

## **London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership**

Central Council

Monday, September 26, 2011

**Present:** Ahmed Yahya Ali, Mohamed Al-Adeimi, Jean-Pierre Cantin, Jean-Simon Cantin, Junyan (David) Chen, German Gutierrez, Huda Hussein, Anne Langille, Kelly McManus, Corinne Walsh, Dev Sainani, Elisabeth White, Lauren Touchan, Ria Urbi

**Regrets:** Asma Ahmed, Henri Boyi, Vicki Esses, Jo-Ann Hutchison, Naeem Qureshi, George Perez

### **Welcome & Introductions**

Elisabeth White welcomed the committee back from the summer. New-hire Ria Urbi (Project Assistant) was also introduced and welcomed to the central council. Elisabeth announced and thanked the new LMLIP host - WIL Employment Connections as of September 2011.

Elisabeth also mentioned her conference call with the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI) and Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) in with respect to the Canada-Ontario Immigration Agreement (COIA).

### **June 27, 2011 Meeting Minutes (Approved)**

#### **Draft LMLIP Work Plan September 2011 – March 31, 2012 (Discussion)**

Kelly McManus introduced the draft LMLIP Work Plan. Kelly explained how it is intended to give more strategic direction to our work of the Council.

Huda Hussein explained further the details of the work plan including the deliverables, objectives, activities/tasks, leads, overarching outcomes and timelines for every item. Huda drew attention to the recent developments in some of the deliverables. Some of those included: holding a meeting with senior management of Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) to facilitate the work of project one, and working closely with City staff to strike a collaborative that will review utilization of community centres and facilitate its access to immigrants.

Kelly explained that the first four deliverables – Governance Model, Advocacy/Systemic Change, Outcomes and Media & Engagement – compose the “meat” of the work of the central council. Kelly also noted the relationship of the Central Council with the sub-councils.

For the “Outcomes” deliverable, Dev Sainani raised the question of having performance indicators for each of the sub-councils. Ahmed Yahyah Ali also noted the possible overlaps in the sub-councils. Huda explained that we bring the pieces of the sub-councils together and have a template to monitor progress achieved by each of the sub-councils. Jean-Pierre Cantin suggested that each sub-council should also have access to the templates of the other sub-councils for information.

Action: Staff to send the templates to Council members and post the same on the Immigration Portal

Kelly also noted that as an organization, we should be able to identify and measure what makes us different – and that work is already being started by Welcoming Community Initiatives (WCI) through Vicki Esses.

Generally, there was a concern about timelines. All the items were bounded by the March 31<sup>st</sup> end-of-funding date. Jean-Pierre thought there was not enough time for four to five work groups

to be struck. Anne Langille raised the issue that “Outcomes” should not be part of the work plan with a definite timeline but as a moving target, recognizing the big work that goes into it.

Kelly called for volunteers to work with Vicki Esses on the “Outcomes” deliverable and with Elisabeth and Kelly on the “Advocacy/Systemic Change” deliverable.

For the “Cultural Competency Training” deliverable, Lauren Touchan mentioned an organization in Toronto that provides cultural sensitivity training. Lauren saw an opportunity in connecting with this organization to see if they can provide the same service in London.

**ACTION:** Lauren will provide Huda the contact information of the organization.

### **Strategic Multimedia Communication Plan (Approved)**

Dev reported on behalf of the multimedia task group. He noted that 3-5 groups have been identified to participate in the kitchen table discussions and the group will also draft the questions as well as the Request for Proposal to retain a consultant. The work plan was endorsed by the council.

Dev called for volunteers from the council who would be willing to connect with the ethno-cultural groups and facilitate a kitchen table discussion. German Gutierrez Sanin offered to connect with the Spanish community and lead the discussion with this group. Mohammed Al-Adeimi offered the South London Resource Center as venue to have the kitchen table discussions.

### **Governance – The Culver Group (Discussion)**

The Culver Group presented their report and methodology. The governance model is intended to provide structure to the Council in terms of bringing out clearer roles & responsibilities, policies and operating procedures, code of conduct guidelines, conflict of interest guidelines, timelines and membership formation. Each item was put forward for in depth discussion by Council members.

Due to time restriction, Council members did not have the opportunity to go through each item and provide feedback and comments to the Governance Model.

Action: It was agreed that members would send their input, comments or concerns to Ria by the following week. In return, Ria would collate the information and send to the Governance task group for their consideration and for bringing forward to the consultants.

**Wrap-up and Next Meeting** Oct. 24, 2011, Kiwanis Recreation Centre

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