

London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership Education Sub-Council

Tuesday, April 6, 2010, 3:30 – 6:30
Location: G. A Wheable, Room A 220

Present: Raja Al-Abed, Jean-Pierre Cantin, Sheila Carson, Gerardo Castro, Kim Godin, Helen Patterson, Mureed Shahid, Denise Taylor-Edwards, Susanne Quan, Ramiro Castro, Jo-elle Rinker, Mo Jeng, Nancy Pollard, Janet Pinder, Kate Kennedy, and Huda Hussein.

Regrets: Muriel Abbott, Candace Miller and Becky House.

Welcome & Introductions: Janet Pinder was welcomed

Meeting Minutes: Minutes reviewed and approved

Updates

Jean-Pierre informed the group of the timelines of the Project. Group was requested to mark the third Community Strategy Meeting of May 26, 1-4:30 in their calendars. He also reminded the group that the draft Priority template will be submitted to the central council by April 23, 2010.

Review of Priorities:

Jean-Pierre mentioned that few issues under Access to Education need to be discussed today and a consensus reached:

- a. Childcare/child minding
- b. Eligibility Issue
- c. Internationally Trained Individuals (ITIs)
- d. Curriculum
- e. ESL and Literacy

Childcare/child minding:

- i. After a thorough discussion, it was agreed that the ratio between the number of childcare providers and the children is not a priority gap and need to be kept as this enhances quality childcare
- ii. Two issues are presented here: one spots to childcare/child minding are limited and availability of facility can sometimes pose a problem.

Action: Janet Pinder and Helen Patterson will provide the sub-council with the projected numbers of needed childcare spots.

Eligibility:

There was consensus to add new Canadians category to the eligibility issue. Both refugees and new Canadians are not eligible for federally funded programs which hinder their access to education, training and bridging programs.

Internationally Trained Individuals:

Kate Kennedy, Access Centre for Regulated Employment, presented the issue facing ITIs with regard to the time it takes to process their credentials and the fact that Ontario has its specific learning criterion. In many cases, after a lapse of years in paper work, ITIs lose the ability to practice in their profession.

ESL/Literacy

This issue is deferred to the next meeting

Curriculum:

It was clarified that the curriculum under discussion here, is the Ontario curriculum not the ESL or the LINC curriculum. After a thorough discussion, the group decided on some activities to address this priority gap.

For all the activities, please see the Priority Template, April 6 Draft.

Next Steps: Meeting Wednesday, April 21, 3:30-5:30 p.m. at G A Wheable, Room A 220