

London & Middlesex Local Immigration Partnership Settlement Sub-Council January 19, 2011

Present: Marel Fielding, Mohamed Al-Adeimi, Jill Tansley, Rifat Hussain, Mersija Nuric, Amani Radhaa and Nina Hamou.

Regrets: Brian Rhoden, Nancy Santos, Mayssa El-Sayegh.

Welcome and Introductions

Due to the low attendance the group decided to pursue items that did not require quorum. Recruitment of new participants will be made a priority for next meeting.

Meeting Minutes

An error was found in the meeting minutes with regards to the date of the next meeting. The minutes of November 10, 2010 were approved.

Brochure

The following edits were suggested:

- It was suggested that the words “assist” or “provide” be used instead of “help”
- “Social security number” was changed to “social insurance number”
- Assistance with child tax benefits was included under supports and services
- Supports and services were expanded
- Eligibility criteria was expanded to include applicants for permanent residence on humanitarian and compassionate grounds and Temporary Residents
- The hours of operation for Newcomer Settlement Services of the South London Neighbourhood Resource Centre was corrected
- A map showing where settlement agencies are located to be included.

The group suggested that 8000 brochures may not be enough. Nina clarified that the budget is agencies will be responsible for reprinting future copies of the brochure.

ACTION: Content will be shared with designer with first draft ready by the week of February 7.

Review of Year One Plan and Prioritize for Year Two

The group decided they will not discuss prioritize for year two because of the low attendance. Instead the Chair led the discussion on review of Year One Plan. Nina reported that she had been in touch with Newcomer Settlement Services of South London Neighbourhood Resource centre to discuss what has been happening terms of System Navigation (finance management). They have been involved with financial navigation by providing workshops which educate immigrants how to manage all aspects of finances including banking, credit, transition from government sponsorship, taxes, and bill payments.

This information will be shared with other agencies that would like to collaborate.

ACTION: Managing finances will be added to the Year One Implementation Plan.

Wrap-up and Next Meeting

ACTION: Nina will schedule a meeting for March.

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