

London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership Inclusion & Civic Engagement Sub-council Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Present: Lourdes Assis, Suzanne Huot, Jason Hastings, Maria, Brenda Qureshi, Monica Abdelkader, David Cottrill, John Zembwe, Saleh Alathamena, Michael Goodmurphy, Rose Aquino, Dieufert Bellot, German Gutierrez, Robin Armistead, German Salamanca, Huda Hussein, and Nina Hamou.

Regrets: Janice Walter, Joan Fisher, Dharshi Lacey, Anna Hendrikx, Valy Marochko, Andrea Hallam, Nassisse Solomon, Estela Quintero-Weldon and Oscar Enriquez.

Welcome & Introductions

German thanked the participants for their dedication and cooperation during the strategic plan process. He also reiterated that today's meeting is a celebration of the work thus far.

Approval of Minutes

The April 27, 2010 meeting minutes motioned by Michael and seconded by Jason.

Debrief:

Role of Sub-Council in Relationship to LMLIP

German gave a brief overview of the letter sent on June 17 to all the Sub-councils. The letter explained the role of the Sub-council in the implementation phase. He also clarified the minor change in terms of the "chair and co-chair" which has been changed in the Terms of Reference to read as "chair and vice-chair". It was also indicated that meetings will not be as intensive as it was in the phase one; meeting will be 3-4 times a year.

Each Sub-council will:

- look at area specific strategies, support progress within the area and report to the Central Council through its chair
- will lead implementation of the recommended strategies while working with current members and engaging new partners as appropriate
- will work actively to support the goals identified in the plan

Few questions were raised on processes. For example, if a proposal is out, how we can go about it, do we come here to discuss it and then coordinate who does what or take it to the Central Council? It was understood should be discussed at the table and taken to the Central Council by the Chair. The group also noted that coordination among service providers and other sub-councils is crucial to move forward. LMLIP will play a large role in the coordination of services, it is important for people to bring forward what their respective organizations are doing.

Community Feedback

Additions communicated by the sub-council via email were endorsed by the group. These included missing key words added by Estela and Janice. Community feedback was shared, this included:

- Specialized services for immigrants/cultural specific services
- Bullet 4 should address youth issues /adjustments in the school. This includes newcomer students and entire student body

The group felt that the suggestions raised by the community were already incorporated in the strategies. They may have been raised because the community did not see the full picture.

Issues of inclusion were raised, such as how we are including youth within our own sub-council. It was suggested that we try to engage youth by sending final copy of strategic plan to youth groups for input or personally inviting youth to participate.

Other Items

A request has come through from Pillar Non-profit to discuss an opportunity brought forward by the Region of Peel Social Committee: Regional Training - Anti-Racism Project. The group agreed the initiative was in alignment with the Sub-council's priorities and it was suggested that individuals take it back to their agencies and circulate amongst their networks. This is an example of coordination of information that should continue to occur in the future.

Next Steps

German reminded the group that meetings will continue in the Fall. At the next meeting we will:

- Review the submitted Draft Strategic Plan;
- Prioritize strategies and gather information within the community;
- Share information on services brought to the attention of this table.

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