
**Integration Strategy Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 31st 2011, 2 – 4 pm
New Canadians Centre Board Room**

Present: Debbie Harrison – Chair (Fleming College - Diversity Office), John Coreno (City of Peterborough Social Services), Rob Anderson (City of Peterborough Sports and Recreation), Melissa Sharpe-Harrigan (PPCII Research and Implementation Specialist), Jason Stabler (PPCII Coordinator), Hajni Hös (NCC Executive Director), Dawn Berry-Merriam (Peterborough Social Planning Council), Carolyn Givogue (Community Race Relations Committee), Leslie Woolcott (KPRDSB, Equity and Diversity Advisor)

Regrets: Carmella Valles (Carmella Valles Immigration Consulting), Lou O'Hara (Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration),

1. Review of minutes from the April 5th, 2011 ISC meeting

The minutes were reviewed and accepted by the committee.

2. Update on funded projects from previous fiscal year (Melissa)

a) Community Race Relations

Carolyn Givogue was present to give a summary of the CRRC Project, which provided a summary of the KPRDSB bullying policies, noting best practices and areas for development. The project was the smallest of all projects funded, and provided a report of its findings. This report is a preliminary research tool that will be used in the future for more in depth research, and to promote the idea that settlement, equity, and diversity take place in schools. In the future this project may be useful in connecting KPR policies to the Settlement Worker's in the Schools program.

b) Alan Law – Trent University

The report was granted a second extension in order for all the authors of the report to read and provide feedback. The committee was given a summary of the project, how the survey itself would be implemented once funding was secured.

c) Trent Valley Literacy Association (TVLA)

The report summarized the work done by the TVLA, who hired an ESL instructor to run small ESL classes, and to provide ESL training to the TVLA staff. The report highlights an interest by the TVLA to provide this service in the future. The committee

suggested it might be valuable to obtain information about who participated in the program...in order to further analyze the gaps in service (e.g. were the participants mainly women or men, employed or at home etc...)

Next Steps

1. Research Launch

Prior to the PPCII meeting on July 7th, the PPCII funded research project and the interactive Action Plan will be launched at the Peterborough Public Library Auditorium. The launch will highlight some of the partnerships which are at the heart of PPCII research projects (e.g. the Multicultural Organization of Peterborough), and promote further partnerships to further the objectives of the PPCII Integration Strategy. The Action Plan will be launched live on the website and attendees will be able to interact with the Action Plan through laptops set up in the auditorium. Media and dignitaries will be invited as well as those who participated in the PPCII working groups and all PPCII members. The committee decided to commit up to \$150 of its budget towards covering the cost of this event.

2. Dissemination of the Research

Many research projects provided raw data, a policy analysis, or guidance for future projects and programs. These research projects must be worked on by the PPCII staff before they are ready to showcase to the public. The committee decided that prior to public release; any stakeholders of the research would receive necessary information, and be given an opportunity to provide feedback.

The committee noted that we should be cognizant of the political landscape we operate in and also that our research should focus on increasing the credibility of the PPCII, creating partnerships, and provide useful tools for the community.

3. Project Development (Summer Student)

A summer student – Nuruddin Quorane - has been hired as a “Project Developer”. The first six weeks of his employment will focus on the ‘Peterborough Welcome Pass’, and the final six weeks will focus on project development, including following up on the results of PPCII research projects.

4. Integration Strategy Action Plan – Health, Social Services, Voluntary Sectors

The Health, Social Services, and Voluntary (HSSV) Sector of the Integration Strategy was presented by the PPCII Research and Implementation Specialist. It was noted that the HSSV is very strong in the theme of ‘Opportunities for Participation’, but has very few items in the ‘Research and Development’ sector. The committee noted that this is an

area where research might exist, but connections haven't been made to the Integration Strategy as of yet. For example, Social Services at the City of Peterborough is participating in diversity training, yet the PPCII was not aware of this. Also, this is an important area for newcomers, as was noted in the last council meeting, where a guest speaker discussed barriers to accessing healthcare in Peterborough.

5. Integration Strategy Action Plan

a. Other Sectors

Other notable items were showcased in the action plan. The Peterborough Immigrant Employment Council was discussed as a large up and coming project that is being developed by PPCII staff in collaboration with staff from the Workplace Integration Centre. The Immigrant Employment Council (if funded) could work as a sub-body to the PPCII, covering all the Economic Development action items, and may be a great opportunity to include more private sector participation in the council. The committee supported the idea of the Immigrant Employment Council operating as part of the PPCII.

b. Representation of immigrants in ISC planning/PPCII Council

Deferred to next meeting

6. ISC budget discussion for 2011/2012 Fiscal Year - Prioritizing Budget Money – Project Based? Promotion Based?

The ISC has approximately \$7000 in implementation money. The committee asked staff members to look through past projects to fund 'unfinished' research or to follow up on past projects as a starting point to spending budget money. Staff will provide this analysis for next meeting.

7. Other Items

a. City of Peterborough Official Plan Review

It has been a long time since the official plan has been revamped, and there are public meetings and surveys available. The PPCII should promote this on their website, so that the interests of newcomers are included in the plan.

b. Marketing Committee Request for ISC Marketing Needs

It was noted that the "business case" of the PPCII was brought forward. How can we use our research to focus on the economic impact of immigration to Peterborough?

Together we prosper



This could be used as a marketing tool. Also the importance of partnerships to the work of the PCII and to opening up funding and other opportunities should be marketed.

Next ISC Meeting: July 26th, 2011 2-4 pm