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Description automatically generated**Communities 4 Families**

**Meeting Minutes**

**April 20, 2022**

**1:30 pm – Zoom meeting**

**Attendees:** Karen Bryce, Carmen Court, Emma Fineblit, Debbie Froese, Genny Funk-Unrau, Zebiba Ibrahim, Corrie Monk (staff), Ingrid Peters Derry (staff), Cathy Seitz, Fatuma Sufi, Nancy Tovell, Chris Voss (staff), Cheri Wright Kaguah (staff)

**Regrets**: Amna Burki (staff), Jennifer DeFehr

**Chair:** Emma Fineblit

**Minutes:** Ingrid Peters Derry

1. **Welcome, Introductions & Land Acknowledgement**

**Breathe with Corrie**

1. **Consent Agenda**

* Approval of Agenda
* Approval of Minutes of March 16, 2022

**All approved the Agenda and Minutes**

1. **Member Sharing – agency updates and/or emerging issues**

**Issues for reflection:** how are you dealing with getting things back to normal? Are you starting to offer programs and services in-person, and, if so, how are you proceeding with your plans; are parents/families attending; have you noticed a loss in participants?

* + **Wolseley Family Place –** back to in person services, some online services. Drop in and no capacity limits. Masks are still required. Seems to be going well. Participant numbers lower than pre-pandemic but growing.
  + **Canadian Muslim Women’s Institute –** online group programs, one on one services are in person. Handle With Care and Positive Discipline just finished online. The next ones are planned for in person. Family programs might be a struggle in person as people have been comfortable with online programming. Circles of Support will be starting in June.
  + **IRCOM –** Most programs back and in person and most people are looking forward to that.Green Action workshops are running right now for the community. Cooking, bookmaking programs are happening. After school programs are online and also in person, depending what they need. Homework programs are virtual, recreational programs in person.

1. **Staff updates**

* **C4F Workshop Showcase** – Chris and elements of WGM training. Invitation to join the WGM Storytelling workshop (May 10 & 17 - registration [here](https://communities4families.ca/wgm-storytelling-may-10-and-17-2022/)) to get a taste and some ideas to use in your family programming
* **Staff updates**
  + March was very busy with year-end activities
  + Updates on the website – staff [bios](https://communities4families.ca/about-us/our-staff/), [summary of workshops](https://communities4families.ca/resources-4-agencies/current-resources/) (to share with others if they would like information on the workshops)
  + Fundamentals of Outdoor play workshop on April 28. [Register here](https://communities4families.ca/fundamentals-of-outdoor-play-april-28-2022-930-1130am/). A condensed 2-hour version which could give you an idea of what might be helpful in a longer presentation for your agency staff.
  + Water safety – we will host an event from Lifesaving Society for agency staff and families – late May? – which would be “EAL friendly”. We will invite someone to make a presentation at our next Coalition meeting to see what can be offered for agencies. Contact Cheri ([outdoorplay@communities4families.ca](mailto:outdoorplay@communities4families.ca) ) if you’d like more information.

Question: do you have suggestions for increasing attendance at our workshops?

* + The rhythm of the year suggests that during and directly after spring break is not a good time for workshops. March can be busy as agencies are using year end budgets.
  + Busy times for Bookmates workshops are October to middle of December. Then end of January to spring break and again April and May. Summer is slower.
  + Training is planned every quarter at CMWI. Knowing 2 or 3 months ahead of time would be useful.

1. **Additional Committee Updates** 
   * **Executive Committee** 
     + Busy time of planning and restructuring
     + Tri-leadership model is in process. A collaborative consensus way to work together
     + Grants – amount of grants will be lower this year. Looking at the process of who will make decisions about grants. An ad hoc committee grants committee is suggested for this year. **Please contact Ingrid (**[**projects@communities4families.ca**](mailto:projects@communities4families.ca) **) by Monday** if you are interested in being on this committee. It will probably require 2 or 3 meetings in May and June. Otherwise, this will come back to the Resource Committee for decisions.
     + Executive meetings will start to happen the week prior to the Coalition meeting.
     + Staff contracts and job descriptions are complete.

* **Resource Committee** – no updates. Next meeting **May 9 @ 1:00 pm**
* **Ad Hoc Transition Committee** – meeting this afternoon. The social enterprise template is almost complete. Recommendations will be going to the Executive, then to the larger Coalition for feedback.

**Stretch/breathe with Cheri** – high fives all around!

1. **Next C4F Meeting – Wednesday, May 18, 2022 @ 1:30 pm**