



“We will gather, interpret, and share meaningful information and resources that can positively affect the early years in local communities”

UEY Advisory Committee: Agenda/Minutes

Date: April 16, 2008

Place: Community Council

Attendees: Alison Preece, Carolyn Vincent, Enid Elliot, Jody Bauche, Stephanie Gabel

Chair: Alison Preece

Regrets: Michele Fryer, Margot Edwards, Linda Leone, Jodi Sturge

Agenda April 16th, 2008

1. Awards Update- Info (15 min)
2. UEY Meeting Schedule- revisit UEY meeting time- discussion (5 min)
3. Website- discussion and info (25 min)
4. Map Launch- discussion (10 min)
5. Child Care Maps- info (10 min)
6. Child Care Updates (10 min)
7. Lessons Learned- discussion (25 mins)
8. What's Ahead- info (10 min)

Next Meeting May 6th, 2:30 to 4:30

Key Activity	Update – what’s happened since last meeting?	Discussion points	Action planned – what next, by when and with what resources?
Atlas	Stephanie, Jodi and Jane completed the VIHA survey for their GIS strategic planning process. Stephanie participated in two additional meetings.		
Knowledge Mobilization- Child Care	<p>Joanne Cruickshank and stephanie have been contacting child care centres to put together a focus group of providers to discuss enabling and constraining municipal by-laws for child care. Child care maps will be finalized by Jodi once 2006 census data has been acquired to create a updated dot-density layer. Data from UEY has been applied to Lynell Anderson’s costing framework and was presented at the Regional Child Care meeting on April 10th. A meeting with Chuck Eamer, director of MCFD for the island was convened by Patti Simmons on March 28th with Collen Hobson, Jan White, Enid Elliot, Patti and Stephanie to discuss the recent UEY child care update, and to learn more from MCFD about planning for child care in our region. It was an encouraging meeting.</p>	<p>Stephanie informed the members that obtaining enough participants for a focus group was becoming challenging. She presented an alternative strategy which would entail meeting with municipal planners and child care operators individually. Due to the additional time required with this strategy, she recommended that the number of briefs created be reduced to 6- Victoria, Saanich, Colwood, Langford, Sooke and Sidney. Advisory supported this recommendation.</p> <p>Enid provided a summary of the child care work being undertaken with Lynell Anderson. The work will be completed in June. The costing strategy focuses on reducing gaps in affordability, quality and access eg. currently 80% of costs of care are paid by parents, and the RCCC plan will reduce this to 20%. Quality was given the highest</p>	<p>At next child care meeting Stephanie will ask RCCC if they’d like to present the municipal briefs to councilors and planners.</p> <p>Stephanie will proceed to develop the briefs as outlined in the revised strategy.</p>

Key Activity	Update – what’s happened since last meeting?	Discussion points	Action planned – what next, by when and with what resources?
		<p>priority in the 5 year phasing strategy. Building on what exists and our strengths has been the focus- eg. factoring in Strong Starts and kindergarten programs. Other communities, such as Nelson and Duncan, are also interested in doing something similar. Final meeting with Lynell will be on May 14th.</p>	
Communications	<p>A consultant has been confirmed for the communications plan. Michele Penz of Calico Communications.</p>		
Community Action Plans	<p>The work on the communications plans to hire a consultant has been postponed until the communications plan contract is well underway.</p>		
Early Years Awards - update	<p>Logo was finalized. Promotional ads were created for Island Parent May issue, and for Kids in Victoria website. Poster and survey/brochure are completed and distribution strategy is underway. A list of media contacts has been created. A web page for the Awards and the survey have been uploaded onto the PLAY website. Prizes have been acquired.</p>	<p>Stephanie showed the Early Years web pages to members and provided an update on progress. Members wanted to know if this is something we could do every year and how we can keep it sustainable and built into the PLAY action plan. Members felt there were many opportunities for partnership to help sustain the awards. Also, it was pointed out that we also want to make sure that the Awards remain independent and not seen as too linked to business. Stephanie informed the group that</p>	<p>Stephanie will send out an email advert to UEY advisory so they can share it with their distribution lists- eg. Reach and Education list serves. Jody Bauche offered to work with Margot to deliver the survey at VNFC.</p>

Key Activity	Update – what’s happened since last meeting?	Discussion points	Action planned – what next, by when and with what resources?
		<p>an evaluation of the awards will be undertaken, and that there are plans to look at how nominations of champions (i.e. individuals) could also be included. Generally, people were really excited about the awards.</p>	
<p>Evaluation - lessons learned</p>	<p>In February, UEY received 8 requests for information, mostly for child care data. HRSDC has provided us with a new Evaluation template.</p>	<p>As preparation for our evaluation and final report, Stephanie will be asking Advisory members to share their thoughts on lessons learned and successes at each meeting. Our first discussion generated many useful insights such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. why was so much work put into pidacs and we still have nothing to report on- needed more clarity and purpose, particularly when you go into schools and work with teachers- it’s personal b. lack of clarity and shifting ground throughout the project- slow to start c. opportunities are available to use the information positively- such as for the Educational Ehnancement Agreement with SD61, for other school district planning (literacy plans, Strong Start) d. we were successful in mobilizing the child care information due to having funds that was valuable for labour and resources- we now have 	

Key Activity	Update – what’s happened since last meeting?	Discussion points	Action planned – what next, by when and with what resources?
		<p>tools to share with other communities.</p> <p>e. we learned just how long it takes to ensure confidentiality and how important it is to have resources up front to manage and use information in a timely way- this kind of research project requires a longer timeline- learned how intensive the work it so access the information we have</p> <p>f. we have been successful in gaining representation from various constituencies- university etc.</p> <p>g. mapping as a tool to communicate was valuable- showed us it’s potential, and how it makes people aware.</p> <p>h. child care report and the follow up meeting were successes</p> <p>h. on the ground, a focus on assets has been positive- has perhaps created a conceptual shift in thinking</p> <p>i. recognition of how poverty and disparity are fundamental</p> <p>j. child care work revealed the absence of basic data- not being systematically tracked- meeting with Chuck Eamer</p> <p>k. we learned how the governance structure works</p>	

Key Activity	Update – what’s happened since last meeting?	Discussion points	Action planned – what next, by when and with what resources?
Mapping Reports	Reports are being distributed.		
PIDACS	Electronic report has not been distributed yet. Stephanie will re-do PIDACS proposal in April as a new template was provided at March HRSDC-UEY meeting in Ottawa.		
Website - show new info	A google map of parenting supports was uploaded onto the PLAY website. A series of pages for each municipality and First Nation were also uploaded with an accompanying map.	Stephanie showed members the google map of parenting supports and the new municipal profiles pages. One member stated they liked how it framed the context of the child into the community and provided access to inform on specific neighbourhoods- centred around the child. We discussed the kind of information that could be included in each profile, and how to address the EDI information that is currently provided in the EDI neighbourhood profiles on the site. Members seemed to agree that the EDI neighbourhood profiles could be removed if the information was transferred to the municipal profiles as some members do use the data for funding applications.	As suggested by Jody, Stephanie will contact Mary Ellen Turpel-La Fond’s office to see if they’d be interested in promoting our site and information as it looks at assets, not deficits.

Key Activity	Update – what’s happened since last meeting?	Discussion points	Action planned – what next, by when and with what resources?
<p>Other -Map Launch? - what’s ahead</p>	<p>Stephanie and Jody Bauche will be attending the Children’s Summit of the Making Cities Liveable Conference in Santa Fe first week of June.</p>	<p>Stephanie introduced the idea that UEY, Success by Six host a community celebration and map launch in the summer/fall. People were very supportive of the idea. General discussion touched on, when to have it, to piggy back it on another event if held in the summer, how to get the most people out. Celebrations can make the work UEY and Success by 6 does more visible and tangible.</p> <p>Stephanie handed out a one page sheet outlining project milestones for the remainder of the project.</p>	<p>Put discussion of a celebration on next meeting agenda.</p>
<p>Next Meetings - meeting time?</p>	<p>Next official meeting is on May 6th 2:30 to 4:30, and will be held at the Community Council office- 3948 Quadra Street.</p>	<p>After considerable deliberation and schedule juggling, the following meeting schedule was set for the UEY until September.</p> <p>May 6th, 2:30 to 4:30 June 10th, 2:30 to 4:30 July 8th, 2:30 to 4:30 August 12th, 2:30 to 4:30 September 9th, 2:30 to 4:30</p> <p>It was recognized some shifts in scheduling may be required during the summer months.</p>	