



Meeting Minutes – Meeting 1

Northern Capacity Building Advisory Committee Thunder Bay and District

Date: June 9, 2020

Location: Zoom Meeting

Present : Patty Haney, Parent
Adrianna Atkins, Parent
Krista Smith, Parent
Alina Cameron, Parent
Danielle Paananen, Parent
Carolyn Mancuso, Own Practice: Ignite Positive Behaviour
J Pugliese, Nishnawbe Aski Nation
Liz Hathazi, Creative Therapy Associates
Nicole Deschamps, George Jeffrey Children Centre
Sherry Fournier, Child & Community Resources
Nathalie Poitras (Recorder)

Regrets: Terra Lofts, George Jeffrey Children Centre

Item

1.0	Welcome The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm by Sherry Fournier All members who were present were welcomed. Each member took a moment to introduce themselves to the group.
2.0	Approval of the Agenda – June 9, 2020 There were no amendments to the agenda.
3.0	Presentation – How did we get here? An overview of the last 2 years was presented by Sherry Fournier in form of a power point presentation which will be shared with committee members following the meeting. Opportunity for questions and discussion was provided.

Item

4.0	Review Draft Terms of References (TOR) <p>The Chair explained that the goal is to be flexible in creating the best plan of action for Thunder Bay. Sherry Fournier will be the appointed Chair of the committee and invited members to consider assuming the Co-chair. Committee members interested in the position of Co-chair are to submit their names to Nathalie at npoitras@ccrconnect.ca by the date stated at Item 9.0 “Committee Action Item”.</p> <p>As the meeting minutes will be posted on CCRs website it is important for all committee members to review and approve the content. Nathalie Poitras will forward draft minutes to committee members along with a deadline. If feedback is not received by the deadline the Chair will assume there are no amendments or additions. Following committee review and approval minutes will be posted on the CCR website.</p> <p>It was noted by the Chair that the word “Confidentiality” will be removed as the goal is transparency.</p> <p>All feedback regarding the TOR will be accepted until the date stated at Item 9.0 “Committee Action Item”. Members are asked to submit to npoitras@ccrconnect.ca .</p>
5.0	Proposed Timelines (Calendar) <p>The Chair explained that the timeline is to track action item and their priority during the year. This calendar is a living document therefore if needed can be amended at the committee’s request throughout the year. The members are asked to review the calendar and bring forth any feedback by will be accepted until the date stated at Item 9.0 “Committee Action Item”. to npoitras@ccrconnect.ca .</p>
6.0	Proposed Meeting Dates <p>The committee members have expressed concerns regarding set dates and times. Nathalie will coordinate with parents primarily for a favorable date and time for next meeting and also look at future dates thereafter.</p>
7.0	Communication <p>The Chair invited members to share ideas about how the funding might be utilized. The goad is to have a meaningful impact and work together to prioritize ideas that can be achieved this fiscal.</p>

7.0	Communication (cont'd)
	<p>A member shared that Nishnawbe Aski Nation is developing a rehabilitation curriculum. This curriculum does not hold the same qualifications as a Speech, Language and/or Physical Therapist however does provide a clear understanding of treatment and therapy recommended for patient. Jolene will inquire to NAN the possibility to share their framework and provide further details on the initiative. This can support the committee to create new partnership with Colleges to help professionals to obtain further training with ABA related courses.</p> <p>A member has shared that Community of Practice for Health Professionals comprised of partners throughout the region, provides great mentorship and takes value in sharing resources with its members. This Community of Practice may have some helpful connections and information to inform the work of the Northern Collaborative Advisory committee, Nicole Deschamps has offered to be the liaison between the two groups.</p> <p>Since duplication of services brings great confusion to consumers, members have suggested that an inventory of services offered in the Northwest region is required. Alina has offered to support with the collection of data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ on consumers' view who are accessing services ○ inventory of available services in the Northwest District <p>To this suggestion, Adrianna brought a relevant point that rural areas such as Manitouwadge could possibly require a separate list to determine both consumer's feedback and services offered. This may show one example that we may have to build the strategy from the ground up.</p> <p>From a provider's perspective, Carolyn from Ignite Positive Behaviour explained they need to know what parents want and they need, and then providers could gear their training towards parents' desire. Liz from Creative Therapy Associates also pointed out that for parents, "where to start" in the navigation process and actually navigating the system is an obstacle.</p> <p>The following points were brought up by members for future discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is the best way to engage families other than using surveys: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Advocate across the province are reachable ○ Facebook has been proven the best way to reach out to remote communities ● How do we bring concrete support to families that are unaware about current situation with Autism, or aren't aware of the direction to take because they are overwhelmed, hard time following changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An identified point person is required ○ An available family service coordinator

7.0	<p>Communication (cont'd)</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to help families with best decision making to prevent misuse of funds spent on services that were not helpful: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A point person ○ A PEER advocate who knows the autism world and who has a variety of experience with different age group. <p>A menu with best practices outlined of services; a map-out of services for families that would be easy to read and understand, perhaps it could be based on a questionnaire they would complete.</p> <p>Another point was shared around youths/teens, ages 12-18 and the limited services available to them, especially in rural communities. eg. life skills, intervention support. Parents of youths this age need to start planning for adulthood and services are sparse for this group. There seem to be a variety of services for young children but as much for youths 12 yrs and up.</p> <p>From a clinical standpoint, an effective support would be for families to obtain guidance from a clinician regarding families' next steps while waiting for diagnosis. Consultations days could be available, as well as guidance could be provided to families who are facing immediate needs.</p> <p>In a nutshell, the committee expressed the need to gather information on what services are available in the Thunder Bay District; how should it be organized; how to make them more accessible. The committee also looked at possible ways to engage students in the field and one would possibly be to create a framework to establish new credentials. Wage subsidy initiatives could also assist in sustaining therapists. Also, the involvement of private and public providers would bring essential elements to this strategy.</p>
8.0	<p>Adjournment</p> <p>The meeting was adjourned at 8:00p.m.</p> <p>The next meeting date will be determined with parents primarily and followed by a calendar invitation to the remainder of the committee.</p> <p>At the next meeting the committee will formulate a chart of ideas of high level strategy and goals.</p>
9.0	<p>Committee Action Items</p> <p>Members are asked to provide the following by June 22nd , 4p.m. to npoitras@ccrconnect.ca</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Chair interest • Provide feedback or address concerns regarding Calendar and Meeting Dates (<i>feedback have already been collected from the meeting</i>). • Review Minutes and submit edits • Review Terms of Reference and submit edits • Power Point correction on number of diagnosis • Alina Cameron–collection of data for available services in the Northwest District

