

Thursday, May 20, 2021

6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Location: Zoom

Chair: RC

Vice Chair: Laura

Regrets: L, K

Strategic Area of Focus
Evolve Services
Nurture Relationships
Strengthen Capacities

No.	Area of Focus	Topic
1.		Welcome and Introductions
2.		Agenda –Michelle added agenda item re: June Meeting. Approved with the addition. Meeting Notes –minutes approved by A. seconded by P.
3.		<p>Successes and Challenges (standing item)</p> <p>Challenge: One parent raised the issue of RDSPs and the importance of understanding the relationship between the child as beneficiary and the parent. The discussion reinforced the need to provide families with information on estate planning. This is often a presentation by Pooran Law provided by Community Living organizations. Members also shared information related to writing your own will and ARCH Disability does do pro bono work and this may be helpful to some families.</p> <p>Action: CTN to investigate possibly hosting a session or finding out which partners are hosting workshops in the near future.</p> <p>Success and Challenge: one member completed the ODSP application and found it not very intuitive however YSSN was able to provide considerable support and advice on how to complete the form. There was a reminder that youth as young as 16 can and should file for income taxes as this may have implications later and they may be able to claim some credits.</p> <p>Success: one member shared that she did receive a new laptop and is working with the University to have them pay for it since the laptop is technology required to access learning during COVID.</p> <p>Success: a member shared the joys of having a new kitten in the house during the pandemic and wonderful this has been for their family during this time.</p>

		<p>Success and Challenge: a member is taking a sign language course and has found the professor to be very accommodating to various levels of fine motor abilities.</p> <p>Challenge: dealing with the pandemic and a young teen with a lack of social and physical activities. Members offered their experiences that teens often want more time on their own. That it is a transition and puberty can have an impact on mood.</p>
4.		<p>June Meeting (addition to the agenda)</p> <p>Michelle shared that Karen Eisler, CTN CEO, would like to join the committee at the June meeting.</p> <p>Action: members to let Michelle know if there is anything specific they would like Karen to speak about at the June meeting.</p>
5.		<p>CTN Annual General Meeting (AGM) -Wednesday June 16, 2021</p> <p>Heather provided an update. The time has been changed from 4-6 pm to encourage greater participation from families, CTN staff and network partners. The evening will start with a panel discussion on staying connected followed by a business meeting. Maria will act as moderator. Parents, youth and children will be represented and have an opportunity to share their experiences. FAC will not do a separate presentation this year however Rahila will introduce the moderator and the video. A video is being produced that provides an overview of the year.</p>
6.		<p>Terms of Reference</p> <p>Michelle shared the list of members and their respective terms. Peter and Rahila have both reached the end of their terms. The members thanked Peter for bringing a father’s voice to the FAC and his commitment to the group over the past 6 years.</p> <p>No changes were made to the Terms of Reference at this time.</p> <p>Group discussed need for recruitment in order to receive more input and a variety of ideas, issues and concerns and provided the following suggestions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reach out to mentors to see if they are looking for another or different volunteer opportunity - write a summary of FAC for posting on the website – Action: LM to work with Heather - create a video for the website that provides an overview of the FAC - reach out to fathers and grandparents. <p>Nominations for Vice Chair</p> <p>Lexi Tokhi will be FAC’s next Vice Chair supporting Laura Meffen as chair of FAC. The members congratulated both Laura and Lexi and expressed appreciation to Rahila on completing her term as Chair.</p>

		<p>CTN Liaison</p> <p>Michelle shared that Karen Dillon, currently an Interim Director with CTN, will take on a Director position in August when Michelle retires. Karen has met with the FAC in the past as the manager of the Developmental Assessment and Consultation Service (DACs) and Specialty Services.</p>
7.		<p>Supporting Families during the Pandemic – Ergonomics</p> <p>A member raised the issue that as the pandemic and learning from home continues it would be helpful for CTN to share some tips and tricks related to ergonomics. Many children may be accessing their screens in a variety of positions and not all might be optimal for learning, attention and posture.</p> <p>Suggestion: a one-page tip sheet for setting up the virtual classroom from home -how to set up the desk properly, use of standing desks, and how to build in exercises or movement breaks.</p> <p>Action: CTN to explore the development of these materials.</p>
8.		<p>CTN’s Pandemic Recovery (standing item)</p> <p>Michelle contacted Public Health to offer support with respect to vaccinations for 12–17 year old group.</p> <p>CTN continues to update COVID page on website. Information is being shared re: second vaccines and how youth can access vaccinations. Service delivery remains virtual where possible and in-person when clinically necessary.</p>
9.		<p>Sharing and Collecting Information from families</p> <p>Members discussed the sharing of information and what might be some effective ways to reach out to families.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - families are busy -may be effective to send out small bits of information - send out reminders, short messages - 1 question surveys versus lengthy survey - use Facebook to get a sense of what families are thinking- quick poll questions - some Children’s agencies have a parent Facebook site however this requires monitoring; CTN hasn’t had the capacity for this. - use of text messages as reminders for CTN events and appointments
10.		<p>Updates from Other Committees and Community Activities</p> <p>No updates reported.</p>
11.		<p>Next Meeting: June 17, 2021</p>

