

 <p>Best Start Network The Best Start for All Children</p> <p>REVISED MINUTES</p>	Date:	February 16, 2012
	Time:	10:00 am
	Location:	NWHU-Fort Frances 396 Scott Street
	Chair:	Deb Cousineau
	Recorder	Jennifer Kivimäki
Type of meeting:	Rainy River District Best Start Network Meeting	
Participants:	Deb Cousineau, Kim Anderson, Nicole Cheetham, Bill Reynolds, , Ann Anderson, Leanne Mineault, Angela Mihichuk Conference: Kelly Massaro-Joblin	
Regrets:	Kim Gardiman, Carolyn Skirten, Leisha Mainville, Margie Bettiol, Heather Exley, Tammy Faykes, Cheryl Bodnar	
Absent:	Lauris Werenko	

1) Welcome/Call to Order/Introductions

Deb C. called the meeting to order.

2) Our Vision: “The Best Start for ALL Children”

Kim read our Vision Statement.

3) Approval of & Additions to the Agenda

Promising Practices for Integration- Deb C will work with Leanne to complete and submit this on our behalf. They will be meeting today after this Network Meeting.

Block Party- Ann A

4) Approval of Minutes – January 25, 2012

Add Angela Mihichuk, and take Carolyn Skirten out.

Motion: Angela Mihichuk

Seconded: Nicole Cheetham

“That the January 25th, 2012 draft minutes be approved.”

All in Favour: Carried.

5) RAINY RIVER DISTRICT BEST START NETWORK:

a) Aboriginal Planning & Engagement – Deb

- Members discussed the need for additional aboriginal reps at the Network table
- Rep from Weechi-it-te-win Services, Lauris Werenko will be contacted to determine interest of continuing on the BSN
- We need to develop an outline of what we are asking of the reps and determine who and engage them into the Network
- Bill is possibly looking for a venue to do a presentation on aboriginal data and the high vulnerability rate scores and discuss with them how we can assist.
- Angela/Charity can be available for an early learning meeting to show them how to incorporate Aboriginal culture. (Fridays work best for them to be able to attend a staff meeting, as they don't have children on Fridays)
- Letters to elders needed as soon as possible before we bring Executive Directors to table. The letter should state that this is on a voluntary basis, no honorarium for each meeting they attend
- With our Aboriginal Engagement money, we can buy Aboriginal Resource Kits to go into Hubs to be used by staff to teach the 7 Grandfather teachings. We need to try to engage our partners. We will include a letter with the kit explaining how to best utilize it.
 - 12 kits and 12 sets of books will have be ordered.
 - Who will get a kit?
 - How will we distribute these kits?
 - Will we have to provide an introduction to these kits?
- **Actions:**
 - Bill will possibly contact Brent Tookeny to see if there is an upcoming venue to address these issues of vulnerability rate
 - Ann will contact Shelley Jones to join the table
 - Angela will contact Krista Bruyere and Rachel Spuzak to attend
 - Deb C/Ann A to write letter to all Eexecutive Directors, re: Attendance at the table.
 - Who, What we do, what we want (ie) to attend a monthly meeting
 - Angela to contact Josephine Potson to seek her attendance at the next meeting on March 7, 2012.
 - Ann to write draft a letter to Elder for Angela before the next meeting

b) Innovation Fund Project – Deb

- A new online system is being worked on by Jordan Forbes.
www.beststart4kids.ca was selected for the domain name of this new website that eventually will be able to be accessed by everyone.
- An overview of this project will be done at the April meeting.
- The quote for this website was \$20,000 and this includes the building of entire website, intranet, training, aftercare, and website hosting.
- The website should be ready to launch by the middle of April.

- Everyone email Angela a list of who they want to attend this launch and she will collect a list.
- Contact Wanda Gordon.
- Kim A. to look into stainless steel mugs, lanyards, USB Ports, folding totes for swag.
- Some of the agencies it was suggested to invite: FACS, Health Unit, Hospitals, FN Agencies.
- Will check with La Place Rendez-vous for date and hold session from 10 – 2, half of the ballroom
- Angela found out the prices of an iPad from Walmart: 32 Gig with WiFi \$699.97
 - 16 Gig \$586.47

Actions: Jenn to book La Place Rendezvous for April 27th 10-2

- Ann to contact Lynne Livingstone for key note speaker
- Kim A to look into promotional items through 4Imprints Canada catalogue
- Create invitation list.
- Develop invitation so they can be mailed by mid to end of March
- Develop initial survey for launch participants
- Lunch etc. Organize food with Rendezvous?

c) Budget Review – Cheryl

No update available

e) Upcoming Events

- Leadership and Partnership Meeting, Thunder Bay on March 28, 29, 2012
- Attending will be Best Start Chairs plus 4 members from Network, DSSAB CAO & Child Care Manager & Directors of Board of Education
- Each Network will have 10 minutes to showcase a project (ie) Transition to School document. Possibly do with Kenora Network? It is unique how we work together with the Kenora Network as that isn't done elsewhere in the province.
- Leanne will let Margie know about the need for projector for the meeting.
- Angela Mihichuk, Nicole Cheetham, Ann Anderson, Bill Reynolds, Deb C (chair), Kim Anderson (chair) attending.
- Deb and Kim will take lead for the presentation.
- Carrie Stewart will lead through Integration Exercises
- Must have registration into Darlene Fletcher
- Confirm who will be in attendance
- Will Cheryl be paying for hotel rooms? Can they be booked as a group, as well is anyone wanting to travel together?

- Leanne mentioned about the Moe the Mouse workshop March 19th full day and March 20th ½ day slated to be held in Kenora.

- Save the Date, April 17 & 18, 2012, Play to Learn, Learn to Play Connection Event, Firefly, Best Western Lakeside Inn, Kenora

- Keynote address with Susan Stacey, Author of Emergent Curriculum and Jim Grieve, ADM, MEDU
- First day will have traditional Aboriginal opening.
- Charity McMahon will be making a presentation on Aboriginal information.
- The target audience for the conference is early childhood educators and other child care staff however we welcome people interested from other sectors to attend as well. In the past we have had attend, JK/SK teachers, staff from HBHC, child development, children's mental health, friendship programs etc.
- Jim Grieve will also be making a breakfast presentation during the 2nd day of the conference.
- MCCA- Manitoba Child Care Association Conference May 23, 24, 25.

Actions: Nicole to send Jenn information about MCAA to forward to Network Members.

- Bring forward to next meeting to confirm who will be attending conference in Thunder Bay.
- Leanne to let Margie know about the need for a projector at the Thunder Bay conference.

6) RECRUITING PARTNERS SUB-COMMITTEE

a) ECE/Teacher Exchange Program – Ann & Kim A.

- Lonna & Ann met with Angela and Charity as two people want to be part of an exchange with Aboriginal Partner. How do we do it? Does the board pay? The two interested people are in talks with Charity.
- Ann stated she will look after this.

b) Summer Celebration- Ann

- Block Party
- Lonna will develop the application. There will be a meeting on February 27th at 9:00 A.M. at the Head Start with Lonna, Angela, and Deb C. and Kim A. to discuss planning.
 - Elementary teachers have done this in Toronto. Its all about play based learning at this party (0-6) to do in June so this can be held outside.

Actions: Bring forward to next meeting for dates/forms

- Early Learning Symposium
- Scheduled for Friday November 9, 2012.
- Dr. Stuart Shankar will be speaker with Dr. Pascal the opening speaker.
 - Have Dr. Pascal frame everything out, and then get Dr. Shankar to speak about self regulation, and the cultural issues surrounding self regulation.
 - Possibly have something in the evening for about an hour so people who couldn't make it during the day can attend.
 - Requested venue to be Townsend Theater.
 - What are we going to call the symposium?

- Should we be charging a minimum fee for attending?
- Look for in-kind contributions from partners.
- Transportation: Possibly Head Start bus may be an option.
- Bill suggested to possibly have Stuart talk quickly about self- regulation to possibly do a radio ad?
- Brochure/Save the date flyers need to go out.

- **Actions:**
 - Confirm location
 - Confirm caterer
 - “Save the date” flyers need to be sent out
 - Guest List- who should we invite?
 - Confirm budget- where can we get additional dollars.
 - Create media plan.
 - Kim to call Ryan Parisian to find out about an Aboriginal Cultural Meal and possibly get a quote. Possible ideas: bannock, wild rice, fish fry?
 - Ann will contact both Dr. Pascal & Shanker to determine dates of availability for conference

7) EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM SUB-COMMITTEE

a) District School Board Update – Ann & Kim A.

- Early Learning team consisting of four schools
- How to assess Early Learning?
- The New Report card for early learning not out until 2013.
- Can't include Kindergarten teachers if they aren't in the policy.
- The report is not really what it should be.
- Meeting with Heather Exley May 8,9,10 in Thunder Bay.
- Dryden currently has a waiting list for French Immersion school registration.

b) ELP Working Group Update – Kim A./Ann A.

- To date no meeting has been scheduled
- Sylvia Parker is scheduling next meeting
- Kim/Ann to keep us updated

8) SPECIALIZED SERVICES COMMITTEE

a) 18 Month Well Baby Visits & Referral Pathway – Deb

- Kim G, and Deb C. taking this over
- Work plan is being developed at committee level.
- Dr. Clinton will come and support at a later time.
- Enhanced Rourke Baby record at 18 months, and making sure appropriate referrals are made. Dr's need to know where to refer to and not have to wait to figure out where the referrals can be made to.
- Bring forward to next meeting

Action: Deb to send out doodle calendar with possible dates

9) BEST START HUB OPERATORS

a) Update – Leanne

- All Best Start Hubs have now submitted their 2012 work plans. Upon review, Cheryl Bodnar, Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board, Sarah Stevenson, Kenora District Services Board and Leanne Mineault, FIREFLY will provide Hub staff with comments/feedback.
- Best Start Hub Teleconference was held on January 10, 2012.
- Bill Reynolds, Data Analysis Coordinator, FIREFLY provided an annual review on the Hub data elements including the stat collection process.
- Some Hub staff reported on attending a workshop in December hosted by the Northwestern Health Unit titled "Using Social Media to Reach Families". As a result some Hubs have expressed an interest to use social media i.e. Facebook, as a way to promote their programs and services to young families. Leanne Mineault is currently gathering information to aid Cheryl Bodnar, Sarah Stevenson and herself to establish guidelines/parameters on the use of social media for Hubs.
- A small Parent/Caregiver Education & Child Development Education Work Group has been struck. Members are Anne Ainsworth, Early Literacy Specialist, FIREFLY, Barb Avanthey, Dryden Best Start Hub, Leanne Mineault, and Marnie Schuster, Kenora Best Start Hub. They have been tasked to develop a multi year training plan for Best Start Hub staff to support their work in providing parent/caregiver education and child development education. Ongoing feedback is being solicited from all Hub staff during the development of the training plan.
- Based on keen interest expressed, Leanne Mineault is currently making arrangements for Hub staff to receive Infant Massage Instructor Training within the next couple of month.
- Next Best Start Hub Teleconference has been scheduled for February 21, 2012.

10) CHILD CARE OPERATORS

a) Update – Nicole/Leisha

- No update at this time.
- Nicole informs the next Child Care Supervisor's meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2012 in Dryden
- Nicole will send updates to Child Care providers after each Network meeting

Action: Bring forward to next meeting

11) COMMUNITY COALITIONS

a) Coming Together for Kids Update – Angela

- No update at this time, as there has been no meeting yet.

Action: Bring forward to next meeting

b) Atikokan Next Generation – Tammy

- No update at this time.

12) NORTHERN REGIONAL DAC NETWORK:

- Bill states there will be EDI training with teachers in Fort Frances on February 17th then teachers will work on EDI checklist.
- Incentive plan to get parents to complete (ie) \$50 Walmart Gift Card.

13) Ministry Update

a) MCYS – Margie

- No update at this time.

b) MEDU- Kelly

- Teleconference with DSSAB on February 8th, Re: 2012 Budget & 2011 Recording Process.
- Meeting face to face possibly on May 10th, 2012.
- Upcoming Leadership and Partnership Meeting – March 28th & 29th in Thunder Bay – (information sent out to Best Start Chairs, EY Leads for school boards & DSSAB's)

14) Next Meeting Dates: Wednesday, March 7, 2012 @ 10:00 a.m.- Working Meeting dealing with Innovation Fund, Early Learning Symposium, and Block Party

Wednesday, April 11, 2012 @ 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, May 17, 2012 @ 10:00 a.m.

15) Adjournment: Kim adjourned the meeting @ 3:20 p.m.

DRAFT