

Middle Childhood Matters Minutes

Tuesday, May 19th

Present: Cindy Himelstein, Lovelle San Gabrielle, Pat, Laraine Naft, Sandra Pierre, Tom, Kaitlin O’Leary, Ian Edward, Lisa Shortall, Linda, Paola Collini-Martins, Cynthia Grundmann, Annie Peng, Marilia Lana

Regrets: Diane Banks, Vanessa Chase, Jillian Sewell, Cindy McCarthy, Jane Mercer, Kate Wallis, Lorna Weigand

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
Year in Review - Ian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last year around this time a survey was done to see where members felt the coalition should focus its opportunities. The results were: Education and Awareness; Expanding Membership; and Civic Engagement • Education and Awareness: Rotunda event was successful and we want to continue to have this event, incorporating this year’s feedback (having the event during the day when council is in session); skills conference was deferred to the fall; parent training did not get off the ground, but there is still opportunities to work with Sick Kids pediatric residents on parent workshops; there is opportunity to organize professional development or conference around the ‘Toronto What Matters?’ after-school program standards (report is almost complete) • Expanding Membership: Successful at bringing TPH back to the table; Tom Chen from parent group looking to help parents access programs has also joined • Civic Engagement: Met with 3 mayoral candidates last year (John Tory in a group meeting only); Sent information to all new Councillors this past fall; have reached out to every City Councillor 3x (for two Rotunda events and after most recent event) • Municipal and Provincial Asks have been updated and we have responded to the province on proposed childcare regulations • The leadership team, which began as the steering committee for the Trillium grant, has worked hard over the past year to support the coalition to maintain momentum • Side note: The website will be down for the next 30 to 90 days. We are unable to access our account due to unforeseen circumstances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ian/Leadership team will write to City on the 2015-2019 Service Plan and to commend them on including 6-12 year olds in service plan • Ian and Annie will meet with Councilor Joe Cressy on Friday about his role as Youth Equity Champion • If anyone is interested in being part of the leadership team at any time, contact Ian or Cindy • A few Coalition member’s need access to the GoDaddy account to prevent this from happening in the future.
Toronto Public Health Presentation by Lovelle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public engagement and awareness is part of their strategic plan • They cover services across the life span, from babies to adults. The Early Years program stops at 6. • They have many workshops that target parents and often base programs in schools, otherwise in libraries or community centres. They try to be flexible with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There may be opportunities to collaborate with TPH on parenting workshops See attached presentation

	<p>programming and deliver based on needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TPH is starting to support more of a 'Families of Schools' model for multiple schools in one area 	
<p>Looking Ahead: 2015 and Onward – Cindy and Ian</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new Trillium Grant streams have come out and applications are due in August. Cindy asked the group the following question • Q: What is one outcome/achievement you would like to see for the Coalition at the end of 12 months and how do you see you/your organization supporting this outcome? -Main themes are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent engagement: prioritizing parent education, looking at how to get parents more involved. Research on parenting challenges and the importance of being engaged • Building more partnerships including between organizations, with businesses, with schools (in particular principals) • Advocacy: formalizing a strategy with City Councillors and advocating for the ministry to continue it's after-school funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This conversation will be continued at the next meeting <p>See attached notes</p>
<p>Other Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cynthia has requested to the City that a 6-12 stream be included in next year's 'Raising the Bar' professional development conference • Summer Reading club is starting at Toronto libraries 	
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday June 15th @ 10:00 am at CAS of Toronto 	