



*Understanding  
the Early Years*



## Meeting Minutes for

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**Promoting optimum health and development of children from conception to age six in the South Okanagan and Similkameen**

**MINUTES**

**Monday Dec 11, 2006 6pm at Ok Falls Public Library**

Attending: Karen-Ann Atkinson, Ruell Smith, Janet Black, Sandy Walker, Pat Buckland  
Regrets: Mieke Smith

Approval of Minutes

Agenda Additions: Keremeos funding workshop, recreation report

Coordinator's Report

Old Business:

**Early Learning Centre** – Mieke absent; Jim Insley has indicated he will be completing the proposal for Success by 6 funding over the Xmas holidays; Strong Start Centre reported to be starting in January; request for application for facilitator to run the Centre in ad – applications to be in by today.

**Next Step:** Royal Canadian Legion has donated \$200 to CFK to provide books for ages 6 months and 12 months. Table suggests that both age-books need to be board books. Pat to check prices from United Library Services. Public Health will pass out “vouchers” for the books so that Ok Falls parents will be required to pick up the book at the library – incentive to get more parents into the library. Sandy suggests we diarize Dec07 for Scholastic's huge book sale in Kelowna. Sandy and Pat to diarize.

New Business:

**Webpage** for Ok Falls:

Successes – Books for Babies; Next Step

Playground equipment

EC Learning Centre

Parent Conference

Links: Recreation programs; library programs; preschool (Pat to check with Ok Mini School); programs at Elementary for ages 5 & 6; Ready Set Learn; Immunizations for IH plus dental/speech & Language connections.

Additions:

**Recreation:** Janet Black

- programs very successful
- Janet attended the Keremeos fund raising seminar – excellent facilitator
- Recreation is receiving lots of positive feedback for sessions – Kindergym had 6 children between 3-6; efforts for a Tumble Bumble – will try for Friday night and hope to tie in with new Early Development Centre – “Strong Start” Family Centre.
- Turnout for sessions: very transient families; say they want services but then aren’t using.
- Anyone know anyone who’d make a good Santa for special event Rec’s planning? Suggestion from Ruell.

**Library:** each school child (includes anyone in foster care) is entitled to a library card.

**Ready Set Learn:** date waiting for the new facilitator for the Strong Start Centre to be on board to organize.

**Roots of Empathy:** one session currently running in Kindergarten with mom and baby and facilitator.

**Baby Talk:** Karen-Ann to check on possibility of offering a Baby Talk in Ok Falls; she feels 8 parents for session would be best.

Next meeting scheduled for Jan 15/07



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## MINUTES

Monday Nov 13/06 at 7pm  
Okanagan Falls Public Library

Attending: Sam Hancheroff, Christina Doherty, Mieke Smith, Jim Insley, Ruell Smith, Sandy Walker, Pat Buckland

Regrets: Karen-Ann Atkinson

Introductions: Sandy Walker

Approval of Minutes from Sept and October

Community Facilitator's Report

### Old Business:

- **webpage** for Ok Falls: brief description of where it's at for planning
- Let's Celebrate Again parent conference report: noted attendance of 60+; Christina indicated it was a good conference; she enjoyed her sessions.
- Distribution of **Weyerhaeuser's donation** to offset Directory printing costs: decision by Table to use their \$80 donation to cover cost of printing colour cover at SB office for .20/copy and provide Mieke with paper and a cartridge. Mieke will run off copies as needed so that information will always be current.
- Books for Babies: Pat reported that United Library Service are forwarding "I Love You Forever" books to be included in the BC Books for Babies Kits distributed by Public Health to Ok Falls babies. The books should be here soon, Ruell will add to kits and PH will pick up for distribution.

### New Business:

- **Next Step** program via Public Health: Table suggests Pat will contact Royal Canadian Legion to ask for funds to provide age-appropriate books for children ages 6mon, 12 mon and 18 mon at Public Health clinics as a follow-up to BC Books for Babies. Kindergarden students receive a book through the school. This ensures children have at a minimum 5 books by the time they start school. Because Public Health would give Ok Falls parents their books at a Penticton clinic PH has offered to pass out tickets/chits of some sort to hand out to Ok Falls parents. In this way, it would be less of an issue for Penticton parents seeing Ok Falls parents receive books. Parents could pick up books at Ok Falls library.
- **Success by 6** proposal in partnership with Ok Falls School for a Family Literacy Centre: includes a preschool and child care housed in the school - a program for families/caregivers and pre-school-aged children, at no cost to families Learning materials for \$15,000/centre Free for any child who comes with a parent/caregiver

Checks will be made on Kelowna's pay and subsidy program and Burnaby's program  
It would be open 5 mornings a week with a focus on literacy and social skills and would  
Include outreach as well.  
Parents will be able to access a non-threatening environment as a means of bringing  
families into the school setting  
Concerns expressed by Table re effect on existing private child care providers -  
discussed.

Jim Insley is asking for the CFK Table Ok Falls to partner with the Ok Falls  
Elementary School to present a proposal to Success by 6 for funds

MOTION: CFK Table will support the concept for a pilot project for the family literacy  
centre at Ok Falls Elementary

Moved by Mieke Smith; Seconded by Christina Doherty

MOTION: CFK Table will partner with Ok Falls Elementary to present a proposal to  
Success by 6 for funds.

Moved by Mieke Smith, Seconded by Christina Doherty

Christina and Mieke have expressed an interest in being on the Committee for the family  
literacy centre. Pat to pass this information to Jim Insley.

#### Additions:

- Programming at library for 0-6:
  - New program in BC libraries: all children now receive a free library card –  
Ministry of Education's policy called Every Child A Card program.
  - Bedtime Story Time with Santa in December
  - Jan 27: Family Literacy Day colouring contest – parent and child invited to colour  
picture to enter draw
  - Ruell's starting an 8 week program in January for under 3's.
- Ok Falls Community Church hosts a movie night for children; under 12 must be  
accompanied by a parent. Last time had 60 children.

Next Meeting Date: Dec 11/06



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### Minutes

Monday **Oct** 16/06 at 7pm  
Okanagan Falls Public Library

Attending: Ruell Smith, Karen-Ann Atkinson, Mieke Smith

Regrets: Pat Buckland

Introductions: Patricia Gregory, Jim Insley

Approval of Minutes: September notes forthcoming

Agenda Additions

Community Facilitator's Report

Old business:

#### Webpage:

- Patricia asked the table to consider what they would like to see on the OK Falls webpage. They declined to have their photo taken - they want to have moms of young children included as table members.
- Webpage ideas will require more discussion.

New Business:

#### Asset Mapping for Ok Falls – Patricia Gregory

- Patricia presented the list of assets in OK Falls, based on a generic template:
- Patricia will delete the list items that do not apply in that community.
- Mieke agreed to follow up with getting missing contact names and phone numbers.
- Patricia will follow-up with Janet Black of the Recreation department about 0-6 specific programs offered.
- Ruell will ask moms of young children to look over the list to suggest additional assets.

#### HUB: Jim Insley

- Jim presented information on a proposed hub for OK Falls Elementary.
- The hub would include a preschool and child care housed in the school - a program for families/caregivers and pre-school-aged children, at no cost to families.
- OK Falls and Cawston/Keremeos were chosen as sites. The agreement has yet to be signed, but this may be in place as early as February 2007.

Additions: Let's Celebrate Again – parent conference Nov 4 – Patricia G.

- Brochures for Let's Celebrate Again were given to Ruell to distribute at library.

Next Meeting Date: November date to be established – the second Monday is a long weekend.



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## MINUTES

**Monday Sept 18/06** at 7pm  
Okanagan Falls Public Library

Attending: Ruell Smith, Kelly Gagnon, Christina Doherty, Karen-Ann Atkinson, Marla Papilion

Regrets: Pat Buckland

Approval of Minutes

Community Facilitator's Report

New Business:

CFK Website ideas: for webpage for Ok Falls –

- contact person – Pat Buckland
- Description of community, Lions, etc.
- Link to Ok Falls Parks and Recreation programs
- Links to school and preschools
- Link to library for story hour, baby time, read-to-me club
- Need contact for childcare resource and referral because day cares in Ok Falls are full
- Suggest website designer uses CFK Directory for resources
- Include Missions Statements for our 3 groups: UEY, SB6 and CFK so people will know there's not a duplication of effort
- List coming events like Hallowe'en's Haunted House, movie night at the community church – popcorn and family films – this is the kind of thing that needs to be in website
- Indicate Car Seat checks when available
- Check Healthy Harvest and its status
- Need to include Salters Trout Farm ( Derrick Salter) in website

Old Business: Car Seat checks – wanting to know if Citizens on Petrol active?

- Peter Schoen – is he doing car seat checks?

Additions:

### **Discussion on Kenyon Park**

- needs more equipment; replace wooden structures
- there's a bouncy thing there and no one knows what it is
- roundabout is too small – no governor so child can fall and it's too fast
- no safety belt on swing seats – are they on order?
- Who checks the park equipment? Is it the same responsibility as those who check home day cares?

Next Meeting Date: Oct\_\_\_\_\_/06

## NO MEETINGS IN JULY OR AUGUST: Tables decision



Minutes for Communities For Kids Table Meeting  
OK Falls Library - 7 p.m.

**Mon. June 12, 2006**

Present: Mieke Smith, Ruell Smith, Kelly Gagnon, Pat Buckland

-Adoption of minutes.

### Old Business:

BC Books for Babies: there are 21 Bags waiting to be filled with a soft cover book. Bonnie watching Scholastic for the right price and appropriate book. Ruell indicated the bags of B4B should last 10 years – they're excellent quality. Pat to check status of order.

### New Business

Summer Library programs: for under 6

- July 14/Friday 3-4 pm for any age – MaxTell hired by Regional office for stories and songs
- July 20/Thursday – puppet show 1:30-2:30

Ok Falls Recreation Commission: report on June 8 Power Point presentation to Commission.

Suggestions from Rob (?) to do a needs survey

To do: suggestion to set up survey for parents to see what they'd like in way of Recreation programming. – Pat provide info to Janet

- Janet indicates she's open for suggestions on evening sessions to ask parents what they want to see happening – types of programs, times to meet needs of families
- Suggestions to survey Lakeshore Highlands and Skaha Estates – lots of families with young children there.
- Suggestions – music, dance, ballet, soccer, swimming lessons
- Meeting with Ruell, Janet and Mieke after school (2:30) to discuss
- Janet suggests having a special one-time Parent & Tot day that would hopefully lead to an on-going Parent-Tot program.
- Janet is planning to update Recreation's website

Success by 6: Kelly would like to see information about SB6.

-Next meeting Monday July 10 @ 7 p.m. at Ok Falls library

## Promoting optimum health and development of children from conception to age six in the South Okanagan and Similkameen



Minutes for Communities For Kids Table Meeting  
OK Falls Library - 7 p.m.

**Mon. May 8, 2006**

Present: Christina Doherty, Pat Buckland, Mieke Smith, Ruell Smith, Tera Caverley, Sam Hancheroff, Kelly Gagnon, Bonnie Kandulski,

-Adoption of minutes.

### New Business

- Tera presented "Things To Do" brochure. A brochure on things to do around Okanagan Falls. Asked for ideas from everyone. Any ideas please contact her.

-"Roots Of Empathy" - By Mary Gordon program discussed. Sam commented they are finding a lot of success with this program and there is a lot of support. Sam suggested CFK can support this program. Anyone wishing to be on the "steering committee" contact Lisa McCall.

### Early Childhood Development Strategies (for the Okanagan Falls area)

-Kelly suggests having a "Tumble Bumble" during the day.

-Sam mentions that the pre-school should be re-located at the elementary school, as there are many advantageous reasons why. Proposal to CFK for support suggested by Pat.

-Parents/Tot arts and crafts and music and dance classes suggested.

-Tera commented we need to be involved in the new sports park.

-Kenyon Park needs new equipment putting in. What's the hold up? They also need a proper park maintenance person and also play equipment needs proper resilient surfacing. As the Recreation Commission is the governing body to the park, Pat suggests we go as a group as representatives of CFK to their next meeting.

-Christina suggests a recreation center.

-Meeting adjourned 9:00 p.m.

-Next meeting June 12 @ 7 p.m.

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### Minutes for Communities For Kids Table Meeting

OK Falls Library - 7 p.m.

Monday April 10.06

Present: Mieke Smith, Ruell Smith, Pat Buckland

Introduction of Patricia Gregory from Understanding Early Years: see attached note

Blair Lischeron of Success by 6 sent regrets unable to present SX6: brochures distributed and Patricia and Pat outlined SX6 vision, goals and funding possibilities for Table.

### Old business:

- Directory: Pat to reconfirm committed \$50 from Weyerhaeuser for directory printing
- Healthy Harvest: one needy family received a gift certificate for 2 boxes for the whole year from anonymous donor/ price for box is \$14.
- OK Falls Elementary School Carnival cancelled – no need for CFK display table; no one to organize the carnival.
- ABC/Starbucks funding for Reading Circles and materials: Ruell suggests contacting Lesley Dieno at Head office of Regional Library.
- RDOS letter re: Official Community Plan – no response to date; Pat to check on why not meeting so far
- New partners for CFK: contact Bruce Volden of Chamber of Commerce, Fred Lindsay who does Helping Hands at Xmas; David Kelly and the United Church regarding commitment to CFK Table

### New Business:

- Mieke would like some type of banner re: CFK for across the top of the bulletin board at elementary school, Pat to check on that.
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Next meeting date: Monday May 8/06