

Abbotsford Child and Youth Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 24, 2015

Chair: Eric Van Egmond, MCFD**Minutes:** Maple Melder-Crozier, UFV

Those present	Organization
Kim Riddell	Abbotsford Restorative Justice and Advocacy Assc
Joanne Field	Abbotsford Restorative Justice and Advocacy Assc
Sharon Crowley	Literacy Matters
Kathleen Praxl	Child & Youth Special Needs, MCFD
Simone Maassen	Youth Resource Centre, ACS
Anna McWhinney	Central Abbotsford Community School
Susan Federspiel	City of Abbotsford
Denise Thandi	Abbotsford Early Childhood Committee/UWV
Maple Melder Crozier	Child Youth & Family Studies, UFV
Karen McLean	Fraser Valley Child Development Centre
Pierre Welbedagt	West Abbotsford Community School Society
Cheryl Unger	Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Fraser Valley
Elaine Ryans	Fraser Valley Aboriginal
Kaitlin Evans	Fraser Valley Aboriginal Child & Family Services
Kimberley Laing	Sumas First Nations
Andrea Senft	School District 34
Eric Van Egmond	Ministry of Children & Family Development

1. Welcome

Eric (Chair) called the meeting to order at 115. Maple agreed to be the note taker for the meeting. Simone said she would send a video mentioned at the last meeting to Louise for distribution.

2. Review and approval of May 21, 2015 minutes

Minutes approved

3. Introductions and agency highlights

Kim from Sumas First Nations said they had lots of events planned, but they are primarily Sumas based (flyer attached)

Elaine from FVACFSS with her practicum student Kaitlin, spoke of "Face Off" (flyer attached), and many other programs running. Sep 30 is Orange Shirt Day to remember and support Residential school survivors. There is a job available to replace Lila.

Cheryl of BBBS said they had a need for mentors, males in particular, especially in Mission. They have a \$15.00 roast beef pub night on Oct 2nd at Duke's in Chilliwack. The golf tourney was a great fund raiser.

Pierre of WACSS shared appreciation for their community partners and that they are looking for a cooking instructor for one of their programs (brochure attached)

Maple of UFV invited all interested to an Oct 5th event featuring 4 youth who live with ASD and 4 parents whose children live with it. This is free and is at UFV in B101 from 6-8. They also have Ginny Dennehy, of Kelty Mental Health, speaking in B101 on Oct 14th at 4 pm. And on Nov 2 from 6-8, the CYFS program students will be participating in the same simulation that the ACYC had at the Forum.

Karen of the FVCDC shared about CALM early learning, and CALM 2 being developed (brochure attached). She mentioned that they found so many of the kids at the 2 schools they were at that were hungry. A brief discussion of breakfast and lunch programs for the school district ensued.

Sue of the City said they have launched a MEND program (**Mind**, Exercise, Nutrition, Do It), and have established a Speaker's Bureau for people to register on or access—10 currently list. They also have an Active Sports Abby Plan, with a focus to have more people try sports at the beginner level and participate for life.

Anna of CACS commented on their participation in the Early Years Centre. They are looking for instructors for an 8 week drama program.

Simone of YRC also mentioned Face Off as well as several other programs: AYHC yoga on Wed at 7 for youth, DBT skills group, Moms drop in and Dads drop in, using a Q & A teaser format, Abby Dads and Anger Management with Counsellor co-facilitation, Mental Wellness Parenting and the Community Kitchen where youth learn to cook and get their Food Safe.

Kathleen of CYSN shared about a program at Northview church that provides respite time for parents of children with special support needs

Sharon of Literacy Matters talked about their trivia challenge at the Old Spaghetti Factory as part of their Life is Literacy program. They have developed a Digital Literacy presentation, housed with DPAC, for families to learn about technology. Their AGM is Nov 5th.

Joanne of ARJAA said they have programs at 5 schools and the Alternate to suspension, plus the Conflict Resolution, Alternative to Court, and they've applied for funding for bullying prevention. They have Restorative Family Support which includes a counsellor for low income or at risk families, funded by the Abby community foundation. She also shared about the National Character Conference on Oct 23 & 24 at Abbotsford Sr at a fee of \$249.

Eric of MCFD mentioned that they are restructuring their teams, and are hiring. The Province is launching a 'duty to report' campaign based on suggestions of the Page report, which the CSM is leading in each community.

Andrea of the School District said they have hired, with the police, a Westside parent Support Worker, as part of the Westside Engagement Project. The Database, housed on SD34.bc.ca, is ready to go view, and live in mid-Oct for families, with 97 programs included. It is program driven so info needs to be in that form—she will resend the link. The Early Years Centre is open and running and she discussed 'around school' funding.

4. ACYC Committees

Abbotsford Early Years

- Have had parachute games, (Fortis BC partnership), book writing competition, and the Early Learning Centre on the 1st floor of the SNC
- As of Sep 2, they have had contact people at the front desk to answer questions and direct or refer, Mon-Thu 9-4.

- Other organizations are co-located here too, like Strong Start and Sto:lo's drop in.
- The AECC have 9 priorities with actions connected; no MH or postpartum is included so will be embedded
- They have a Perinatal sub committee

Middle Years

- No report

Youth Networkers

- No report

Special Needs Advisory

- Matthew's House had a successful fundraiser with presentations by users of the facility. Mayor, MPs, MLAs and others attended.
- Nov 18th is the next meeting
- Mar 5th 2016 is the Transition Fair for parents

Community of Practice

Meets the 1st Tue of each month from 9 – 11 at the SNC Boardroom

They watch a relevant DVD and have a discussion

Kim Hetherington is willing to come to other groups and present

5. Calendar of events check-in

Two times a month format is well liked and should be continued.

6. Follow-up form June 1st Forum

Andrea Senft led discussion following from the Forum participant guidance to ACYC about "what next". Conclusion:

- Support the "every door was is the right door" model.
- Support getting the youth voice into services.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 26th, 1 to 3pm, Sweeney Neighbourhood House