



**Early Years Advisory Committee
Minutes
Location: 5100 Yonge Street, Committee Room One
Date: Friday, May 31, 2013
Time: 9:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Co-Chairs: McArthur, Pam (Runnymede Adventure Club); Oakes, Jill (YMCA);

Members:

Motta, Gaby (Growing Up Healthy Downtown); McArthur, Pam (Runnymede Adventure Club); Oakes, Jill (YMCA); Caplan, Esther (Adventure Place, Early Years Action Group - North Quad); Chorney Rubin, Patricia (George Brown College, Ryerson Campus); Costa, Colleen (Toronto Education Workers Local 4400 - CUPE);

Frois, Frank (Centre for E.C.E); Hendy, Nancy (Community Living Toronto); Jamal, Naseem (Ideal Child Care); McCarthy, Cindy (Terry Tan Child Centre);

McLeod, Lorraine (Toronto Childrens Service's); Siebert, Val (Kew Beach Day Care); DaSilva, Guida for Jennifer Schmitt (Toronto Public Library, Children & Youth Advocacy Unit);

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Chan, Shirley (TDSB); Hawkins, Lise (TDSB); Joliffe, May (TDSB); Torres, Fidelia (TDSB);

REGRETS:

Gershon, Gerri (Trustee, Ward 13);

GUESTS:

Feltoe, Sue (George Brown); Nelson Hillier (George Brown);

RECORDER: Manalo, John (Parent and Community Engagement)

Item	Information/Discussion	Action/ Recommendation
Welcome and Introductions	Meeting was called to order by Pam McArthur at 9:25 a.m. All members were welcomed by the co-chairs Jill Oakes and Pam McArthur	

Item	Information/Discussion	Action/Recommendation
Approval of Quorum (11)	Quorum was achieved with an attendance with 12 voting members out of 21 at this time of questioning at 9:30am.	
Approval of Minutes of Mar. 8, 2013 Minutes Apr 12, 2013 and Agenda of May 8, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The agenda was approved without opposition as outlined. ▪ Once quorum was met, a motion to approve the minutes was made first by Susan and second by Jill. The summary notes of Mar. 8, 2013 were approved without opposition. ▪ Once quorum was met, a motion to approve the minutes was made first by Cindy and second by Nancy. The minutes of Apr. 12, 2013 were approved without opposition. 	
TDSB Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continuing implementation of Full-Day Kindergarten with Phase Four starting in September 2013; full implementation by September 2014. ▪ FDK Before-and-After School Programs going from 64 this year to approximately 140 schools next year (this includes the programs from last year that are continuing); ▪ The next steps includes space surveys for licensing and leases; working with other TDSB departments and city to try and make process more streamline than last year; for TDSB this includes submitting space surveys by scanning and emailing. ▪ Toronto Children's Services shared that information on the new licensing flow chart at the recent district meetings. 	
George Brown, Early Years Programming, Patricia Chorney, Sue Feltoe, Nelson Hillier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Patricia Chorney shared some overview comments regarding George Brown's Early Childhood Education program. She shared samples for assessment tools and posters to promote outcomes. They also have a web-based application that allows for the sharing of recorded observations and achievements between child care and family. ▪ A video presentation was shown to illustrate the Observation Tool for teachers and practitioners who are involved in the classroom support and play-based strategies for Early Years Learning. The Ministry has an Early Years Framework for the entire province of Ontario. ▪ Patricia's team at George Brown College used an Innovation Grant to develop technologies and 	

Item	Information/Discussion	Action/Recommendation
	<p>integrate the web technology on the classroom floor to allow families and other practitioners from other daycares to share their observations of their children within their environment. This technology is used along with the other methods of communication within the ECE system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Additionally, they shared documents on outdoor programming. The book and resource is available at www.ece.nelson.com/9780176507183/instructor <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parents who have access to internet are welcome to use the web-based application from anywhere in the world ▪ This presentation was motivated by an update that indicated that the Ministry was holding round table discussion on whether there should be a Ministry Kindergarten report card. ▪ It was shared that the city's Early Learning and Care committee was discussing having a joint document to share best practices with system leaders and child care providers to continue working together and collaboratively. It would be easier for service providers to have one document as a reference of all the best practices and guidance principles. 	
Updates from Other Networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Toronto Child and Family Network involve representation from providers, institutions and school boards; ▪ Members encouraged to involved with working groups and similar networks to share suggestions and goals; 	
<p>Standing Items for Discussion (as applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared Space – Best Practices • Facility Related Topics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion continued without any given standing items. 	
Other Updates	Other Updates included:	

Item	Information/Discussion	Action/ Recommendation
and Information Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Toronto: Time for Action document addresses middle childhood programs and partnerships with school. The document will go to City Council in June. There are still issues with funding, newcomer accessibility, and arranging for space. Programming improves children's well-being, equity, access. About 54% of children spend their time in after-school programs and parents would like to have this instead of having their children at home. • Conference in November 2013 in Toronto at the BMO Centre - RAISING THE BAR - Key note speaker: Diana Longboat's involvement in Early learning research and practice. Theme: SHARED PRACTICES across the sectors and cultures. • TDSB Early Years department is working with Native Family Child Services of Toronto on an FDK program at Eastview PS. 	
Early Years Advisory Committee Future Meetings	<p>There was discussion as to whether the meetings should remain on Friday morning's as it did not work for at least one member. The option of rotating days was mentioned as well. It was determined that since attendance has been quite good on Fridays, that it would remain on that day.</p> <p>Early Years Advisory Committee Future Meetings in 2013-2014:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday, 27 September 2013 • Friday, 22 November 2013 • Friday, 21 February 2014 • Friday, 16 May 2014. <p>These new dates were approved by the group at the meeting.</p>	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned by Jill Oakes and Pam McArthur at 11:00 AM	

Next Meeting: Friday, 27 September 2013