



Understanding
the Early Years

Communities for Kids Osoyoos Table Meeting Minutes

Monday January 21, 2007
Sonora Community Centre

Attendance: Alicia Osland, Isobel Hart, Marisa Munday, Sarah Gattinger, Pat Buckland
Regrets: Hester Brunner, Karen Brough
Introduction: Starla Braithwaite from the Osoyoos Early Learning Centre at Osoyoos Elementary School

Approval of Minutes: passed

Agenda Additions: Early Learning Centre report

Standing Items:

- "facilitate communities ongoing gathering of data related to barriers/issues/needs/gaps" – on hold
- website updates: none

Old Business:

Recreation: Sarah

- cutting some of the preschool programs as lots going on at the Early Learning Center
- Parent & Tot still going strong; soccer nuts strong; afternoon sports are going into later afternoon, as is Blastball
- Messy Munchkins cancelled
- Will focus on Saturdays in the fall; mini hockey
- There's been a turnover in instructors – some have left
- Information on Parenting with Pizzaz in Kelowna available through Recreation

Kiwanis: Isobel

- Next Step with book marks going well
- Terrific Kids program now in OES: program objective is "citizenship" covering Kindergarten and Grade 1 for "ordinary kids" i.e. Those not necessarily good at sports or academics. Also organizing this program at the Lutheran Church school. The honour is bestowed once a month and the parent of the TK receives a bumper sticker that says "My kid is a Terrific Kid"
- interested in obtaining age appropriate books in dual language (Punjabi); Marisa has 4 books to suggest

Child Care: Marisa

- Child Care still desperate; parents in Osoyoos having to use Oliver preschools

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Osoyoos
Credit Union

- Rock Creek Partners in Parenting Conference on March 1: brochures are out/Marisa suggests people send in their applications early if you'd like a spot

Parenting Sessions: Sarah

- hoping to organize for the spring or fall: parents have asked for sessions for younger and older children

Children's Health Fair: Sarah

- Health Fair in planning stages

Multicultural:

- Hester's working on sessions of Mother Goose at the Temple

New Business:

Early Learning Center: Starla

- working with recreation to avoid duplicating services; moved Tuesday afternoon from mornings to Tues in the afternoon for an hour and a half and evening from 6-7:30
- parents stay with their children the whole time
- hoping to set up a Steering Committee – Marisa Munday, Sarah Gattinger and Hester Brunner have expressed an interest in being on the committee
- Average number attending is 10 (anywhere from 3 to 17) and mostly 3-5 yr olds
- 12 Growth Charts for children picked up

Directory update: pages distributed for update – Karen editing p 6; Alicia, p4&5; suggestion that Tanya might be willing to do p 1.

- suggestions for printing – try Okanagan Sun, Kick Start - a new printing company (Danielle Henninger) in behind the Learning Center

Child and Youth Friendly Communities “Tool Box”

- Marisa has offered to take the information to the Child and Youth Committee meeting the next day

Nutritious lunch/food session: Home Hardware offering a session on healthy lunches or snacks in their programming this coming Spring.

- suggestions to connect with Kristy at Interior Health; woman in Penticton who does Alkaline Cooking. Pat to keep checking on possibilities
- mention made that most of those currently attending the HH cooking sessions are over 40 years of age.

Next Meeting: Monday Feb 18/08 at Sonora Community Centre

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**Monday February 18, 2008
Sonora Community Centre**

Attendance: Alicia Osland, Isobel Hart, Sarah Gattinger, Pat Buckland, Hester Brunner

Revision to previous minutes:

Terrific Kids – Kiwanis are also organizing this program at Lutheran church. Church actually started one year ago. Program is quite successful. Also approved by B. McFarlane at Osoyoos Elementary School.

Approval of Minutes: passed

Old Business:

Parenting Sessions:

- survey completed and to be sent to Sarah for final review. Next steps: PAC approval, to be sent out after spring break then search for a facility.

Query re: Rock Creek Fair registration.

Multiculturalism:

- Community For Kids brochures being translated into Punjabi this month.

Directory Update:

- revisions still required

Home Hardware Cooking Sessions:

- Sarah noted that she spoke with Kathy Sewchuck (Keremeos) who does holistic cooking classes. She will go into home and do cooking sessions based on family's medical needs.

"New Start" workshop for adults was arranged but plans fell through. Further sessions are to be considered. Pat noted that Michou Szabo was preparing focus groups for food security.

Hester noted resource in Penticton: re: connection between food & a child's behaviour. *This is to be put into Parent Survey as an option.*

Child & Youth Friendly Committee

- Tool Box: Marissa took it to last CFC meeting and left information with them.

New Business:

Kiwanis – presents “Reading Around the World” at the end of February. It has been discussed at the library and they are open to using the library space. They are trying to appeal to a wide population range. A pajama &/or evening reading was suggested, with local celebrities assisting with reading (eg. Brock Jackson, Tom Shields, Osoyoos Princess)

Awareness Of ECD – Website has newsletter once every two months. An article has gone out to Okanagan Sun on play that Aneta D’Angelo, PHN wrote; Michelle Shivers from Waterfront Eyecare also wrote an article.

Hester to request an article from Frances Monro re: BCEHP

Royal Canadian Legion – sent out \$150 to Danielle for ‘literacy’ & she gave this to the Osoyoos CFK table. Possibilities discussed including:

- Punjabi/English books for Mother Goose
- seed money for book sign-out at Mom’s & Tots.

Oliver Mother Goose – Hester is working on it!

Family Literacy Day – Vicky White completed Literacy events up and down the valley. Kids Saturday event – draw prizes given to families who entered S.O. Literacy Society’s poster coloring contest.

BC Healthy Child – participate in working group, BC Early Learning Framework. Erin Shields volunteered and has been accepted. She’ll report back to CFK table. Pat will request update from C. Smith.

Winter Carnival – Friday

- Kid’s Carnival 1- 3:30 pm Friday at the Sonora Centre.
- Osoyoos Teen Idol night also Friday evening.

Splash Park - No news.

Next meeting: March 17/08



Communities for Kids Table Meeting
Monday March 17, 2008
Sonora Community Centre 7:00-9:00

**Attendance: Pat Buckland, Hester Brunner, Marisa Munday, Karen Brough,
Brenda Enns, Alicia Osland, Sarah Gattinger**

Introductions:

- Welcome to Brenda

Approval of Minutes:

- Passed

Agenda Additions:

- Erin Shields – Early Learning Teamwork Project

Standing Items:

- “Facilitate communities ongoing gathering of data related to barriers/issues/needs/gaps”
 - No
- Website
 - Sarah to send new program info to Pat
 - Library info
 - Easter events
 - Mother Goose to be put on
- Reports
 - Karen did training for “Making the Connection”
 - Show parents how to make connection with infants
 - Follow baby’s lead, mirror emotions, importance of Mother Goose songs
 - Courses running in Penticton and Summerland
 - Hope to set one up in either Osoyoos or Oliver

Old Business:

- Parenting Sessions
 - Parenting survey has been revised

- Osoyoos Child Care Centre has surveys – will be handing back in April
- Hester and Sarah to go to PAC on April 21 – hopefully June 1 return from schools
- Sarah to take survey to Parent n Tot
- Hester to take to Christian School, Strong Start and CAP-C

- Multiculturalism
 - Mother Goose will be happening at the Oliver Temple with interpreter
 - Start April 4 9:30-10:30
 - Jesse to translate CFK brochures

- Directory Update
 - Change format to Oliver's format
 - Add description of services

New Childcare Regulations:

- In effect Nov 2007
- Need a “Responsible Adult” – 19 yrs of age with 21 hours of training and a clean criminal record check - to work in child care facility

New Business:

- Ideas for upcoming year
 - Write up of successes and submit to paper
 - Pat to send summary out to table

- Do we need to meet every month?
 - Meetings – play by ear – if not much going on then we don't meet
 - No meeting until May – Karen will chair as Pat is away

Meeting adjourned 8:30

Next Meeting: May 12 – Sonora Community



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**Communities for Kids Table Meeting
Monday June 16, 2008
Sonora Community Centre 7:00-9:00**

Attendance: Hester Brunner, Karen Brough, Erin Shields, Pat Buckland

Regrets: Sarah Gattinger, Marisa Munday, Alicia Osland

Approval of Minutes: Passed

Agenda Additions:

- CFK T-shirt photo opportunities re Early Learning Centre

Community Facilitator's Report: noted

Standing Items:

- "Facilitate communities ongoing gathering of data related to barriers/issues/needs/gaps"
 - No
- Website – nothing to add
- Members Reports:
 - Boys & Girls Clubs: Karen
 - Noted that Al Helm, the south's B&G Club director has left and Leo Beelen has moved from the Oliver office to cover this position, hiring new people.
 - Osoyoos Child care Center: Erin
 - playschool ends in June
 - 5 to 6 year olds will be in a separate program for the summer
 - there are 10 new spaces for full days from 8-5:30 pm
 - Center is still looking for ECE staff; understand that the SD is looking for ECE for a preschool

Old Business:

- Parenting Sessions: Hester
 - Parenting survey : survey complete – only 1 form was returned
 - Surveys passed out at OCCC and school – 1 back to each
 - Discussion re option of doing You Make The Difference parenting sessions – Karen mentioned the sessions were well attended in Penticton where the Boys & Girls Club run. B&G could do in Osoyoos as well.
 - Possibly offering as part of Toddler Talk?
 - Need approx. 10 parents to run but did do with 6 in Penticton the first time
- Action:** Hester to check with Sarah re the possibility of offering as a fall program and to talk to Kara of Parent & Tot for some feedback
- Action:** Karen to send Pat a budget. Discussion of accessing SB6 funds to offer You Make The Difference.

- Multiculturalism
 - Mother Goose – no turnout at Temple in Oliver

New Business:

Built Environment & Active Transportation: Hester – tabled

Early Learning Teamwork Project: Erin

- Erin attended a conference in Vancouver for 2 days in March to learn about project
- Working with Modules relating to what the government (Ministry of Education/University of Victoria) wants Early Learning to look like in the future
- At present learning works on the developmental stages but they now want to look at breaking it down into 4 stages:
 - Well-being and Belonging
 - Languages and Literacies
 - Exploration and Creativity
 - Social Responsibility and Diversity
- involve parents so culture based on children's interest
- Erin to complete a "pedagogical narration" on a couple of children – will be observing their interests
- Had been completed in Italy & New Zealand – based on culture
- Ideas are sent home with parents – Erin wants their feedback for the child's curriculum plan
- Time required was 5 hours/week – Erin estimates closer to 10
- Next meeting for project in Vancouver in Sept followed by community presentation

Success by 6 funding: now available – possibility for a parenting session in Osoyoos

Newspaper articles: Pat requests that those who receive the Osoyoos Times cut out 0-6/CFK articles – those who subscribe will try

ECD Survey: Pat reports only 2 individuals from her email list of 23 responded to the on-line survey for SB6. Resulting evaluation will be available for province in Sept.

Certificates of Appreciation: sample of Certificate to be presented to community groups or individuals for support of 0-6 displayed – Table indicates Certificates should go to Kiwanis, Sonora Community Centre and Library at this time. Pat to distribute.

Addition: Photo opportunity to be organized with Early Learning Centre for the posters the children entered to earn a CFK tshirt. Pat to organize.

Next Meeting: Sept 15 at 7pm at Sonora Community Centre



Vision

Optimum health and development of children from conception to age 6
in the South Okanagan and Similkameen

Monthly Report dated September 2008
To CFK Community Table Osoyoos
From Pat Buckland Community Facilitator

1. Promote community capacity and leadership for early child health and development initiatives.
 - Organize development of placards for CFK parade displays
 - Contacting all stakeholders re: Table membership
 - Sept 10: CFK display table at Mass Registration at SCC
 - Planning for CFK/SB6/UEY PP presentation to Regional Lions convention at SCC on Oct 4.
2. Increase family awareness of and family support access to early childhood development resources and supports.
 - On-going updating of CFK website/Osoyoos webpage
 - Organizing translation of CFK newsletter into Punjabi
3. Facilitate community commitment to and sustainability of early childhood development initiatives
 - Distribution of information to 0-6 email list on information re programs, funding, resource information
 - Sept 8: meeting with SO Immigrant group re ESL/Mother Goose/Nobody's Perfect offered in Oliver
 - Sept 29: attended Community Action Plan for Children's celebration event & Panel in Penticton.
4. Build a foundation to support sustainability of early childhood development initiatives.
 - Updating website as a Regional Team
 - Assisting with November newsletter
 - Planning & Promotion for Parent Conference on October 25/08 in Keremeos
 - Team & Steering Committee meetings
 - Festival of the Grape planning for Oct 5: children's section
 - Sept 18: attended Literacy Now meeting in Penticton – discussion of regional literacy
 - Sept 18: attended Desert Sun Counselling open house
 - Sept 24: attended SO Community Literacy Society meeting re family literacy/planning for Family Literacy Day Jan09



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**Communities for Kids Table Meeting
Monday October 20, 2008
Sonora Community Centre 7:00-9:00**

Attendance: Karen Brough, Alicia Osland, Starla Braithwaite, Claire Cacchioni, Pat Buckland, Hester Brunner, Erin Shields

Regrets: Marisa Munday

Approval of Minutes: approved by Erin, second by Starla.

Community Facilitator's Report:

Wine Festival: Weather was poor but better than last year. Alicia was involved as well and noted that the children very involved with the climbing wall and the ducky dip, less interested in the craft table. Boy Scouts Adventure Playground and the tug-of-war were popular. Lots of children attended, a few from Osoyoos.

CFK Newsletter: Translation into Punjabi is in the process and when done will be available on the website, and arrangements will be made for some to go to the temple. (Karen made the suggestion of having the table of Literacy Opportunities in the Okanagan translated as well; all thought it was a good idea.)

Standing Items:

- “Facilitate communities ongoing gathering of data related to barriers/issues/needs/gaps”
Clarification from Patricia needed on low income risk variable vs average individual income. At time of typing this, Patricia had responded via email.
- Website:
 - Dates of Parenting Wisely to go on the website: November 12 – December 17 in Oliver at Tuc-El-Nuit School.
 - Mother Goose: In Osoyoos, Jan. 21 – March 4, Wednesday mornings, 9:30 – 10:30 am. Hester will email more info to Pat.
 - Early Learning Centre will be celebrating local Aboriginal culture in November, and on November 14, Inkameep Desert Cultural Centre will be coming in to do a “touch n feel” event with pelts, skins, and other items. Starla will email Pat a schedule.
 - PALS (Parents as Literacy Supporters) will be putting on an event in OK Falls for 0 – 5 year olds with craft, refreshments, reading time, etc. Someone will need to contact Bonnie Kandulski for more information.
 - Erin to email Pat information about the centre's Christmas Raffle to see if that is allowed on the website, as per Pat's recommendation.

Members Reports:

Early Learning Centre: (Starla) Lots of children attending. Wide range of ages and experiences/skills. Lots of 0 – 3 attending throughout the Okanagan. Some two language families are attending in Osoyoos but currently no Indo-Canadian families. Also, Hester will be visiting the ELC soon.

Mother Goose: Karen and Hester are doing Mother Goose Toddler Talk in Oliver and its running for 5 more weeks. Turnout has been very good. Osoyoos families are accessing the Oliver sessions. In Osoyoos, they will be doing Mother Goose Jan. 21 – March 4, Wednesday mornings from 9:30 – 10:30 am. The program is for 0 – 36 months and siblings are welcome. Will invite clients first and then open up spots for families in the community.

Parent Panel Discussions: (Hester) These will be comprised of various professionals and parents with expertise in areas of parenting. Hester will share the dates. One is scheduled for January, one in February, and one in March. To be held at the Sonora Community Centre from 6 – 8 pm, child care and refreshments will be available. The topics are “Managing Meltdowns”, “Food and Behavior”, and “Core Family Strength”. Hester is in the process of sending out invitations to ECD professionals.

Learning Language and Loving It!: (Hester) Currently, Bonnie Kandulski is training to be a “Learning Language and Loving It! – The Hanen Program for Early Childhood Educators” Facilitator. This program’s main goals are to give Early Childhood Educators new tools, approaches and techniques to promote language and literacy within their classroom.

Osoyoos Child Care Centre: (Erin) Received permission from the town to expand the building, thus allowing for an infant/toddler daycare on the top floor (to accommodate up to 12 children aged 0 – 36 months), and another after-school program on the bottom floor (to accommodate up to 20 more children aged 6 – 12 years). The next step is acquiring the funding, accessing grants, getting quotes, etc. Possibly a very long-term project.

Old Business:

Transit Bus: Starla talked to the parents accessing her program. She plans to talk to the transit people first, and then will do a poll of parents who would like to use the bus to be able to attend ECD programs.

Early Learning Framework: (Erin) The third and final phase of the "evaluation of the implementation of the Early Learning Framework" will take place during November, 2008 and March, 2009. Throughout the province, ELF Field Leaders will pair up with ECE College Instructors in their communities to present a seven hour long workshop for people working in the fields of early childhood education and child development. The workshop will explain BC's Early Learning Framework as well as pedagogical narrations and how to implement them into an early learning program. Erin will be presenting two workshops with Kathy Handley (head of Northern Lights College ECE department), one in Penticton and one in Osoyoos in March. ELF is going to approach Success By 6 as a whole and see if they will provide funding so that all the workshops in the province can provide lunch and refreshments. If not, Erin will have to look at securing that funding for her workshops. More info to come in later months.

New Business:

Built Environment & Active Transportation: Hester – removed from agenda.

Parent Resource Centre/Display Area: Possibly get funding from Success By 6 for a tri-fold bulletin board with pockets that could be filled with posters, resources, and brochures for parents, to have at the Sonora Community Centre (maybe in the lounge area outside the library). Pat will talk to Sarah about the possibility.

Success by 6 funding: ideas

- for the Parent Panel Discussions for refreshments/childcare
- for a parent resource centre/display area in the Sonora Community Centre
- for the Early Learning Framework for lunches/refreshments at workshops

ECD Survey: Blair Lischeron would like to come talk to us about the survey in November.

\$200: Success By 6 is giving each table \$200 for ECD planning for 0 – 6 age range. Start considering ideas for that.

Directory: Pat found printer that would do all 3 communities directories. Suggestions were made about the front cover as well as the fonts used throughout the directory. Pat will email Claire the directory to see if she can make it more reader friendly.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 17 at 7pm at Sonora Community Centre



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**Communities for Kids Table Meeting
Monday November 17, 2008
Sonora Community Centre 7:00-9:00**

Attendance: Alicia Osland, Starla Braithwaite, Claire Cacchioni, Pat Buckland, Hester Brunner,
Regrets: Erin Shields

Approval of Minutes: approved

Community Facilitator's Report: noted

Standing Items: tabled

Members Reports: tabled

Introductions: Blair Lischeron, SB6 and CFK, discussed the SB6/CF evaluation that we did in May via internet – provincial and local perspectives (attached report)

- evaluation is to provide BC government with successes
- not mandated for CFK this year but will be next year; Children First will be organizing
- Gives Tables planning opportunity ex. Planning for awareness – goal is to plan a number of displays per year, plan to solicit new Table members, organizing a calendar for the newspaper, etc.

Old Business:

Parenting Sessions: Hester/Sarah

- Meeting on Wed to complete proposal; invitations to 3 out of 4 facilitators confirmed; will require a minimum of 8 registrants
- Facilitators for each of the 3 sessions are all different
- Hester required EDI information by meeting time

Success by 6: funding of \$200 provided for planning

Additions:

- CFK Logic Model: request from Starla, Claire and Brittny for copy
Action: Pat to forward.

Next Meeting: Monday, December 15 at 7pm at Sonora Community Centre

