* and *Continuous Professional Learning: Coffee and Conversations* – has deeply inspired her practice and helped her shape and identify new professional goals. Her wonderful story was sent electronically and shared by Ally Scott of Strive.

The full story can be found here: <https://striveswo.ca/our-news/wee-wonder-big-impact/>

Theresa Sulowski from the LDCSB shared how, in the wake of having all professional learning for the 2017-2018 scholastic year cancelled board-wide due to lack of proper supply coverage, the wide variety and availability of professional learning opportunities offered by Strive has been incremental for their staff. They have had to, as a community, fundamentally shift their thinking about professional learning and Strive has made this transition in thinking infinitely easier. On behalf of the LDCSB, she gives her thanks.

We continue to invite others to share their impact stories with the community.

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### 5. Updates from Project Manager

#### 5.1 Financials

As of April 30, 2018, the budget is on track. Expenses came in slightly under and participant fees and revenue are up.

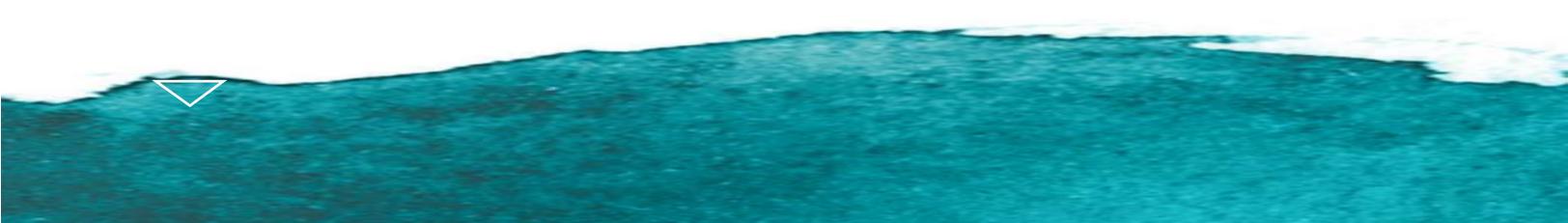
Still awaiting full funding to be released by the city as the Strive work plan continues to be revised.

#### 5.2 Strive Work Plan

The work plan continues to be under revision.

Finishing up year three of the Strategic Plan right where we hoped to be.

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**6. Sub-Committees –  
Updates, questions  
or clarifications**

**Professional Learning Committee –**

Planning is well underway for the fall calendar. Hoping to offer repeat sessions of workshops that sold out quickly, namely Wee Wonders and Extreme Makeover. By popular demand, a repeat session of Shelly Secret's presentation on Rainbow Families will be offered, along with a follow-up Part 2 for some deeper exploration. Some challenges have been expressed in the community with regards to effective goal setting for the CPL portfolio, in response, a vision board workshop and weekend retreat are being organized. In response to community interest in outdoor, all season play, specifically in winter, we are considering workshops with both the ever popular Greg Marshall, and Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds. Melanie Dixon from the CECE will be speaking to dual relationships and professional boundaries at sessions in both London and Elgin County. Heather Bywaters will be sharing updates to the Safe, Healthy Children resource and the MLHU website. Fanshawe College will be offering some mentorship training for those who host students on placement. This training has been previously very well received. Further suggestions and feedback are always welcome.

Spaces are still available for the upcoming e-portfolio workshops.

**Mentor Working Group –**

The mentor network meeting is on Monday, June 11. No updates to report at this time.

**7. Action  
Conversations: How  
do we inspire our  
community to  
engage in  
professional learning  
that is truly  
transformative?**

Key conversations captured:

- Challenges in striking a balance between mandated attendance for professional learning and getting educators to be self-motivated and take personal ownership of their learning. How do you engage intrinsic motivation in those who seem apathetic to the process?
- Recognizing the power of success/impact stories to inspire people; touching on the human element. Where can these stories be shared? Use of twitter or other social media platforms as an engagement strategy.
- Reflecting on how we turn thinking into action to move things forward. There needs to be a baseline or starting point for best practice. What is an educator's point of reference, or how do we hold ourselves and others accountable without a foundation? Consideration of ECERS 3 as a conversation/reflection tool. While there may no longer be the need for a score, we do need a tool that is indicative of expectations.
- How can we link websites so it is easy for people to access Strive and all of its services?
- "If it doesn't challenge you, it won't change you."
- Re-conceptualizing measurement; are relationships, collaboration, etc. forms of measurement?
- More support is needed to guide people through the CPL process.

**8. Information  
Sharing  
(Organizational,  
Community,  
Provincial)**

Sheryl Third of Fanshawe College shared an update following a provincial college coordinators teleconference with Cynthia Able of the CECE. The colleges will be undergoing a review of vocational outcomes. Coordinators were asked to hammer one thing home: professionals don't get to take off their professional hat. Social media is a growing concern. 1 in 5 complaints submitted to the CECE are about unprofessional behavior/ethics. They want students and practitioners to take caution online. We are members of the college in and out of the workplace. People are not reading the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice. New online resources will be coming about boundaries and ethics.

Paul Van Dyk will be giving presentations about the requirements of London's Child Care Fee Subsidy program.

- Learn what is required to help pay for child care costs



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- Ask questions that you have been hearing from families
  - Share your experiences and/or discuss a case that might be challenging you.
- August 16, 2018 – 9:30-11:00 am at Childreach  
September 17, 2018 – Time TBA (afternoon) at Family Center Carling-Thames

RSVPs to [kcheese@childreach.on.ca](mailto:kcheese@childreach.on.ca) are requested for participant numbers.

Congratulations extended to Lynn Livingston, who received an honorary diploma from Fanshawe College in recognition of the work she has done in the early care and learning field here in London. Great recognition for the school of Community Studies at Fanshawe College.

Congratulations extended to Theresa Sulowski the newly appointed regional representative for the College of Early Childhood Educators (CECE).

Congratulations extended to Irma Pedersen, CMSM St Thomas Elgin on her upcoming retirement. Deepest thanks for her many contributions to the early care and learning field.

Irma introduced John FitzGibbon in his new role as Children's Services Operations Coordinator with St Thomas Elgin.

Consensus on not having meetings in July and August. Meetings will resume in September.

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**9. Open Spaces  
Conversations**

No additional time for conversations.

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**10. Next meeting:**

Friday September 14, 1:00 to 3:00 pm at Childreach

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