**MCMCT Meeting Minutes**

**September 19th, 2016**

**CAST Room 7-2**

**10:00 - 12:00**

**Present:** Cindy Himelstein, Shaden Jebahi, Jillian Sewell, Lisa Shortall, Beverly Ann D’Souza, Sharma Queiser, Paola Collini-Martins, Maria Guerrero, Eneyda Guerra, Ian Edward, Diana Grimaldos, Zulekha Noormohamed, Wail Elhantoush, Wael Jarbanda, Amal M. Tannous, Nancy Chenruonan, Walaa Taha, Fei Yin, Georgina Valendra

**Regrets:** Lee Soda, Shaida Addetia, Lee Ford-Jones, Cindy McCarthy, Anna Polla, Lovelle San Gabriel, Yota Lambrakos, Diane Banks, Suganthine Sivakimar and Yoshimi (parent leaders).

**Minute Taker**- Shaden Jebahi

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| **Agenda Item** | **Discussion** | **Actions** |
| Welcome | Minutes of June 20th , 2016 |  |
| **Parent leaders** | Shaden welcomed the parent leaders and asked them to introduce themselves to the Coalition members. |  |
| **3 Months – in -Review** | **Parent Leaders :**  Shaden J. spoke about parent leaders’ paid tasks and their involvement in the project. At this point there are parent leaders  **Learning Sessions:**  Shaden updated the group on the discussions with leadership team about the development of 15 new learning sessions in year 2 & 3 – 45 minutes to 1 hour long. Those facilitated discussions are opportunities for parents to share experiences and can be 3 sessions in a series or each can “stand alone”.   * Year 2 – Social Safety: Cyber Bullying and Internet safety. * Year 2 – Mental Health and Wellbeing: Awareness and Prevention, Common mental health issues as anxiety, eating, disorders, suicide, self – harm * Year 3 – Nutrition * Physical Activity * STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)   **Other updates:**  Shaden informed the Coalition that she has submitted the Ontario Trillium Foundation Mid-Term Report.  She also mentioned Cindy and her meet with the Director of Child Welfare Institute and Evaluation Department at CAST, Dr. Debora Goodman to discuss MCMCT project evaluation on the parent symposium and learning sessions this fall | MCMCT Leadership Team to meet with Deb Goodman to discuss the project evaluations |
| **Parent Symposium** | Lisa S. presented to the group a summary of the Parent Symposium Workgroup summer discussions.  **Location, Date & type:**   * Two parent symposiums in year 1. At Waterfront Neighborhood Center (West) and another in the East, location TBD later * 1 large parent symposium in year 3. * The Waterfront parent symposium date and duration: Thursday Nov. 10, 2016 from 5:30 – 9:00 pm. * Two childcare rooms, half of the gymnasium and two breakout session rooms were booked.   **Childcare/Child minding:**   * Since childcare was a bit of a challenge, Zulekha N. suggested childminding as a solution to overcome the regulations, liability and staff. * Childminding to be provided for only children 5 – 12 years old. * Zulikha N. also suggested contacting City of Toronto to ask for Youth Community Engagement Workers for child minding and recreational activities. * Jillian S. advised that parents sign a waiver specifying that they are not allowed to leave their children alone at the premises. * Parent leader Nancy C. mentioned that limiting the child minding to ages 5-12 years will still be a barrier to many parents because they might have different ages. * Topics for breakout sessions about Internet safety – facilitated by Toronto Police and Picky eaters – facilitated by Toronto Public Health   **Waterfront - Flyer:**  Eneyda G. presented the draft flyer to the group and the feedback was as the following:   * To omit the info-graph on the flyer * To use simple language and make it less wordy. * Include TTC and parking info | Shaden to contact Zulekha/Dorset Park Hub for parent symposium East location and date.  Shaden to follow up with Suganthine for The space booking form and other details for the East parent symposium.  Shaden to contact Right to play to check if they can provide child minding for those ages.  To identify volunteers at MCMC Oct. 17th meeting. |
| **Website Re-Vamp** | Cindy H. gave the group a summary of the website workgroup summer meetings. She mentioned that MCMCT website will be targeting both parents with children 6-12 years old and service providers.  She also mentioned that the workgroup met over the summer and reviewed all the website content – deleted many outdated links/information as ones that were not relevant to the new website  A lot of information was kept in archive and the group agreed to keep a solid introduction about MCMCT and add to Ontario Trillium Foundations section past and present.  **Website design:**  Cindy also mentioned that the website will have two buttons for parents and service providers.  She showed the group Liverpool’s website design as an example. The website is meant to be as a hub of resources and MCMCT doesn’t have the capacity to develop content. See attached for proposed changes  **Service Provider Button:**  Cindy asked the members about what is important to them in the area of programming?  The group’s answers were as the following:   * CPR is important for both parents and service providers. * First Aid * About Kids Health link (easy to read articles) * Developing Programs such as City of Toronto Guidelines, Quality Indicators * Five Funding Opportunities ex. The Ministry, City of Toronto and OTF * Add a link to the Ministry of Education legislation * Add a link to out of City of Toronto Trainings.   Lisa S. pointed to add- What’s Happening across Canada ie. British Columbia  Ian also questioned how we are maintaining the website?  To add Donation button  **Parent leaders feedback:**   * There is a difficulty searching the website * Georgina suggested adding to our website specification a phone application. * To check with Google the possibility of linking our website with the most popular things that people search for to increase visibility. | Shaden to check with Google the possibility of adding words to Google analytics. |
| **TO Poverty Reduction Strategy** | Cindy explained to the parents about Toronto’s Poverty Reduction Strategy. She mentioned that there will be an event on Saturday Sept.24th- Lawrence Hts. CC where service providers and people with lived experience in poverty will talk about poverty, employment, childcare, TTC, food, seniors, housing and lack of jobs. | Shaden to share the event details with parent leaders. |
| **Sector Updates/Program Updates** | * Jillian S. mentioned that the Ontario government has promised 100,000 more childcare spots over the next five years for children 0-6 years of age. * She explained that when there is a full demand of Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) then school has to provide 6-12 years programs based on the needs. * City of TO is looking how to deal with childcare in schools and around the schools – mandatory. * School space is a barrier to more services (teachers, classes, principles offering tiny spaces) |  |