
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2022

VIRTUAL, MICROSOFT TEAMS – 6:00 PM TO 7:30PM

SEAC Members:

Sue Wilson, (Chair)

Trustee

Amanda Banfield (Vice Chair)

Lanark County Support Services

Karen McAllister

Trustee

Tom Jordan

*Family and Children Services of Lanark,
Leeds, and Grenville*

Nicole Taylor

Autism Ontario - East Region

Natasha Scott

*Child and Youth Mental Health Services
Cornwall Community Hospital*

Amanda Petch

Alternate, Autism Ontario, East Region

Guests:

Corey Kalsi

CDSBEO, Technology Consultant for Special Education

Rhonda Peterson

CUPE

Ashley Walker

CSC Representative, St. Anne, Cornwall

Natalie Cameron,

*Children's Aid Society of the United Counties
of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry*

Cathy Bridson,

Rural FASD Support Network

Board Resource Staff:

Heather Gerber

Superintendent of School Effectiveness

Angela McNamee

Principal of Special Education

Kariane Schinzel

*Administrative Assistant to
Superintendent Gerber*

Approved regrets with notification:

Rob More

Rural FASD Support Network

Kimberly Gill

*Children's Aid Society of the United Counties
of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry*

Kim Peterson

Member at Large

1. Welcome, Introductions and Roll Call

2. Land Acknowledgment

Principal Angela McNamee acknowledged the Land.

3. Opening Prayer

Principal Angela McNamee led the group in opening prayer.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Amanda Banfield CARRIED

5. Receiving September 28th, Minutes

SEAC minutes were electronically approved on October 11, 2022.

Motion:

To receive minutes as presented.

Moved by: Tom Jordan CARRIED

6. Presentation: Supporting Our Exceptional Learners Through Technology

Presenter: Corey Kalsi, Technology Consultant for Special Education

- Superintendent Gerber introduced Corey Kalsi, Technology Consultant for Special Education to present on “Supporting our Exceptional Learners Through Technology.” An overview of the core assistive technology tools available to all learners in the CDSBEO family was presented, with emphasis on Read&Write and Microsoft Accessibility Tools. Corey also provided a snapshot of the technology hardware students leverage, with particular emphasis on those who receive SEA Technology.

7. Association Updates:

Lanark County Support Services – Amanda Banfield

Report update:

- We hosted Career Services Brockville and the Virtual Job Readiness Pilot Project. It provided five individuals and staff with the opportunity to trial virtual reality hardware & software. It provided individuals the chance to receive a session of employment training in a virtual food service. There is currently only one workplace training model available, but WHMIS and retail services are in the works to being created. The pilot program finished on September 30th and the software will be available for retail in the near future.
- Transitions Supports Services has received an increase of referrals.
- We are beginning new volunteer/work experience in Perth, Smiths Falls, Almonte and Carleton Place as we transition to full services

Rural FASD Support Network – Rob More *(not in attendance)*

Report update: *read by Angie McNamee*

New Initiatives:

- On Oct 20th, MP Scott Reid sponsored the first FASD Awareness Day at Parliament Hill with 22 individuals with FASD and their caregivers from Rural FASD. With representatives from CanFASD, the Nishnawbe Aski Nation of Northern Ontario, the Royal Hospital and Open Doors, met with 15 MP's, their staff and seven Senators. Scott's office staff were just exceptional in the event planning and hosting and many great conversations occurred. It was also announced Senator Ravalia introduced Bill S-235 which would establish a national framework for supporting people with FASD.
- Sarah Sark, Executive Director of ConnectWell, shared on Oct 15 what programming they offer in the counties of Lanark and Leeds-Grenville including family support, support for individuals with Autism, medical support including occupational therapy, coordinated service support and many other programs.
- Rural FASD met with FASDONE to explore ways of collaboration particularly with reviving the provincial bill for supporting students with FASD.
- Rural FASD met with MPP Clark and MPP Jordan in September to strategize how to advocate for more support in the province for people impacted by FASD.
- Judith Peak started this month as Rural FASD's new program coordinator and should have her onboarding completed by the end of October. Her focus will be on system navigation with adults with FASD particularly in housing, employment, mental health, and health services. She will also serve as the primary contact and spokesperson for the organization.
- Samantha Tse started this month as Rural FASD's new marketing and administrative assistant. She has already created a new public Facebook page and Instagram account.
- Rural FASD was featured on FASD Hope from the United States this month which is the largest FASD media outlet in the world.
- Mark Pankow has been contracted along with Theresa Lalonde-Pankow to help build organizational capacity within Rural FASD.

Other Information:

- Shelby De Rose has been invited by ESDC to be a Youth Accessibility Leader again and has been invited to apply for additional funding to contract a multi-disciplinary team to deliver a series of workshops to area schools on how to promote student wellbeing for individuals with disabilities.
- Rural FASD has now setup its office at 88 Cornelia St. W Smiths Falls, ON Unit A1 of the Open Doors complex.

Family and Children's Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville – Tom Jordan

Report update:

- World Mental Health Day
On October 10/22 we recognized and promoted World Mental Health Day:
We all have mental health, just like we have physical health. Mental health is a person's condition, regarding their psychological, emotional, and social wellbeing. This can affect how we think, feel and act. It's important to take care of our mental health: nurturing what's good for us and limiting things that have a negative impact on our mental health. During [World Mental Health Day](#), we can take the time to reflect on how we can best take care of ourselves.
<https://youtu.be/XiCrniLQGYc> I had a black dog, his name was depression
<https://youtu.be/2VRRx7Mtep8> living with a black dog
- SNOWSUIT CAMPAIGN UPDATE
Our annual snowsuit campaign is now underway with the following distribution dates:
 - Sat November 5th from 9-12 and Sat November 12th from 9-12
 - Perth Office
 - Smiths Falls Office
 - Carleton Place – Baptist Church in CP

BROCKVILLE SNOWSUIT DISTRIBUTION:

- This year, Brockville Kinsmen will be collecting and distributing snowsuits. Snowsuit distribution dates typically run the first few weeks of December – more information coming.
 - Advertising: We will be getting the word out to our communities re: distribution dates, using social media and sending email communication to the schools to use in their school newsletters. The information will also be posted on our website.

- Donations: We will be accepting donations of new snowsuits only or financial contributions to our campaign. Donations of waterproof mitts, gloves and new boots will always be welcome!

- PA Day Programming
We are excited to be offering PA Day programming in partnership with Girls Inc in Brockville for Monday, October 24th and Friday, November 25th, 2022. We are offering them as a bundle, so when you are registering you are securing your child's spot for both days. The theme for our programming is STEAM, participants will be provided with opportunities to be creative, build things, try new science experiments, and get active! October's PA Day will get a little spooky, with pumpkin slime, Halloween candy catapults, and jack-o-lantern painting. In November we will be embracing the wintery weather, with frozen silly putty, engineering a snowball launcher, and a melting snowman experiment

The registration form can be found at : <https://forms.gle/HioDZgX3SjbQmvm29>

- **Youth Programs**
We have partnered with The Table Community Food Centre in Perth and have arranged a 5-week Cooking Class Session. Programming will be focused on building confidence and skills in the kitchen, including kitchen safety, safe food handling and the preparation of a variety of dishes/meals with increasing complexity.
This program started on Thursday, October 20th and runs until November 17th

Autism Ontario, East Region – Nicole Taylor

Report update: n/a

Child and Youth Mental Health Services – Natasha Scott

Report update:

- Current wait times for services:
 - Ages 0-3: immediate assignment
 - Ages 4-6: 4 months (assigning from June)
 - Ages 7-18 for standard priority: 7 months (assigning from end of March)
 - Ages 7-18 for rapid response: generally, within a few weeks
 - Ages 7-18 for urgent: immediate assignment

- All CYMHS staff members (Day Treatment excluded for now) are continuing to receive some level of eating disorder training that is occurring over the next few months. This will help in gaining more knowledge and skills in this area as we continue to see an influx of referrals that list this as a presenting concern.
- All new Day Treatment staff have been trained completely in SNAP (Stop Now and Plan) so that the program can continue to run within the Day Treatment program. SNAP is an evidence-based behavioural program that supports children and their parents in effective emotional regulation, self-control, and problem-solving skills.
- Staffing updates: hired a permanent part-time mental health counsellor position at day treatment and a temporary full-time master's prepared therapist (new position). There are no vacancies at this point other than being in the final stages of hiring a psychologist for contract work only. As a result, we are developing detailed criteria for requesting psychoeducational assessments for the team as we will have much more limitations on how many we can request compared to when we had a full-time psychologist.
- Our DBT, Doing Better Together-a dialectical behaviour therapy-based group, has begun and is currently full.
- Our CYMHS team is looking to reinvigorate groups to help with the wait list pressures. Groups that are being explored are mindfulness, grief, and anxiety.
- ECPP Education Community Partnership Program at Bishop Macdonell Catholic School: The mental health counsellor who was the CYMHS liaison for this program left for a temporary CCH position in another department; services will be maintained but temporary changes in the model have been discussed with the ECPP team in September. Students in the program will be matched with counsellors/therapists on our team based on scope of practice and level of complexity/acuteness.
- One Stop Talk: Starting date is on November 7th and any agency that is in the first stage of the pilot will be focusing on their existing wait lists with the eventual plan that the service will be open to the public. CCH is not in the first stage of the pilot.

The Provincial Training Initiative (PTI) is a three-year project collaboration between the Lead Agency Consortium, Children's Mental Health Ontario and the Knowledge Institute on Child and Youth Mental Health and Addictions. The goal is to increase the number of clinicians trained to deliver evidence-based treatment services designed for children and youth with complex and significant mental health needs. A province-wide training model will increase capacity across the province and be sustainable.

All lead agencies and their Core Service Provider partners will be organized into training networks to receive training in the 2 evidenced based treatments most appropriate for their communities to best meet the needs of children and youth with complex and significant mental health concerns.

- Along with our core service providers, we have chosen trauma-informed cognitive behaviour therapy and ARC (Attachment, Regulation, and Competency) trainings for our staff. We have been asked to provide a list of staff to be trained in the aforementioned trainings. More developments to come.

Eligibility:

- ✓ For TF-CBT: psychotherapists/registered health professionals.
- ✓ For ARC: all staff members are eligible.

Children’s Aid Society of the United Counties SD&G – Kimberly Gill

Report update: Natalie Cameron provided report on behalf of Kimberly Gill.

- Through partnerships created by CAS, CDSBEO and Job Zone in Cornwall, our youth in care are given access to a youth program where they are able to access work and get paid through Job Zone and the workplace. They are able to gain work experience and acquire a co-op credit through the work placement.

Kim Peterson – Member at Large

Report update: n/a

8. Department Update – Principal of Special Education,

- We are currently in the hiring process for an occupational therapist and a mental health counselor. Also, Michelle Neville, who worked as the Mental Health lead for numerous years and supported our staff and students in better understanding mental wellness has taken a role in her field in PEI. We thank her for all her work with our schoolboard and wish her well on her new adventure.
- Classroom teachers, Educational Assistants and Special Education Resource Teachers have been busy this past month, collaborating to update and create new annual

- goals and subject and alternative expectations for student IEPs. IEPs were sent home to families last week - October 18th.
- On the October 24 PD Day, the Special Education department facilitated training on developmental trauma to education workers to better understand its significance in a school setting and how to respond. The PD was presented to all CDSBEO staff, and our very own Superintendent Gerber provided the training. There was also a live virtual PD session offered to education workers around reviewing Student plans, which include Safety Response Plans, Student Success Plans and Medical Plans of Care.
 - Also on the Oct. 24 PD day, BMS training was provided to approximately 160 Educational Assistants, Student Support Workers and Itinerant Able Workers requiring initial certification or re-certification by our own BMS trainers.
 - From the Right to Read recommendations, the Curriculum department, Special Education's Speech and Language Pathologists, and the Psychology Team have been in collaboration to create a structured literacy approach for the primary grades. Along with screeners, all K-2 teachers and SERTs will be provided with a University of Florida Literacy Institute Structured Reading manual. The manual offers an evidence-based method that aligns with the Science of Reading. It is designed to ensure that students systematically acquire each skill needed and learn to apply each skill with automaticity and confidence. The Structured Literacy team will provide an overview of the Right to Read recommendations at next month's SEAC meeting and follow it up with how the schoolboard is responding with a glimpse of our Structured Literacy Approach model.
 - The Special Education Consultants along with the Aspen team are creating a revised IPRC training guide for all SERTs and Principals, similar to what they provided to school teams in September focusing on IEP creation and modification.
 - The Special Education consultants will be visiting all schools in the next five weeks to complete the special incident portion grant application for our highest needs students.

9. New Business

- Final meeting of Present SEAC membership, October 26, 2022
- New 4 Year Term of office for SEAC membership November 30th, 2022, which will be a double meeting

- Chair Sue Wilson had the pleasure of bringing forth recommendations from SEAC to the Board of Trustees on October 18th and The Board of Trustees unanimously agreed with SEAC's recommendations to appoint Natalie Cameron as a representative from the Children's Aid Society of the United Counties of SDG, Tom Jordan as a representative and Cathy Knapp Fisher as the alternate from Family and Children's Services of LLG, and Nicole Taylor as a representative from Autism Ontario, East Region, to join SEAC for the next four-year term commencing on November 15th 2022 to November 14th, 2026.
- The CDSBEO SEAC will make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees to appoint for the next four-year term:
 - Cathy Bridson – official application to join CDSBEO's SEAC as the representative from the Rural FASD Support Network.
Moved by: Tom Jordan CARRIED
 - Judith Peak – official application to join CDSBEO's SEAC as the alternate representative from the Rural FASD Support Network.
Moved by: Amanda Banfield CARRIED
 - Kaitlyn Bissonnette – official application to join CDSBEO's SEAC as the alternate representative from Children's Aid Society of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry.
Moved by: Nicole Taylor CARRIED
- The CDSBEO SEAC will notify the Board of Trustees of the following resignations:
 - Rob More – official resignation notification as representative of Rural FASD Support Network.
 - Shelley More – official resignation notification as alternate representative of Rural FASD Support Network.
 - Amanda Banfield – official resignation notification as representative of Lanark County Support Services.
- Verbal notification submitted by Natasha Scott to allow her name to stand as the representative from Child and Youth Mental Health Services – Cornwall Community Hospital. *Written notification was received after the meeting and will be brought forth at the next SEAC meeting, November 30th and will be forwarded to the Board on December 6th.*

10. Correspondence Received

- Letter from Autism Ontario – Response to PPM-81 Draft for Consultation

- St. Lawrence College, Community Integration Through Co-operative Education (CICE)
- flyer for upcoming information session and available programs
Virtual CICE information session - Wednesday, November 2, 2022, 6pm

11. Motion to Excuse Regrets:

Rob More, Rural FASD Support Network
Kimberly Gill, Children’s Aid Society of the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and
Glengarry
Kim Peterson, Member at Large

Moved by: Nicole Taylor CARRIED

12. Next SEAC Meeting

- Wednesday, November 30, 2022 (*double meeting*)
 - *Meeting #1 –Orientation and presentation, The Right to Read – what it means for CDSBEO*
 - *Meeting #2 – Updates (New four-year term of Office)*

Topics for Presentations for 2022-20232 school year:

Presentations	Date
Land Acknowledgement Informative Presentation	Wednesday, Sept 28, 2022
Supporting Exceptional Learners Through Technology	Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2022
The Right to Read – what it means for CDSBEO (Part 1)	Wednesday, Nov 30, 2022
The Right to Read – Board-wide Structured Literacy Approach (Part 2)	Wednesday, Jan 25, 2023
Transitional Planning, IEP, Grade 8 to Grade 9, and Grade 12 to Community	<i>date to be determined</i>
Kids in Care	<i>date to be determined</i>
Transition to Kindergarten Initiative	<i>date to be determined</i>

14. Good News Sharing

Members and guests shared items of good news from across our eight counties.

15. Closing Prayer

Principal McNamee led the group in the CDSBEO Board Prayer.

16. Motion To Adjourn the Meeting

Moved by: Amanda Banfield CARRIED

CDSBEO SEAC Quorum Tracking

	Chair, Trustee	Vice Chair, Lanark County Support Services	Trustee	Rural FASD Support Network	CYMHS -Cornwall Hospital	Family and Children Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville	Member at Large	East Region of Autism Ontario	CAS-SD&G	Total
August 31, 2022	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X
September 28, 2022	P	P	P	X	X	P	P	P	X	6
October 26 th , 2022	P	P	P	X	P	P	X	P	X	6
November 30, 2022, <i>meeting #1</i>										
November 30, 2022 <i>Meeting #2</i>										
January 25, 2023										
February 22, 2023										
March 29, 2023										
Tues., April 25, 2023										
May 31, 2023										
June 5, 2023										

(5 members are required to be in attendance in order to reach Quorum)