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Description automatically generated**Communities 4 Families**

**January 17, 2024**

**1:30 pm**

**Attendees:** Emma Fineblit, Genny Funk-Unrau, Ingrid Peters Derry (staff), Barby Sewrjugin (staff), Anne Sikora, Cheri Wright-Kaguah (staff), Corrie Monk (staff), Nancy Tovell, Zebiba Ibrahim, Jennifer Neufeld, Cathy Seitz, Leslie Richards

**Regrets**: Karen Bryce, Karley Cockerline, Jess Smith, Katherine Turner

**Chairing and Minutes:** Ingrid Peters Derry

1. **Welcome, Introductions & Land Acknowledgement**
2. **Consent Agenda** – **all approved**

* Approval of Agenda
* Approval of Minutes of September 20, October 18, 2023, November 15

1. **Agency Profile:** City of Winnipeg – Leslie Richards
   * Fee assistance program -access to programs in the Leisure Guide and City facilities. If you are approved for the Fee assistance program, you are approved for:
     + Facility pass – access to City of Winnipeg facilities (weight rooms, etc.) at no cost. 10 visits, then request for renewal (no additional financials).
     + Drop-in active living pass – eg. drop in at a weight room program to see what it is like.
     + Leisure Guide activity credit ($300 per person/year – does not carry over to a new year)
   * Third party referral program – organizations can vouch on behalf of their clients if they know they are low income. (They will then not need to submit financials)
   * WINNpass – monthly transit pass. For up to 50% discount if you qualify. Need financials to qualify – tax assessment, EIA budget letter. There is a granting process for agencies purchasing bus tickets which may be on hold until it is reviewed - call 311. Application online – person needs to apply directly, agencies cannot vouch on behalf of client.
   * Recreation equipment rentals – sporting equipment to be rented at a low cost. If cost is a barrier, email [Leslie](mailto:leslierichards@winnipeg.ca) for a waiver. Snowshoes, soccer balls, toss games, etc.
   * Application is online, can be a barrier for some. Acorn Family Place can assist with computer use and vouch for people.
   * Links:
   * [WINNpass (winnipegtransit.com)](https://info.winnipegtransit.com/en/fares/winnpass)
   * [Recreation Fee Assistance Program | City of Winnipeg](https://www.winnipeg.ca/recreation-leisure/recreation-fee-assistance-program)
   * [Recreation equipment rentals - Recreation and Leisure - City of Winnipeg](https://legacy.winnipeg.ca/cms/recreation/rentals/recreationequipment.stm)
2. **Member Sharing: agency updates and/or emerging issues**

**WRHA** – new Health Baby site (Families Connecting, run by Women’s Health Clinic) at West Central Women’s Resource Centre. Mondays (1:30 to 3:30) for both pre- and post-natal families. Milk coupons, health promotion, nutritional information.

[Families Connecting (WCWRC)](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/rifriwdklt7p5rpwfrkln/HB-schedule.pdf?rlkey=phx7d9ehafutys4gy30y2ista&dl=0)

Healthy Baby sites:

* [Healthy Baby Crossways](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/rifriwdklt7p5rpwfrkln/HB-schedule.pdf?rlkey=phx7d9ehafutys4gy30y2ista&dl=0)
* [All sites pre-natal](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/pow6qtv1j2gm4y4epk1wt/OCT-to-MAR-2024-all-sites-prenatal-schedule.pdf?rlkey=2fvr4ss8vqzqvsad41dssjk0d&dl=0)
* [All sites post-natal](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/zxjmarbntwqxzoj82iqg7/Oct-2023-to-Mar-2024-all-sites-postnatal-schedule.pdf?rlkey=6b49akcktbz9ubhztf35kwy19&dl=0)

**Acorn Family Place** - Caring Dads program will start on Jan. 24th. If you know dads who might be interested, send them their way. They have had some good news coverage. No interpretation provided at this point. February family literacy activities – Storytime guests, library, pajama and story day. Informal support group for women – mental wellness starting on Feb. 6.

**Villa Rosa** – swimming and art programs have started again this year.

**Bookmates** – upcoming free workshops have some space. Jan. 30 in celebration of Family Literacy Day – Let’s Celebrate Family Literacy (virtual workshop). Feb. 13 Bookmaking with Love workshop (in person).

**Klinic** – Now doing sexual assault exams.

**IRCOM** – parenting programs (Healthy Relationships, Positive Discipline in Everyone Parenting), after school programs (also open to other community members), women’s and men’s groups. English classes.

**Thrive** – Anger management programs, men’s and women’s groups, Circle of Security, Nobody’s Perfect parenting, information about CFS was useful. Free tax clinic - March 6th (10-3), April 2 (10-3), and April 19 (10-3) 3rd floor, 406 Edmonton St.

**CMWI** – most programs are full. Still spaces in Men’s support group (Arabic), Healthy Relationship program addresses family violence (Train the trainer).

**C4F** – upcoming workshops:

* Bookmates Play to Learn, Learn to Play (Jan. 24, 25)
* Bookmates Open a Book, Open the World (Feb. 6) Register [here](https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/33eadefe-9d31-48b4-8de8-220e260e0716)
* Book Bags (in person Feb. 14) Register [here](https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/874e8015-71d4-4ed5-8181-ed5d8d4d77b5)
* Lunch & Learn on Inclusive Play (Feb. 21) [Zoom link](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/725779127?pwd=UlhvbUFRUlNBNnp0TE04TGQ1aGNIZz09) This presentation consists of ideas curated by the C4F team in how to ensure parent-child programming maximizes it’s accessibility for all families. We will briefly discuss how to assess accessibility, and provide tips on how to communicate openness to accommodating diverse needs. Special attention will be paid to neurodiversity in children and parents which may impact their engagement in offered programs/events.

Have lived experience with this? Please come prepared to share as we learn together as a community. Presenters will share some best practice information and resources, and discussion will be welcomed.

* WGM training (Feb. 27, 28, 29) Register [here](https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/8b5bdba5-45f9-4f62-bba9-920ea20ecf81).

See our website for information and registration links.

1. **Staff updates**

* **Raising the Village updates** – Mosaic 6-week sessions went very well. Acorn will have a 8 week program starting in February. Parenting through cultural stories - promoting family literacy, family bonding. This is phase 2 of program development, funded by Literacy for Life (Winnipeg Foundation).
* **Outdoor Play updates** – please feel free to contact Cheri about benefits of outdoor play, developing programming for outdoor play. Website contains an outdoor play section. Information about [Outdoor Play modules](https://communities4families.ca/outdoor-play/) on our website.
* **Mentoring/training updates** – Facilitator training Feb. 27, 28, 29 (online or hybrid). Mount Carmel is hoping to start WGM for their mother’s program – Barby will be mentoring. Online networking group for WGM leaders – starting soon. Possibility of group in Kelowna joining a training session. WGM certification process:
  + Level 1 – taking the training allows participants to run WGM programs
  + Level 2 – with additional workshops and experience running WGM programs, Level 2 allows participants to be contracted by groups requesting WGM leaders.
  + Level 3 – train the trainer – this level is in development.

1. **Committee Updates** 
   * **Executive Committee** 
     + We had a meeting with Klinic regarding having Klinic continue as our banker.
     + **Financial report** – a draft report (unconfirmed) suggests we currently may have around $10,000 remaining in this year’s budget (this is still within the 10% we would be allowed to keep).
       - Salary line may have around $3000 remaining.
       - $5000 in printing line will likely not be used.
       - Literacy line is a grant from Literacy for Life.
       - Computer allows for the purchase of a computer for Corrie. She will make that purchase.
       - Meetings line is overspent.
       - Resource Committee will be overspent after Book Bags workshop is done.
       - Grants line may be slightly overspent.
       - Possible purchases this year – computer, additional workshop (Resource Committee request for workshop on mental health), updated logo for C4F and Stepping Stones). Let us know if there are concerns.

**Overspent lines (Meetings, Resource Committee, Grants) will use surplus funds from Printing line. Emma moved, all agreed that the Printing surplus be reallocated as needed to enable us to spend the surplus budget.**

* + - Provincial Coordinators have drafted a letter to the Province, which the Executive has reviewed. This is still being finalized by other Coalitions. They will meet on Monday.

1. **Annual Coalition planning meeting recommendations**
   * Conditions for downtown agencies are similar to last year, difficult for families and agencies.
   * C4F should continue to provide networking meetings, grants, workshops. Expand downtown partnerships.
   * Survey – should we meet less frequently? Please complete this [survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QBHT2QZ).
2. **Next Meeting – February 21, 2024.** After Lunch & Learn about inclusive play (the same link will be used for both L & L and meeting).