

## Community Youth Initiative

### **AGENDA**

August 25, 2020, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

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In Attendance: Don Lewis UCDSB (chair); Sue Poldervaart RNJ; Victoria Robertson Connect Youth; Michelle Neville CDSBEO; Laurie Bourne Mackeigan ARCC; Alison Inglis UCDSB; Trish Buote United Way; Cameron Wales Brockville City Council; Dana Yates Employment and Education Centre; Margaret Fancy EKIOC

Welcome/Introductions – Don welcomed members; introductions were made

1.0 Review and Additions to Agenda

Margaret added "Information for WAY"

2.0 Review of August 11, 2020 Meeting Notes

**Accepted.**

3.0 Schools Reopening

Don, Alison, and Michelle provided updates

Don

- Schools open for students on September 4
- Preceded by 3 PA Days to establish protocols for safety/safe distancing
- Excess furniture removed
- More desks in rows
- Early Years team meeting to discuss what learning will look like
- Masks required for Grade 4 and up
- Secondary Level – quadmester (2 courses until November; 2 to end of January)
- Still potential for staggered start
- Distance learning lead by staff who aren't returning to school setting (3 to 5 hours per day)
- Cohort of 100 students

Michelle

- Focus on mental health supports/training
- Mental health community services deemed an essential service

Alison

- All boards engaged in professional learning around mental health
- Staggering people in to provide support
- Providing support for rural connectivity
- Technology continues to be a challenge

Kids on suspension pending expulsion

- ABLE sites continuing
- Special service counsellors – not clear how they will operate

Michelle reported that Tanya Roddick has replaced Sue Giff

#### 4.0 Brockville MDS Update (Cameron)

- Cameron reported that Tom Fournier (BPS) and Jennifer Adams (Health Unit) made a presentation to Council that was well-received
- Council passed a motion to support a community –lead MDS committee.
- Councillors Burse and Laverne to represent Council on committee
- Some members of Council cautioned that the municipality can't proceed on its own; needs community partners
- Police are bearing a lot of the costs of drug overdoses
- Council wants actionable items on a short time frame

**Action: Members interested in joining MDS Committee to contact Jennifer Labelle ([jennifer.labelle@healthunit.org](mailto:jennifer.labelle@healthunit.org)) or Jennifer Adams ([jennifer.adams@healthunit.org](mailto:jennifer.adams@healthunit.org))**

Don wants to ensure that LLGAMH are included; still planning for smaller group discussion with Shawn Souder and Lorena Crosbie. Alison reminded members that we can't lose the original discussion piece around support for youth addictions.

Sue P. asked how services are working; some kids prefer online, others face to face. What are agencies seeing?

Alison commented that this presents an opportunity to expand access; both virtual and face to face. There was a small uptake for summer programmes.

Michelle commented that Kids Help Line has been busy – working with kids around back to school anxiety

#### 5.0 Gananoque Update (Margaret)

Margaret reported that she and Trevor Holme (GISS) attended the face to face meeting of the Gananoque youth recreation committee. Only Chantel Ehler was in attendance. Takeaways from meeting:

- 20 youth responded to survey – safe spaces was a common theme
- Margaret and Trevor directed Chantel to other youth surveys that have been conducted (**Action: Michelle will send copies of Resiliency Survey results for the Gananoque community; Don will share Tell Them from Me**)
- Group is still exploring space at former TR Leger Building
- Have identified a potential full time staff person
- Gananoque Council has tabled decision to hire a staff person to support youth, pending more information
- Group is looking to hold smaller events (e.g. pizza parties)
- A local church will be offering art classes once a week
- Group has asked for list of agencies that support Gananoque youth  
**Action: Margaret will coordinate**  
(Note: committee wanted a commitment around what each agency can offer, but CYI members felt that this type of commitment is premature.)
- Chantel highlighted programmes/events that might be offered for youth e.g. job fairs/training  
A number of these are already being offered through the school  
Dana commented that EEC could offer youth job training if there is a gap
- Margaret and Trevor suggested some quick wins for the committee:
  - List of agencies already supporting youth
  - Council link on committee
  - Link to MDS – a lot of groundwork has been laid
  - Calendar of existing recreation activities for youth
- Margaret and Kim Marshall are meeting with Matt Harper (Councillor) and Kari Lambe (Recreation Director) on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### 6.0 Request from Gwendy Lapp (North Grenville WAY)

Margaret reported that Gwendy is requesting information on any data that has been collected on youth mental well-being in North Grenville area. (in addition to Youth Let's Talk, TKOK focus groups, school board surveys)

Suggestion:

CHEO and KDH emergency room data

Library – use of space/programmes

ODHUS data

## 7.0 COVID-19 Response and Planning

- other needs/updates?

Sue reported that the Youth Activities Project is moving along well. The project is transitioning to include children/youth 8 years and up.

## 8.0 Roundtable/Other Business

Frequency of CYI meetings

**Action:** Don will send a Doodle Poll to determine best days/times for CYI meetings.

**Next meeting TBD.**

Next Meeting Date: TBD, 2020 1-3

- Agenda items: Next steps from Workplan