

## **Middle Childhood Matters Coalition of Toronto. November 17<sup>th</sup> 2014 meeting**

Present: Shaída Addetia, Vanessa Chase, Paola Collini-Martins, Cindy Himelstein, Sandra McCallum, Cindy McCarty, Jane Mercer, Jillian Sewell, Lisa Shortall,

Regrets - Diane Banks, Anna Polla, Cynthia Grundmann, Lorna Weigand , Jennifer Drummond, Eneyda Guerra, Kate Wallis, Ian Edward, Annie Peng

Cindy Himelstein Chaired the meeting- Introductions were made. Minutes passed

### **Educational Event at City Hall**

Lisa Shortall gave an update from the planning committee. Date for the 2014 event was January 21<sup>st</sup>. We don't have the schedule for next year Budget meetings yet so we are waiting to find out. Mayor and councillors will be sworn in Dec 2- After that Committee Rooms and Rotunda can be booked

### **Preparation for the Education Event:**

Aim for the Jan 21 or 28 for the city Hall event

"I love my afterschool Program" stories and program materials displayed by the children

Dr. Stewart Shankar- to be invited for as a speaker

Drumming workshop for child and school age program

Can use Children's Services' environmental scan/locator to let Councillors know programs in their wards-however; may create an impression that the programs are well dispersed. The challenge is that the programs are piece meal and are not a structured system

Who will co-host? The Chair of the CDRC committee could be asked to be our champion

Event will focus on the sector not individual organizations with sector information tables including – licensed child care, social/recreational ( community agencies), City of Toronto- ARC/ Toronto Public Library, Partners, MCMCT table

Need to develop concrete messages for each sector table which will include

Accessibility + affordability of programs for children/parents. Also programs are finding it hard to retain and get staff

TARGET- City Councillors and provide a concrete message from the coalition. Cite the policy of "Every child Belongs

Stats- there are 179,000 children 6-12 years old in Toronto- 23, 651 licensed child care spaces available; therefore on 13% of children accessing child care. Only one in 5 children have after school care"

**Action :**

**Sharma will continue to work with Josh Matlow's office to book the space**

**Jan Mercer will get all the Councillors email information on Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> to pass on to Sharma**

**Work with Children's Services to have the day declared "Middle childhood day"**

**Cindy H. will send out an MCMCT member program document to get information on programs and what sector each member is representing**

**I Love My Out of School Time Program (OOPS) Campaign**

Encouraging Coalition Member's programs to materials that we can display at the Educational Event. All program submissions will be put into a draw for a \$75.00 gift card

**Action**

**Cindy to send out I Love My Out of School Time Program (OOPS) Campaign materials – asking members to bring materials to Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. However the campaign will run until January 9<sup>th</sup> 2014.**

**Sharma to follow up with specific programs for their submissions.**

**2015 Conference**

Due to limited MCMCT resources discussed partnering with Middle Childhood Implementation Committee to put on a joint conference sometime in May 2015. Brainstormed ideas for capacity building with staff such as Funding Formula- Modernization of childcare and what it means for your program and parents? Mental Health- Services for Newcomers, CAS/VAW accord, reporting Child abuse. Discussion around conference fees and if this event makes money for the Coalition

**Action** Interested Coalition members to plan a conference: Jane Mercer, Jillian Sewell, Vanesa Toledo, Shaida Adettia, Cindy Himelstein

Speak to MC Implementation Committee to partner

**Coalition update**

Cindy Himelstein will be taking on a BSW student Kaitlin O'Leary, from Lakehead University who will start her placement on January 7<sup>th</sup>. The majority of her placement will be supporting the work of the Coalition

## **Funding**

The Coalition has no pending funding applications and no new funding sources. The Ontario Trillium Foundation ReDesign 2015 will launch the funding programs in the summer of 2015.

## **Sector Updates**

2014 Parent Summit City event which is for parents and specifically highlighting City of Toronto services and an opportunity for parents to ask questions, learn about the subsidy process, etc.

## **Action**

**Cynthia Grundmann sent an email Parent Survey is now available online. Cindy H. distributed it to Coalition members**

<http://cityoftoronto.fluidsurveys.com/s/parents summit2014/>

Toronto Child and Family Advisory Network- Early Learning and Care Committee Representation

**Action Cindy McCarthy will represent the Coalition on this committee**

Toronto Middle Childhood Implementation Committee

**Action Cindy Himmelstein will represent the Coalition on this committee**

## **Coalition Membership**

Spend a few minutes talking about their organization and new programs

Who is missing at the table? – Toronto Public Health and TDSB

**Action Cindy H. to follow up with Toronto Public Health representation**

Discussed a section on the monthly agenda for Program/Agency Updates- what is new and exciting with your Agency or group

## Next Meetings

**CAS of Toronto, 30 Isabella Street- Third Monday of the Month except for Feb. March & May**

Monday December 15<sup>th</sup> 2014

Monday January 19<sup>th</sup> 2015

Tuesday February 17<sup>th</sup> 2015

Monday March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2015

Monday April 20<sup>th</sup> 2015

Tuesday May 19<sup>th</sup> 2105

Monday June 15<sup>th</sup> 2015