

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MINUTES</b></p>	<b>Date:</b>	November 30, 2011
	<b>Time:</b>	8:30 am
	<b>Location:</b>	NWHU-Fort Frances 396 Scott Street
	<b>Chair:</b>	Deb Cousineau/ Kim Anderson
	<b>Recorder</b>	Jennifer Kivimäki
<b>Type of meeting:</b>	<b>Rainy River District Best Start Network Meeting</b>	
<b>Participants:</b>	Cheryl Bodnar, Deb Cousineau, Kim Anderson, Nicole Cheetham, Leanne Mineault, Bill Reynolds, Kim Gardiman, Carolyn Skirten, Ann-Marie Armstrong	
<b>Regrets:</b>	Ann Anderson, Kelly Massaro-Joblin, Angela Mihichuk, Miranda Sigurdson, Christina Maltais, Tammy Faykes	
<b>Absent:</b>	Margie Bettiol, Lauris Werenko	

**1) Welcome/Call to Order/Introductions**

Kim Anderson called the meeting to order.

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

**3) Approval of & Additions to the Agenda**

**Approved:** Nicole Cheetham  
**Seconded:** Leanne Mineault

“That the Agenda be approved.”  
**All in Favour:** Carried.

**4) Approval of Minutes – October 17, 2011:**

**Approved:** Leanne Mineault  
**Seconded:** Nicole Cheetham

**5) RAINY RIVER DISTRICT BEST START NETWORK:**

**a) Network Structure & Function Template – Deb Cousineau**

**Action:** Update template with removal of Best Start Executive – Cheryl

**b) Aboriginal Planning & Engagement – Deb**

- Kim Anderson will be contacting Leisha Mainville of Four C’s Day Care to personally invite her to a to join and attend the next Best Start Network meeting, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

**Action:** Contact Leisha Mainville – Kim A.

**c) Innovation Fund Project – Deb**

- The morning of the next meeting will be dedicated to planning the Innovation Fund project
- Bill will bring in data to assist in the planning process
- In terms of a champion, their role will be vital in bringing people together from many different sectors to provide information on services for children
- Cheryl will check to see if the funding for the Innovation Fund has come through yet
- Kim A. will check with Margie to see if the funds can carry over to the next year.

**Action: Morning of December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting for planning of Innovation Project**

**d) Best Start Work Plan – Deb**

- Include what was identified today as goals, and review at next meeting.
- All goals were accomplished for 2011
- Four major projects currently working on:
  - Innovation Fund
  - Aboriginal Planning & Engagement
  - Recruiting Partners-Summer Celebration/Block Party
  - 18 Month Well Baby- Dr. Clinton will be meeting with network members in March, tentatively.

**Action: Discuss further at December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

**e) Children's Charter of Rights- Deb**

- Make it mean something!!
- Children & Youth have a voice, and what happens to them matters.
- The Charter has to be more than just a piece of paper, it needs to be a working document so it can be available at municipal meetings
- Have the children involved and participating for bigger impact
- There needs to be a concrete plan on the level of commitment of partners to keep the Charter going
- Invite all the municipalities, and partners to a "breakfast" to introduce them to the Charter.
- Kim G suggested that one representative go to the meetings to make sure that Charter is being held up, and be prepared to speak to why the issues will relate to them
- Invite the public, businesses and media outlets
- For the charter, have kids do drawings of the rights, as using children's voices, pictures, has more impact than we do.
- It will be a small change over time, but we need to build along a number of different fronts.
- First step: community engagement: what, why, our time line, look for support, then set a date for release

- Looking to have the Charter launched on November 20, 2012- National Child Day
- Have an info session, liaison with the schools, daycares, present to council, HUBS, present at DSSAB meeting so all the municipalities are there, chiefs/council (10 bands across RR District)
- There needs to be a separate meeting with council for it to be more effective, it doesn't matter if there is overlap on the information they are given.
- Should there be 2 working groups? 1 for children, 1 for youth
- Possibly focus on having an information session centered around Family Day in February.
- Kim A suggested it would be great if Jim Grieve who is attending the area April 17/18, 2012 could somehow be attached to this.
- When the Charter is implemented, there should be a baseline profile with EDI information, census data, etc., followed by a report card after it's implemented.
- Bill has some data re: children 0-6 in families-income-marital status, he will share info at next meeting.
- Cheryl said she would bring food bank usage stats
- Get handouts to school in January for the children to do their pictures.
- Time line:
  - January- information to schools
  - February- information sessions- Fort, Rainy River, Atikokan
  - March/April- municipalities/on the road
  - May/Sept- Roll up, creation of document, go to town for proclamation of Children's Day November 20, 2012
  - Sept/Oct- Enough time to finalize everything on the charter
- Kim A will go to the school teachers within her educational coordinator role
- When would boards/councils need this information in order to get this passed? How far in advance do they need everything?
- Could we possibly get Moffatt funding, get this Charter tied into radio ads for school board, PR is HUGE!!
- Endorsement of the Charter is HUGE.
- Kim G will do a rough template of presentation for the next meeting in December.
- Bill will put together some helpful data for the next meeting and a time line will be finalized at this time.
- "Leap Forward with our Children's Charter" Legion pancake breakfast 8-8:45 breakfast with a presentation about the charter to follow.
- Determine who will be invited to this breakfast:
  - Municipal
  - Religious
  - Coming together 4 kids
  - Atikokan Next Generation
  - Aboriginal
  - Media
  - Police
  - Parent Council
  - Victim Services

Action: Further discussion morning of the December 20<sup>th</sup> meeting

*Best Start is about children...helping them be the best they can be.*

**f) 2011 Bursaries – Cheryl N/A**

**g) Budget Review- Cheryl**

- Budget to date was reviewed. There is \$2700 left for the rest of the year, with allowed carry over to the next year
- Aboriginal funding has large surplus
- Innovation money has not been received to date
- Need to buy more bases for posters, possibly more radio ads before the year is over

**Action: 2012 budget discussion – Cheryl**

**h) Upcoming Events- Cheryl N/A**

**6) COMMUNICATION SUB-COMMITTEE**

**a) Communications Update – Cheryl**

- Leanne has stepped down from her position
- It was brought to the attention that Best Start Hubs need to have signs in French. At this point it's not clear if ALL Hubs need to have French signage, or if it only applies in Ignace because they are a French speaking community.
- Should there be Best Start Hub signs in Oji/Cree?
- The Communications Committee is disbanding because the membership has decreased to only 1 or 2 members
- At this time communications will be dealt with by the BS Network as a whole
- The Communication Sub-Committee will reconvene when there is project needs and will seek membership at that time.

**7) RECRUITING PARTNERS SUB-COMMITTEE**

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

**Action: Carry forward to discuss at January meeting.**

**b) Summer Celebration- Ann**

**Action: Carry forward to December/January meeting.**

**8) EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM SUB-COMMITTEE**

**a) Building Our Best Future Update - Deb**

- No update

**Action: Remove from Agenda**

**b) Speech/Language Demo Site – Deb/Ann**

- No update

**Action: Remove from Agenda**

**c) District School Board Update – Ann & Kim A.**

- No report from Ann
- Kim A reports that the implementation of the ELP is going very well
- The following is a schedule of schools and implementation of ELP
- Year 1- St. Pat's
- Year 2- St. Michael's
- Year 3- Sacred Heart
- Year 4- St. Joe's
- Year 5- Our Lady of our Way

**d) ELP Working Group Update – Heather**

- ELP group has changed slightly. Kenora/Rainy River will be one working group, and does not include Thunder Bay anymore.
- Sylvia is co-chair
- Initial meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2011

**Action: Overview of work plan - Kim A. will bring to next meeting.**

**9) SPECIALIZED SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**a) Review Special Needs Transition to School document - Deb & Ann**

- The final version of the Special Needs document has been received
- Jen/Cheryl will distribute to all BSN members

**Action: Send out final version of Special Needs Document to all members**

**b) 18 Month Well Baby Visits & Referral Pathway – Deb**

**Action: Deferred to Specialized Services Meeting**

**10) BEST START HUB OPERATORS**

**a) Update – Leanne**

- Face to face meeting for Best Start Hub Coordinators was scheduled for November 3 and 4<sup>th</sup> in Fort Frances
- Chris/Bill provided a report for the survey which was completed this spring.
- Chris recapped on the EDI trends.
- Deb stated that Northwords-Infant hearing is looking at the HUBS doing block therapy, for the HUBS to provide these specialized services
- The HUBS were asked to update their info to 211
- HUB sub-committee is looking at what the HUBS are providing to the community and looking to address the gaps.

**11) CHILD CARE OPERATORS**

**a) Update – Nicole**

- Nicole informed that they are having a difficult time for licensing in regard to fire drills for fire as the Fire Chief has a specific requirement
- Currently the fire alarms are getting tested on PD days, but they have to be done on a sporadic basis
- The DNA and the Education requirements are somewhat different in timelines for testing purposes
- It was suggested that perhaps recording the fire alarm as a practice drill would be more beneficial for the children as it is what the actual alarm sounds like instead of blowing a whistle

**12) COMMUNITY COALITIONS**

**a) Coming Together for Kinds Update – Miranda**

**Action: Carry forward to next meeting**

**b) Atikokan Next Generation – Tammy**

**Action: Carry forward to next meeting.**

### **13) NORTHERN REGIONAL DAC NETWORK:**

#### **a) EDI Update – Bill**

- Bill reviewed the discussion from the Kenora BS Network meeting in September where he indicated that the process for establishing the Research Network appeared to be frustrating the primary goal which is to move towards data sharing arrangements across key organizations to support the development of local community profiles. These profiles could be used by the Community Coalitions or any other planning bodies to support local efforts to improve the developmental outcomes of children. The concept of the Research Network came from the Sudbury Best Start Network and it is his understanding that that committee is not currently functioning. This may indicate that the formal process may not be sustainable in the long run. At the September meeting Bill suggested that the data sharing process might have more success if it were started in an informal way initially with the Health Unit and the FIREFLY working together (Data Analysis Coordinators & Epidemiologist) and once a template or process for data sharing had been established to build it from there to include other partners such as the Boards of Education or any other organizations with data on children and families.
- Bill met with Lee-Ann Nalezty last month to discuss the details around sharing data at a community level with the intent of developing community profiles. The Early Development Instrument data included in the report “Kenora & Rainy River District 2005-2009: How ready are our children for school?” provided a starting point for the discussion. The Health Unit has a number of data sets that may be of interest in a community profile. One example is the Integrated Services for Children Information System (ISCISS) which has information on all newborns and their families. Lee-Ann was very receptive to the data sharing concept and indicated that the Health Unit is currently using the Results Based Accountability framework which was outlined at the end of the EDI report as a suggested way to use the EDI information.
- At the end of the meeting Lee-Ann indicated that she would check with some other health units which were involved with the development of community profiles. She also said that she would need to speak with Dr. Arthurs and Kim Gardiman about the overall nature of the initiative and ways in which the Health Unit could be involved. Bill will provide an update on progress of the Data Sharing Collaborative at the next network meeting.

### **14) Ministry Update**

#### **a) MCYS – Margie**

- Possibility of a spring conference with guest speaker Stuart Shanker.
- Regional Meeting will be all inclusive so all can attend March 28,29,30, 2012 based on having school board attend.
- Get Bill to bring copy of EDI report for the Kenora/Rainy River district.

#### **b) MEDU- Heather**

- Nothing to update at this time.

**16) Next Meeting Date: Tuesday December 20<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30 AM**

**17) Adjournment:** Deb C adjourned the meeting @ 2:45 p.m.