



Minutes

MEETING DETAILS

Committee/ Work Group	Lead Table
Chair(s)	Kimberley Gavan
Date	Dec.3,2025
Time	9:30– 11:30
Location	Zoom and UCDSB 25 Central Ave. Brockville.

Invitees:

<input type="checkbox"/> Allie Dedekker-Brockville Police Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lesley Hubbard-Girls Inc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melissa Leveck-LG Interval House*
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bev Heuving- Big Brother,Big SistersL&G	<input type="checkbox"/> Joshua Harrison-UCDSB	<input type="checkbox"/> Rachel Burns-RNJ Youth
<input type="checkbox"/> Catherine Robinson-Language Express(minutes and agenda only)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lorena Crosbie-CMHLG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Danny Powers- Min Childr, Comm &SS
<input type="checkbox"/> Carrie Onstein-Career Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Rob Adams-EO YMCA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hailie Jack-UWLG
<input type="checkbox"/> Cecilia Clapson-VSLG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melissa Francis-L&G Immigration Part.	<input type="checkbox"/> Bonnie Pidgeon- S Grenville Food Bank

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Siggie Leslie- Casselman	<input type="checkbox"/> Emily Castle-LGL Health Unit	<input type="checkbox"/> Ali Hoover-VSLG
<input type="checkbox"/> Darrel Dean-Min Child, Comm &SS	<input type="checkbox"/> Christine Kassera-Kids Inclusive	<input type="checkbox"/> - Christine Almeida Ont Health at Home
<input type="checkbox"/> Robyn Holmes-Connect Youth/JHS REGRETS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erin Lee Marcotte-FCSLG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Livingston-UCDSB
<input type="checkbox"/> Katie Deacon Ont Health at Home	<input type="checkbox"/> Selena Mackie-CDSBEO	<input type="checkbox"/> Tiffanie Belkin- Min Child Comm &SS
<input type="checkbox"/> Amanda Petch – Brockville Food Bank-	<input type="checkbox"/> Shannon Brown-UCLG EarlyON -	<input type="checkbox"/> Frank Rockett-VoluntCentre SL-R- (minutes and agendas only)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guest Jennifer Miller BBBS Lanark	<input type="checkbox"/> Susan Watts-EEC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brandy Smith-UCDSB
<input type="checkbox"/> Jenny Lane-LG Community FHT	Tawnya Boileau-LGL Health Unit MINUTES AND AGENDAS ONLY	<input type="checkbox"/> Melissa Ondrovic-EEC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kimberley Gavan-BDACI	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Turner-DSL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melissa Hyndman UWLG
<input type="checkbox"/> -Sonja Jodoin-Office for Victims of Crime	<input type="checkbox"/> Sharon Pritchard-Triple P	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Samantha Burtch -LGCFT
<input type="checkbox"/> -Kyrra Hamilton -Assault Resp& Care	<input type="checkbox"/> -Kelile Hare -Assault Resp& Care	<input type="checkbox"/> -Michelle Crogie-PLEO-

AGENDA ITEMS

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Item	Owner	
Welcome & Introductions	Kimberley Gavan	The meeting began with introductions from various participants, who shared their roles and affiliations.

<p>Land Acknowledgment and Agency Profile- Melissa Levek LGIH</p>	<p>Melissa Leveck Leeds-and-Grenville-Interval-House.pdf</p>	<p>Melissa Leveck provided an overview of the domestic violence shelter in Leeds and Grenville, highlighting its history, current facilities, and programs. She explained that the shelter serves women and children in the area, offering residential support, outreach services, and a children's program. Melissa also discussed a recent grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to develop a backyard programming space, which will enhance the shelter's ability to provide activities for residents.</p>
<p>Diversity Equity and Inclusion- continuing poverty discussion with a focus on stigma.</p>	<p>Siggy Cassleman & Melissa Francis- Stigma-Presentation.pdf</p>	<p>Types of Stigma in Social Services The group discussed different types of stigma related to benefits and social services. It was highlighted how limited benefits and restrictive rules create institutional stigma, particularly for mental health and addiction issues. The discussion then moved to social stigma, with examples shared about embarrassment around using food banks and accessing mental health services. Finally, they explored internalized stigma, with Robyn describing how negative online comments about homelessness have led clients to internalize harmful beliefs about their circumstances.</p> <p>Stigma's Impact on Mental Health The group discussed the impact of stigma on mental health and identity, particularly for newcomers and marginalized communities. They explored how internalized stigma can lead individuals to doubt their worth and belonging, with Brandy sharing examples from her clients who feel they don't deserve a fresh start in Canada. Concerns were raised about how data collection and presentation can perpetuate harmful stereotypes, particularly for Indigenous communities, and emphasized the need for careful consideration of language when working with vulnerable populations. The discussion highlighted the complexity of stigma and its intersection with various social factors, as well as the importance of using inclusive and empowering language in professional settings.</p> <p>Strength-Based Approach for Marginalized Groups</p>

		<p>The group discussed the importance of presenting marginalized groups in a balanced and strength-based manner, emphasizing the need to focus on both struggles and successes. Insights were shared from a professional development session on teaching Black Canadian history, highlighting the importance of avoiding a solely negative narrative. The conversation touched on the concept of intersectionality and stigma, with Lesley suggesting that a strength-based approach could help combat stigma..</p> <p>Destigmatizing Poverty: A Case Study The group discussed a case study about Laura, a child experiencing emotional distress related to her family's financial struggles and perceived lack of government support. They explored how Laura's feelings might stem from internalized stigma about poverty and discussed the importance of destigmatizing poverty at both individual and community levels. The conversation concluded with a brainstorming session on ways to prevent stigma, including awareness campaigns and better language usage, followed by an attempt to show a video.</p>
Break and networking		
Toys for Kids	Bryan Edgely - YMCA	Bryan presented information on the Toys for Joy campaign, a gift drive for children up to 18 years old and encouraged agencies to spread the word about requesting and donating gifts.
Update on BBBS Leeds and Grenville Ongoing mentoring and matching needs in Leeds & Grenville	Bev. Heuving Jennifer Miller – BBBS Lanark	Bev provided an update on Big Brothers Big Sisters of Leeds and Grenville, announcing its closure and discussing the reasons behind this decision, as well as the increased demand for community-based programs. Bev announced that their organization will disaffiliate from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada on December 31st, ending their community-based mentoring program. They will focus on a smooth wind-down and transition to Boys and Girls Clubs (BGC) who will offer in-school and club-based mentoring programs in Brockville and Leeds-Grenville. BGC will also implement STEM educational supports. Jennifer from Lanark

		County introduced herself and expressed interest in potentially expanding their mentoring services to Leeds-Grenville, though no immediate decisions were made.
Lead Table Terms of Reference	Jane	Jane presented changes to the coalition's terms, including a new policy for non-partner organization members and virtual-only meetings in certain circumstances. The group approved these changes.
Working Groups- French Services-need 2 co- chairs to restart group Early Years-need co- chair /chair as current chair's term ends on Oct.2025 Developmental Assets is need of 2 co-chairs Triple P Budget	Jane and Lorena	<p>The need for volunteers to co-chair the developmental assets, early years and the Developmental Assets working groups was discussed.</p> <p>Lorena requested approval for Triple P program costs, including email expenses and a toll-free phone line, which were approved by the group.</p>
Youth Wellness Hub	Lorena Crosbie Home Youth Wellness Hubs Ontario	The meeting discussed the potential establishment of Youth Wellness Hubs in Leeds and Grenville, with Lorena explaining that Youth Wellness Hubs Ontario had reached out to communities to gauge interest. The group decided to continue exploring the concept, with plans for a follow-up meeting in the new year to further discuss readiness and vision. Positive feedback from the Planet Youth group in Lanark County about the potential hubs was shared.
Reminder of next Lead Table meeting Wed. Jan.7 /26 Zoom		The meeting also addressed the need for a new meeting space, with Samantha and Rachel offering their facilities as potential options.

only as we look for new space.		
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