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To engage families and communities in children's healthy early development

Minutes

Oliver Community for Kids Monday May 25, 2009

Present: Theresa Swift, Shelley MacPherson, Jim Insley, Pat Buckland

Introductions: Christine Schwartz, ECD HUB Coordinator for South Okanagan Similkameen

Minutes approved – passed

Presentation by Christine:

- MCFD supported initiative – contract for ECD
- HUB can be a physical space i.e. one building that houses 2 or more ECD programs in the same building – less confusing for families; service providers easily connected
- Christine works with ECD service providers for the future of our SO families of 0-6
- The vision is to increase effectiveness and efficiency of service provision – connecting agencies, building relationships and partnerships
- Connecting with Kindergartens and ECEs – 3 X a year in Penticton & Summerland (Kindergartens initiated the Summerland meeting)
- Hopes to have an annual service provider event to network
- Christine is visiting outlying rural communities as a resource person
- HUB works with existing resources vs CFK filling gaps and building awareness
- Christine sends out information relating to ECD to a wide e-mail list.
- can Christine offer anything that would make our area of services more effective? Sample challenges:
    1. Spaces that can be utilized for programs in community/storage?
    2. Getting Penticton stakeholders out to meetings
    3. meet as a Family Centre committee – locking cupboards, CCRR workshops, High School an option, grant for workers, young parent involvement
- Could Oliver look at the possibility of a "family centre" in the newly developed high school? Could it house preschools, StrongStarts, family centre, etc.

  Action: Christine to arrange tour of Boundary family centres which have been successfully operating for a number of years & which started with MCFD funding.

Action: Christine and Pat to meet over summer to plan for the September CFK meeting - open to the public to discuss HUB idea for SOSS

I Old Business:

a) SB6 proposal update: OFTI transportation status – final report going in
SB6 proposal: Evening with Mother Goose – Theresa

Going well – 4 fathers, 8 mothers plus 9 children
Theresa also indicated there is a refresher course for Nobody's Perfect planned for June 12 in Kelowna for $25; Theresa's a trained facilitator but would like to refresh; could work with PH on this.
Action: Pat to check with Jen Anderson at B&G re: who took the previous training from B&G?

SB6 proposal: Community Gardens/Kitchen: seeds and greenhouse complete; A portable outhouse was supplied by a local group (United Church women's group)

b) Family Walking group –Theresa – finished at end of May; may organize for fall

c) Family Fair: Community Centre/Sat Feb 27, 2010 – costs for entertainers main focus

d) Oliver CFK Family Directory: hardcopies available and distributed; available on-line

e) Increasing membership – tabled

f) Oliver Festival Sunshine Parade – July 18 – entry ideas – banner available

g) Signage: tabled

h) ECD survey/SB6: 8 completed for Oliver

II New Business:

- strategic planning – brainstorming session: tabled
- Request from Chronicle re literacy submissions for Kids Corner: months to be filled

Next Meeting Date: Monday June 22/09 at 4:30pm