
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023
VIRTUAL, MICROSOFT TEAMS – 6:01 PM TO 7:10PM

SEAC Members:

Donna Nielsen (Chair)

Trustee

Natalie Cameron (Vice Chair)

*Children's Aid Society
of the United Counties of SD&G*

Karen McAllister

Trustee

Tom Jordan

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

Cathy Bridson

Rural FASD Support Network

Nicole Taylor

Autism Ontario - East Region

Anna Lafrance

Easter Seals

Sue Wilson

Alternate Trustee

Board Resource Staff:

Heather Gerber

Superintendent of School Effectiveness

Angela McNamee

Principal of Special Education

Kariane Schinzel

*Administrative Assistant to
Superintendent Gerber*

Guests:

Faith Jamael

Child First Initiative, Case Manager

Approved regrets with notification: n/a

Natasha Scott

*Child and Youth Mental Health Services
Cornwall Community Hospital*

1. Welcome, Introductions and Roll Call

2. Land Acknowledgment

Natalie Cameron acknowledged the Land.

3. Opening Prayer

Principal Angela McNamee led the group in opening prayer.

4. Approval of Agenda

Kariane Schinzel - addition to 'Correspondence Received', Invitation to Virtual Jobs Fair Conference

Moved by: Tom Jordan CARRIED

5. Receiving Minutes from January 25, 2023, meeting

SEAC minutes were electronically approved on January 27th, 2023.

Motion:

To receive minutes as presented.

Moved by: Karen McAllister CARRIED

6. Presentation:

**Child First Initiative, a Federally Funded Program for Inuit Children and Youth -
Presenter: Faith Jamael, Child First Initiative Case Manager**

- The Child First Initiative ensures Inuit children and youth, ages 0-18, have access to the essential government funded health, social, and educational products, services and supports they need, when they need them. CFI is a Federal Program administered by Indigenous Services Canada.
- The Government of Canada is working with Inuit partners, provinces, and territories to develop a long-term Inuit-specific approach to help better address the unique health, social and education needs of Inuit children. Tungasuvvingat Inuit is supporting this program to ensure it is accessible to Inuit in Ontario. Applications submitted to the Child First Initiative are submitted directly to Indigenous Services Canada regional representatives.

7. Association Updates:

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

Report update:

- **Coldest Night of the Year Fundraiser**
 - FCSLLG has several staff members participating in the “*Coldest Night of the Year Event*” which is an annual fundraising walk being held on February 25, 2023, from 4-7pm. The purpose of this event is to raise money for and awareness of our homeless serving programs in Leeds & Grenville.
 - This is a family friendly event where individuals can come walk with others who are interested in making a difference. Our event is being held at the Brockville Shopping Centre on the location of our current capital building.
 - Individuals and Organizations can get involved in various ways:
 - Register a team and gather donations
 - Pledge an existing team
 - Sponsor our event as a business
 - More information can be obtained at www.cnoy.org/brockville

- **FCSLLG is sponsoring and promoting a Webinar to staff entitled: "*Stronger Together: Workplace Social Support among Residential Child Welfare Professionals*"**
 - Residential childcare workers (RCWs) in child welfare and youth-justice settings are at risk of secondary traumatic stress, burnout, and moral distress. Workplace support has been shown to be protective against work-related harms for some helping professionals and a lack of workplace support has been cited as a contributing factor toward workforce instability; however, little is known about what types or sources of support are effective for RCWs. This study asked 81 RCWs working in 11 different residential units across the province of Québec what their main sources of help and support as caregivers were. Their responses were read for meaning, compared, contrasted, and then coded using the thematic analysis technique. The sources of support identified by these RCWs as helpful were aggregated to reveal a common support system pattern. Multiple sources of social support were described; the majority were interpersonal interactions with peers, unit managers, and various interdisciplinary team members. Informal individual supports without role overlap and teams with a common vision were most often cited, even when formal supports were available. This presentation will offer participants an understanding of the types of workplace support found to be effective by RCWs and describe how mutual-aid can be leveraged among trauma-exposed professionals in residential child welfare and youth-justice settings.
 - Keynote speakers are Dr. Denise Brend & Dr. Delphine Collin-Vezina

- "The Prom Shoppe" – in Lanark County
 - Please share within your network's information about the "The Prom Shoppe" where Youth can shop for their proms and graduations for FREE!! There is everything from suits, gowns, shoes, and jewelry. The shop is set up in a private home in Carleton Place. Private shopping appointments are booked through Instagram @the.promshoppe.
 - Donations are also much appreciated.

- Youth Programs Independent Living Course
 - Running from March 14-16, 9am-3pm (subject to slight change in time)
 - Lunch will be provided each day.
 - This course will focus on educating youth about the various community supports and resources in LLG. The time will be divided between Brockville and Smiths Falls where youth will travel with us to various community agencies to meet staff, tour their building and learn about the services offered. There will also be class time at the office.
 - More information can be found youth.programs@fcsllg.ca.

- Mind + Body March Break Camp – Girls Inc.
 - March break is fast approaching, and we still have a few spaces left in our Mind + Body March break camp, March 13-17th at the Kemptville Pentecostal Church. Programming runs from 9-4pm each day and snacks are provided. The cost is \$175 for the week and full and partial subsidies are available.
 - More information can be obtained victoria@girlsinc-uppercanada.org

Rural FASD Support Network – Cathy Bridson

Report update:

- In preparation for Rural FASD’s Annual General Meeting (AGM) we reflect back on our operations, communications, and initiatives since hiring our two employees back in October 2022; Judith Peak (Program Coordinator) and Samantha Tse (Program and Marketing Assistant). Using our new data management software Sumac, we were able to create a report looking at the total amount of communication contacts and time these two employees have spent working for Rural FASD. Since being hired, they have made a total of 730 contacts, totalling up to 152 hours.
- On behalf of the Canada Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Research Network (CanFASD), and in collaboration with Health Canada’s Substance Use and Addictions Program (SUAP) and the University of Alberta, Judith Peak has been invited to be a member of the CanFASD Substance Use and Treatment Advisory Committee - Youth (SUTAC-Y). This committee will guide the work on the development of additional Best Practice Guidelines for service providers treating youth with FASD with substance use disorders.
- We officially announce the onboarding of Shelley More as our new part-time Executive Director. As Shelley takes on this role, she can be reached via email at ed@ruralfasd.ca
- Rural FASD has been selected as the 2024 recipient for the 30th annual Perth Polar Bear Plunge, sponsored by the Perth Legion. This event takes place on New Year's Day and each year, they select a different community group to support. We are in the midst of selecting a lead for the project. From there they will collaborate with Samantha Tse (program and marketing assistant) to market the event.
- Claudia Reed, a Master of Social Work (MSW) placement student from Carleton University has joined Rural FASD. Claudia’s primary project is to research and publish a small environmental scan report on the status of health care and accessibility for people with FASD. She will be conducting interviews with both representatives of health care providers and individuals with FASD and their caregivers in rural areas.

- Rural FASD's, Judith Peak and Samantha Tse have an upcoming meeting with Lanark, Leeds and Grenville (LLG) FASD Representatives Shannon Russell and Sherri Hampton from KidsInclusive to discuss each other's roles, new developments and how we can collaborate together in helping support those in our community.
- Judith continues to make connections and collaborations with members of the community and service providers in the area. Judith stays connected through networking through committees like the LLG Situation table, LLG FASD Committee and FASD Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Action Team, just to name a few. This month, Judith will be attending a sharing of information session to help South Grenville collaborate and tear down post pandemic silos.

In addition to Sumac data entries, Samantha has taken on a new role in finances for Rural FASD. Recently trained in the Xero software, Samantha will manage day to day expenses.

Other Information:

Samantha has begun facilitating a Youth Group teaching life skills. This group runs every third Saturday of the month during the Caregiver meetings. Samantha and co-facilitator, Andrew Jahn, provide youths with immense support to discuss life challenges and build skills in a safe setting.

Child and Youth Mental Health Services – Natasha Scott

Report update: *n/a*

Autism Ontario, East Region – Nicole Taylor

Report update:

- **Dates to Note:**
 - Virtual Magic Show
Monday, February 27, 6:30–7:30pm
Join JoJo Fun and her friends as they put on a wonderful magic show. This is an hour-long, interactive show great for the whole family.
In order to participate in this event, you will need to be able to access the ZOOM platform; a link will be emailed to all registered participants the day before the event.
Registration opens February 15 at 10:00am
https://www.autismontario.com/civicrm/event/info?id=7953&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=february+2023+newsletter

- **AUesome Moms**
Join us each month to meet with other moms, female caregivers, and transgender/non-binary folks. This casual setting allows you to socialize, share your experiences, or simply sit back and listen.
Autism Ontario staff will facilitate group activities
https://www.autismontario.com/civCRM/event/info?id=7818&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=february+2023+newsletter
- **Rad Dads**
Monday, February 27, 7:30–9:00pm
Join us each month to meet with other dads, male caregivers, and transgender/non-binary folks. This casual setting allows you to socialize, share your experiences, or simply sit back and listen.
Autism Ontario staff will facilitate group activities.
Registration opens February 13 at 12:00p
https://www.autismontario.com/civCRM/event/info?id=7821&utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=february+2023+newsletter

Children’s Aid Society of the United Counties SD&G – Natalie Cameron

Report update:

- Save the date, March 2nd, presentations by JobZone, Eastern Ontario Training Board, CSDCEO, CEPEO, UCDSB, CDSBEO, St. Lawrence College and La Cite, with special guest Jamie McMillan. RSVP online by February 28 at letstalktrades2023.com.

Easter Seals Ontario – Anna Lafrance

Report update: n/a

8. Department Update – Principal of Special Education, Angela McNamee

- During the last four weeks, Education Workers and Special Education Resource Teachers are collaborating to update and create new annual goals and subject and alternative expectations for student IEPs. IEPs were sent home with report cards for high school and elementary students earlier in the month.
- In February, schools have their open houses and begin the initial process of getting the registration process started. Schools have been reminded of the significance of transition planning and will look to special education department members to support these transition meetings. All students with ASD require an updated transition binder to

follow them as they move from grade to grade and school to school and these binders are consistently updated at the school level.

- Also, during the month of February, school administrators and special education teams are reviewing and modifying their High Needs Support Schedule requirements as we begin preparations of reviewing school needs projections for next year.
- Student registration for the EMCP which is the mini enrichment course program that takes place during the first week of May is well underway. CDSBEO is facilitating the participation of 75 grade 8-11 students across the board to attend a mini course of their choice to be better informed as to post-secondary options.
- The Transition to Kindergarten Program, also known as T2K, is an initiative taken up by CDSBEO and UCDSB in collaboration with KidsInclusive and other LLG Community Partners, to expand on the successful pilot started in Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Counties. The purpose of the program is to build collaboration and partnerships between parents, community agencies currently supporting preschool children with special needs and school teams preparing to welcome the child to kindergarten in the fall. The overall goal of the initiative is to develop a coordinated system to develop personalized plans and support the transition to kindergarten for children with special needs in Lanark, Leeds, and Grenville.
- The inaugural Lanark, Leeds, and Grenville T2K program launches March 30, 2023, with a virtual event. This presentation is designed for parents and guardians of preschool children currently supported by a community partner, who is preparing to start kindergarten in the fall in either school board. Hosted by CDSBEO. UCDSB, KidsInclusive and many other local Community Partners, the event consists of opening remarks, a joint presentation from school boards, and a look inside “A Day in Kindergarten” presentation video.
- The Special Education department has been busy reviewing and modifying the Special Education annual report. We will be reviewing a few chapters of the report with the SEAC committee at each of our next 4 meetings.

9. Report to the Ministry of Education on the Provision of Special Education Programs and Services – Sections Reviewed:

- Section 1 – Introduction/Consultation Process
- Section 3 – Early Identification Procedures and Intervention Strategies
- Section 5 – Educational and Other Assessments
- Section 7 – Provincial and Demonstration Schools
- Section 13 – Coordination of Services with other Ministries or Agencies
- Section 14 – Specialized Health Support Services

10. Correspondence Received

- News from Canada FASD Research Network
- MACSE Meeting Highlights – November 29, 2022
- Invitation to trades, careers, and opportunities conference on March 2, 2023.

11. Motion to Excuse Regrets:

Natasha Scott, Child and Youth Mental Health Services, Cornwall Community Hospital

Moved by: Natalie Cameron CARRIED

12. Next SEAC Meeting and Land Acknowledgment Presenter:

- Wednesday, March 29, 2023
- Land Acknowledgment presenter: Donna Nielsen

Topics for Presentations for 2022-2023 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, Dec 14, 2022 |
| The Right to Read – Board-wide Structured Literacy Approach (Part 2) | Wednesday, Jan 25, 2023 |
| Child First Initiative, a Federally Funded Program for Inuit Children and Youth | Wednesday, Feb 22, 2023 |
| Sonderly Training: ABA Strategies and Autism Training | Wednesday, Mar 29, 2023 |
| Transitional Planning, Grade 12 to Community | Tuesday, Apr 25, 2023 |
| Transition to Kindergarten – T2K | date to be determined |
| Kids in Care | date to be determined |

13. Good News Sharing

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

14. Closing Prayer

Principal McNamee led the group in the CDSBEO Board Prayer.

15. Motion To Adjourn the Meeting

Moved by: Natalie Cameron CARRIED

CDSBEO SEAC Quorum Tracking

| | September 28, 2022 | October 26, 2022 | December 14, Meeting #1 | December 14, Meeting #2 | January 25, 2023 | February 22, 2023 | March 29, 2023 | April 25, 2023 | May 31, 2023 | June 5, 2023 |
|---|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Chair,</i> | P | P | P | P | P | P | | | | |
| <i>Vice Chair, Children's Aid Society of the United Counties SD&G</i> | X | X | P | P | P | P | | | | |
| <i>CDSBEO Trustee</i> | P | P | P | P | P | P | | | | |
| <i>Family and Children's Services of LLG</i> | P | P | P | P | P | P | | | | |
| <i>Rural FASD Support Network</i> | X | X | P | P | P | P | | | | |
| <i>Child and Youth Mental Health Services - CCH</i> | X | P | P | P | P | X | | | | |
| <i>Autism Ontario</i> | P | P | P | P | X | P | | | | |
| <i>Past Vice Chair, Lanark County Support Services, retired</i> | P | P | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| <i>Member at Large, retired</i> | P | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| <i>Easter Seals (as of January 25)</i> | - | - | - | - | P | P | | | | |
| Total | 6 | 6 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | | | | |