



EKIOC Lead Table Agenda

Committee/Work Group	Lead Table
Chair(s)	Lorena Crosbie
Date	March 4, 2026
Time	0930-1130 Hybrid
<p><i>We acknowledge that the land on which the work of Every Kid in Our Communities is performed is the traditional and unceded territory of the Anishinaabe, Algonquin, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, Mississauga, and Mohawk peoples. We acknowledge the legacy of colonialism and the inequities it created that are ongoing. We are committed to reducing these inequities through the work of EKIOC. We acknowledge the enduring presence of the Indigenous people with whom we share this land today, their achievements, and their contributions to our community and commit to learning from them. We offer this acknowledgment as an act of reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples of Canada.</i></p>	

Minutes

AGENDA ITEMS

Item	Owner	
Welcome & Introductions	Lorena Crosbie	The meeting began with introductions from various participants, who shared their roles and affiliations.
Land Acknowledgment and agency profile	Amanda Petch Brockville and Area Food Bank	Amanda presented their Land Acknowledgement and an agency profile highlighting the Brockville Area Food Bank's increasing demand, noting a rise from 1,500 to 2,600 monthly visitors and over 25,000 visits in 2025, with 27% being children. She emphasized the need for large diapers and school snacks and mentioned the bank's expansion to include Mondays for better service distribution. The discussion also touched on the demographic of visitors, including youth helping their families, and the food bank's collaboration with other local food banks. Jane discussed outreach to municipalities regarding food insecurity, sharing responses from various towns and cities, including Front of Young's donation efforts and the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville's perspective on the issue. The group discussed the challenges faced by the Brockville Food Bank, which does not receive government funding despite serving 2,600 people monthly, including over 500 children.

		<p>Amanda explained that the food bank operates solely on donations and grants, and highlighted the stigma around food bank usage, leading to their Monday night service for those uncomfortable accessing help during the day. Jane suggested creating a data table comparing food banks' visitor numbers and municipal grants to present to Joint Services, potentially involving Food Banks United and Amanda's advocacy chair, Louise, to advocate for more support from municipalities. The meeting focused on addressing food insecurity and advocating. Amanda discussed the community report and collaboration with Loaves and Fishes to support food security initiatives. Emily highlighted the health unit's food insecurity report and its recommendations for addressing root causes.</p> <p>https://healthunit.org/wp-content/uploads/Addressing_Food_Insecurity_in_LGL.pdf</p>
<p>Update on outreach to the Municipalities regarding Food Insecurity</p>	<p>Jane Hess</p>	<p>Jane discussed the challenges faced by the community in addressing food insecurity, noting that despite various initiatives like food banks and community dinners, there is a lack of integration into municipal plans and insufficient funding. Jane shared examples of grassroots initiatives and the need for a coordinated approach to tackle food insecurity. She highlighted that most municipalities she contacted, including Brockville, have granting budgets but do not allocate enough resources to address food insecurity. Jane emphasized that some see the issue as more of a county-wide responsibility than an individual municipal one, and she questioned what actions the table could take to address this concern for the children and families they serve. Amanda mentioned that Brockville declared a food security emergency, similar to Smith Falls, but the actions taken remain unclear. Jane expressed interest in following up with Brockville to understand their plans and actions further.</p>
<p>Diversity Equity and Inclusion- How to advocate for local communities to better support Indigenous populations</p>	<p>Siggy Leslie-Casselman</p>	<p>Siggy presented on advocating for Indigenous populations, emphasizing the concept of interconnectedness and the importance of community support. The conversation ended with a discussion on how to engage the community in supporting vulnerable groups, including Indigenous peoples. Siggy presented on strategies for becoming stronger allies to Indigenous and diverse community members, emphasizing the importance of self-reflection on positionality and awareness of personal identities. She introduced Covey's three circles of</p>

		<p>influence model and discussed how to engage with local groups and issues to create positive community change. The presentation concluded with a framework for community engagement, including identifying priorities, taking action, and monitoring outcomes, while acknowledging the challenges of making lasting change.</p> <p>Siggy discussed the need for organizations to improve their engagement with Indigenous communities, acknowledging current gaps in reaching out effectively. Siggy proposed developing an action plan to enhance collaboration and suggested starting with internal community building before expanding Indigenous engagement. Michelle shared PLEO's experience collaborating with the Ottawa Aboriginal Coalition and emphasized the importance of spending time to understand and align programs with Indigenous practices. The group agreed on the necessity of building trust and taking time to establish meaningful relationships, while also recognizing the potential for applying these learnings to other intersectionalities.</p>
Approval of the 2025-2027 work plan	Jane Hess	The plan will be posted and any concerns or additions should be forward to Jane. The Plan includes for key areas Shared Measurement, Connected and Coordinated, Continuous Communication, and Equity-Centered Initiatives.
Asset Builders Awards 2026	Jane Hess	<p>They reviewed the Asset Builder Awards program, which will continue this year with Bev Heuvig as chair of the Developmental Assets Working Group and a new co-chair needed. The awards ceremonies are planned for June 7th at the Y.M.C.A. in Brockville and June 24/26 in Lanark County at the County building. The committee is seeking support from member organizations to replace the health unit's previous contributions, including receiving nominations, graphics work, and media support.</p> <p>Jane to forward request to Emily Tubbs at Southeast PH.</p>
Developmental Assets – an overview in preparation for May Lead Table discussion	Jane Hess	The meeting focused on reviewing the Developmental Assets framework, which has been the basis for youth support work in the community. Jane presented an overview of the framework, highlighting its strength-based approach and the importance of asset builders in youth development. The group discussed whether to continue using this framework, with Jane suggesting they should intentionally recommit to it rather than continue by default. Emily Tubbs offered the health unit to support the assessment of alternative frameworks if needed.

Round Table		<p>CMHLG announced about an upcoming consultation on external communications and diversity at Children's Mental Health.</p> <p>FCSLLG identified the ongoing need for foster families and a campaign using children's art work as placemats in local restaurants.</p>
		<p>Reminder of next Lead Table meeting Wed. April 1 /26 0930-1115 @ Family and Children's Services LLG, 438 Laurier Blvd, Brockville ON K6V 6C5 and TEAMS link for this month only. The Lead Table will be followed by a consultation for CMHLG from 1115 to 1215 for those who are able to stay. More information to follow.</p>

Attendees:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Invitees: | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lise Cayer- CPEO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ali Hoover - VSLG | <input type="checkbox"/> Lisa Livingston - UCDSB |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allie Dedekker - Brockville Police | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lorena Crosbie - CMHLG |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amanda Petch - Brockville Food Bank | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melissa Francis - LG Immigration Part. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bev Heuving - BGCSoutheast REGRETS | <input type="checkbox"/> Melissa Hyndman - UWLG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bonnie Pidgeon - SG Food Bank | <input type="checkbox"/> Katie Sparks - LG Interval House* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brandy Smith - UCDSB | <input type="checkbox"/> Melissa Ondrovcik - EEC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brittney Poffley - YMCA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Crogie - PLEO |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bryan Edgeley - YMCA | <input type="checkbox"/> Rachel Burns - RNJ Youth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carrie Onstein - Career Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Rob Adams - YMCA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cecilia Clapson - VSLG | <input type="checkbox"/> Robyn Holmes - Connect Youth/JHS REGRETS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christine Almeida - Ont Health at Home | <input type="checkbox"/> Samantha Burtch - LGCFHT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christine Kassera - Kids Inclusive | <input type="checkbox"/> Selena Mackie - CDSBEO |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Danny Powers - MCCSS | <input type="checkbox"/> Shannon Brown - UCLG EarlyON |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Darrel Dean - MCCSS | <input type="checkbox"/> Sharon Pritchard - Triple P |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emily Castle - Southeast PH | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Siggie Leslie-Casselman |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emily Tubbs - Southeast PH | <input type="checkbox"/> Sonja Jodoin - Office for Victims of Crime |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erin Lee Marcotte - FCSLLG | <input type="checkbox"/> Susan Watts - EEC |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gwendy Lapp - Southeast PH | <input type="checkbox"/> Tiffanie Belkin - MCCSS |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hailie Jack - UWLG | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Kaufman - DSLG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harold Parsons - BGCSoutheast | <input type="checkbox"/> Catherine Robinson - Language Express (minutes and agenda only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jenny Lane - LG Community FHT | <input type="checkbox"/> Frank Rockett - VoluntCentre SL-R (minutes and agendas only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kelile Hare - Assault Resp& Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Tawnya Boileau - Southeast PH (minutes and agendas only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kelly Blonsky - Ont Health at Home | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kimberley Gavan - BDACI REGRETS | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kyrra Hamilton - Assault Resp& Care | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Forbes - KidsInclusive | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leah Nielsen - UCLG | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lesley Hubbard - Girls Inc. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

