

## Niagara Child Care Sector Executive Meeting

Tuesday April 5, 2022 • 9:30 a.m. • Via Zoom

**Present:** Jackie Kerry, Kim Cole, Lorrey Arial Bonilla, Pam McLean-Stubbs, Melissa McLaughlan, Helene Randle, Véronique Emery (for Christina Clark), Micki Horton, Lindsay Milligan, Tracey Murray

**Regrets:** Candice Penny, Sandra Della Porta

Item	Discussion	Action	Who
<b>Minute Recorder</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Julie Thompson, ECCDC</li> </ul>		
<b>1. Welcome &amp; Intros</b>			
<b>2. Correspondence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jackie received an email back about a month ago from Bob Conroy of the NRP. He hasn't been at work in 18 months due to illness. He has a new position with the NRP, but is still willing to help with emergency plans. He is very busy.</li> <li>Committee members agreed to pause this right now – perhaps this would be good to add to new workplan.</li> </ul>		
<b>3. Questions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Véronique asked about other's mileage allowances considering how gas prices are rising. Several members responded with .47, .45, .54, and .50</li> <li>Jackie was curious to know how many submissions were received for the Virtual ECE Job Fair. Entries were sent to Kelly Wilcox. Darlene at the ECCDC received 10 videos and forwarded them to her.</li> </ul>	Lorrey to ask Kelly Wilcox how it went and will forward her response.	
<b>4. Minutes Approval: February 1, 2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No changes</li> </ul>		
<b>5. Business Arising</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workplan – this was discussed and the committee agreed to work on developing the workplan at the June 7 meeting to prepare for action in fall. It was decided to meet via Zoom for the next meeting</li> </ul>	Jackie will send questions in advance of the next meeting for the committee to think about.	
<b>6. New Business</b>	<p><b>Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement and System</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee members expressed surprise at how quickly the messaging went out. Kim is collecting questions to send to Darlene, especially</li> </ul>		

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	<p>about the number of spaces that will be required. There was nothing mentioned for parents of kids age 7-12. Non-RECEs weren't addressed. One committee member wondered if it will be up to providers to move more experienced staff wages up as with the less experienced staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Melissa's board of directors approved a fee increase for fall, but now fee increases will need to be frozen. She will wait until the end of September to opt in or out.</li> <li>• Tracey shared that child care centres will receive funding for rebates back to April 1, but she doesn't know when. Another member said that they will be sent in May.</li> <li>• All other fees like registration, late fees, etc., are unaffected.</li> <li>• One committee member stated they hope Niagara Region holds a community consultation so everyone is on the same page.</li> <li>• Another committee member shared that Brenda Steele is the person to send questions to.</li> </ul>		
<b>7. Facebook Update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not available, Candice not in attendance</li> </ul>		
<b>8. Website Update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lorrey shared website stats from January to March 2022. The Homepage was visited 71 times, About Us 11 times, Contact Us 28 times, Resources 16 times, and Minutes 6 times.</li> <li>• The numbers generally go up when we send a bulk email to the community from NCCSE. Perhaps it is time for a review of NCCSE's web pages to be added to the workplan.</li> </ul>		
<b>9. Round Table Updates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tracey – we're growing again at Lakeview School, opening a centre with 88 spaces. It is planned to be ready in fall 2023. The current Lakeview Centre will remain open. The new centre is just in its first stages.</li> <li>• Kim – The College of ECEs elections are open and Kim is running again. Voting opens today.</li> <li>• Véronique – Christina could not attend today as she is in 2-day training to learn more about co-operatives. We started as a co-operative but</li> </ul>		

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	<p>over the years, there has been less engagement from parents on the board and in the centre. With the new ONCA changes, we're learning more about returning to our co-operative roots. La Boîte is celebrating 40 years on June 1 with a large community party.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Melissa – our co-operative used to have committees with parents, but COVID left us unable to, so we've just had our board of directors. We are looking to re-engage.</li> <li>• Lorrey – just received official permission to share the Accelerated ECE program with Niagara College has been approved. Lorrey thanked everyone for their letters of support. An official announcement will be sent out and further details are unfolding. There is room for 100 educators to participate in the project. In other news, Kiwanis Clubs of Niagara have agreed to support the ECCDC with 4 years of financial support to lease a van to support resources delivery and community outreach. The van has been leased, it just needs signage.</li> <li>• Micki – it's nice to have students back in the program. Parents are now allowed to enter the program as well, as of last week. Kim shared that there have been positive interactions from parents who can now come into centres. Toddlers are showing parents their rooms. One supervisor said their centre feels "alive" again.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>10.Potential events &amp; media opportunities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>		
<p><b>11.Next meeting</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuesdays June 7, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom</li> </ul>		