



**Community Development Working Group**

Tuesday April 28, 2009

**Host Location:** Brampton Neighbourhood Resource Centre  
50 Kennedy Rd South, Brampton

**Chair:** Janine Symanzik

**Minutes:** Charmaine Blair

**Present:**

Janine Symanzik – Meadowvale Community Partnership, Health Services, Dorothy Fetterly – Region of Peel, James Colgon – Our Place Peel, Gary Faris – Peel Youth Village, Donna McBride – Region of Peel, Charmaine Blair – Region of Peel, Dorothy Fetterly – Region of Peel

**Regrets:**

Sandra Solonik – Region of Peel, Jacquie Lewis – Eclipse Drop-In/Rapport Youth & Family Services, Carol Reist – The DAM Youth Drop-In, Varsha Naik – Peel District School Board, Recreation & Parks, Erica Taylor – Peel Youth Village, Sharon Doherty – Town of Caledon, Kerry Samuels – Brampton Neighbourhood Resource Centre, Lisa Rossetti – City of Brampton, Larry Zacher – Brampton Safe City, Ken Dryfhout – The DAM Drop-In, Andrew Macpherson – Positive Outreach for Women and Equal Rights for Everyone, Jocelyn Cann – Region of Peel Public Health, Joan Manning – Eclipse/Rapport Youth & Family Services, Carol Persaud – Elizabeth Fry Society of Peel-Halton, Shelley Tsolakis – City of Mississauga, Kamalesh Visavadia – Region of Peel, Bridget Stark – Associated Youth Services of Peel

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	Action
<b>1. Introductions</b>	Group members introduced themselves.	
<b>2. Additions/Approval of agenda</b>	Janine suggested a discussion about the purpose and the status of the working group.	
<b>3. Working Groups Updates (Dorothy)</b>	<p><b>Families:</b> The Parenting Program has produced positive results and their last set of workshops is now running at Allen Drive School in Bolton from</p>	

March 31st to May 5th. The goal of the working group was to have one in each municipality. The program started in the fall at Clarke Blvd. Public School then moved Shelter's Bay in the Meadowvale area in the winter. It runs for 6 weeks and includes the Virtues project and a presentation on bullying, with pre and post evaluations. Peel Health is assisting with the evaluation and results from the second workshop show that both parents and children have positive outcomes with better communication. They were disappointed when the 6-week sessions were over and wanted it to continue.

There have been between 9 and 11 families attending each workshop with an average of about 9 children in each. Family educators and child/youth workers facilitate the workshops and childminding is available for those who needed it.

The Families group is pursuing funding to continue with the program that is recognized and supported by the Steering Committee and others.

The group is also looking at a transition toolkit for parents. Since their focus is on middle-years youth, then tools to help parents with the transition from middle school to high school may be helpful.

**Education Policy & Program:** The Education working group chair and the Families working group chair met to discuss merging the two groups. Members of the Education group support this idea, along with the Steering Committee. The Education group originally wanted to look at policies like Bill 212, but many of the policies have changed, been addressed, or are being looked at by the Steering Committee. The group has agreed to Merge with the Families group and will have their first joint meeting on May 12th.

**Youth Services:** The working group formed a youth advisory group made up of youth from various focus groups and interested youth that signed up at the Youth Can Move The World event. They recently

decided on the name “**IMPACT**” and the slogan “ONE ACT IMPACTS”. The youth participating have agreed to meet on the third Thursday of every month and they are willing to move around between Mississauga and Brampton.

The Youth Services working group will be hosting a community event in the fall. It will likely be at the Living Arts Centre and eventually will move to Pladium for a family night where parents and kids would play together. IMPACT members have expressed a keen interest in planning and participating in this event and have even made suggestions about speakers they would be interested in hearing. There will also be entertainment provided by youth in the community.

Donna suggested a number of youth performing groups: Youth Troopers, Hip Hop Away from Violence, Breakaway. Rapport also hosts Youth Arts Against Violence in October.

**PYVPN Newsletter:**

April issue just released and distributed to Network.

**Uprooting Youth Violence:**

The community forum scheduled for April 14th was postponed. It has not yet been re-scheduled as we are trying to work around Alvin Curling and Roy McMurtry’s schedule.

The Youth Matters call to action scheduled for May 6th has been changed to May 25th. There is an opportunity to contact some of the agencies and ask their youth some questions that would be presented at the community forum by a youth panel.

**Displays:** Dorothy showed the group the display options for the network and welcomed any thoughts from the group. Janine suggested that the youth advisory slogan of “One Act IMPACTS” should be included.

Donna will provide contact information for youth performing groups.

	<p><b>Connect2Endviolence:</b> This website launched on April 14th as part of Peel Regional Police's 5-point plan. The site allows the public to express their concerns about violence in their communities and opens the door for 2-way dialogue. The site has a blog and links to resources that help address all kinds of violence related matters, not just youth violence. The site is also available in 5 different languages.</p> <p><b>Success by 24:</b> Peel Region is looking at a "success by 24" plan and the name attached to this program is the <b>Peel Children &amp; Youth Initiative</b>. Based on Success X6 model, it would have the same goals in mind for older kids and youth. This project involves the Peel District School Board, Peel-Dufferin Catholic School Board, Children's Aid, Humphrey's, United Way, Success X6, PYVPN, and Human Services. John Heuther is the consultant on this project.</p> <p>On May 1<sup>st</sup>, the chairs will be having a breakfast meeting to lay out the concept from 8:00am to 10:00am. On the afternoon of May 20<sup>th</sup>, the succession plan will be revealed. Invitations are going out to the Executive Directors to attend these meetings and PYVPN expects to be a leader with this program.</p> <p>We need to look at how we define youth and up to what age. Dorothy confirmed that research and statistics have shown most youth activity and services in Peel recognize up to age 24.</p>	
<p><b>4. Strategic Plan / Working group status</b></p>	<p>Carol's portion put on hold in her absence.</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b> The Community Development group first started with the idea of working with various communities, particularly Knightsbridge, Colonial</p>	

	<p>Terrace, and Acorn. The work plan was written to be parallel with NCSS, but there may be no value to repeating what everyone has been doing.</p> <p>Dorothy suggested that we could look at a meeting where the goal is for everyone to network. Donna commented that there is little connection with different faith groups and they do not know what is out there and this would be a good opportunity to include them.</p> <p>The group discussed the possibility of meeting quarterly rather than monthly meetings. They would look at the option of getting together with other youth groups, as there are so many.</p> <p>It was suggested that the group meet later this year to co-ordinate a simple networking event possibly in November where all of the working groups meet. It would be an opportunity to invite faith groups to attend and join the network. Presentations, displays and resources would be available.</p> <p><b>Decision:</b> The group agreed to meet twice a year, alternating with planning meetings when necessary.</p>	
<p><b>5. Next Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>Fall 2009 (TBD)</b></p>	