



County of Simcoe  
Social and Community Services  
Children & Community Services Department  
1110 Highway 26,  
Midhurst, Ontario L9X 1N6  
Main Line (705) 722-3132  
Beeton Area (905) 729-4514  
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**MEETING DATE:** 6/10/2020

**MEETING TIME LOCATION:** 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Microsoft Teams; On-line Meeting

**ATTENDANCE:** M. Arbour (Georgian College, Employment Services for H. Hie); A. Dubeau (County Councillor); M. Dunot (LIP); A. Fletcher (South Simcoe Police Services); C. Gagnon (MTCS-RSB-CID); E. Garcia (Enrique N. Garcia Translations); B. Grbic (BCHC); R. Griffiths (LIP, recording secretary); G. Hall (COS, Library Cooperative); N. Huether (COS, EDO); E. Jara (Credit Canada Debt Solutions); M. Kuzma (Nottawasaga Futures); B. Laurin (OPP); S. Lee (LIP); J. McGee- (YMCA of Simcoe/Muskoka); L. Moorhouse (Barrie Police); E. Onuoha (CONTACT, Bradford Works); L. Palson (Georgian College); S. Paul (CSViamonde); I. Pavlik (pavliks.com); J. Rajalingam (SMCDSB); A. Ratnasingham (Welcome Centre); S. Sarin (EMA); A. Scavarelli (COS, OW); C. Vellinga (Georgian College); L. Woodrow (SCDSB, Career Centre)

**REGRETS:** K. Fraser (Lakehead University); K. Manners (Simcoe County Coalition); I. Oliveria (BICS)

**ABSENT:** A. Dunning (OPP); A. Schroeder (Barrie Public Library); I. Toor (SCDSB); L. Wild (City of Barrie); M. Wynia (COS, Long Term Care)

**SUBJECT:** Local Immigration Partnership Meeting

1. Welcome/Introductions

A. Fletcher (Chief of South Simcoe Police) welcomed the group, encouraging anyone who would like to speak to him regarding racism and discrimination he would be pleased to meet one on one. A. Dubeau shared that the Town of Penetanguishene will be addressing the issue this evening at their council meeting.

2. Elimin8hate – video and discussion

This video ([www.elimin8hate.org](http://www.elimin8hate.org)) was shared with the group and discussion surrounding racism towards the Asian community, as a result of COVID-19 followed.

3. Community Updates & Other Business – item moved to the end of the agenda

*B. Grbic* – Very busy with COVID-19 testing. Barrie Community Health Centre (BCHC) is open Monday to Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm and Saturday and Sunday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm.

*M. Kuzma* – IRCC relief funding being administered by Nottawasaga Futures to small businesses.

*J. McGee* – Summer English classes are being offered virtually and are already full with a wait list in place. Six weeks of instruction will be provided for levels one through six.



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Income tax clinics are being arranged via phone or zoom meetings. YMCA childcare/day camp staff are meeting to discuss re-opening procedures.

*L. Palson* – a three week recovery semester for Georgian College students is planned for August to assist learners with labs and other in person learning that was unable to be completed. Student services have moved on-line and additional supports are needed for International students. Plan for new semester is in the works with many challenges including; quarantine issues and lower enrollment. Student supports still required to meet emotional needs, housing insurance, and food security. The impact of the reduction in International students studying at local post secondary campuses across the province is estimated to impact the economy by 3-10 billion dollars.

*I. Pavlik* – shared that Rotary Club Barrie is hosting a virtual fun run, June 6<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>.

Please consider sponsoring or participating in the event <http://funrun.portaltrial.com/>

*J. Rajalingam* - Multiple plans are currently in place for September. Registration for ELL is happening virtually with translation services being accessed as required.

*L. Woodrow* – Continue to offer services on-line. Job search a challenge with current situation.

4. Approval of Minutes –April 30, 2020

MOTION to accept the minutes with change as indicated by C. Gagnon. 1<sup>st</sup> A. Scavarelli; 2<sup>nd</sup> E. Jara; ALL IN FAVOUR. Motion Carried.

5. IRCC/MHSTC Updates

C. Gagnon shared the following information;

Phase 2- Specific resources on how to stay safe while reopening <https://covid19.wsps.ca/>  
Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19

[https://budget.ontario.ca/2020/marchupdate/action-plan.html?mc\\_cid=edfec7c830&mc\\_eid=b8cf94f673#section-3](https://budget.ontario.ca/2020/marchupdate/action-plan.html?mc_cid=edfec7c830&mc_eid=b8cf94f673#section-3)

Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2020-ontario-immigrant-nominee-program-updates>

Ontario Pandemic Premium Pay Program information <https://www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-temporary-pandemic-pay>

Post-secondary education re-opening [https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/06/ontario-unveils-a-plan-to-reopen-postsecondary-education.html?utm\\_source=ondemand&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=o](https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/06/ontario-unveils-a-plan-to-reopen-postsecondary-education.html?utm_source=ondemand&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=o)

Infrastructure Grant: Treasury Board will be meeting in June to review

6. County of Simcoe LIP Secretariat Update

a. COVID-19 Service Update

A. Scavarelli updated the group on Ontario Works (OW) service delivery. The caseload has decreased dramatically over the past month, as eligible residents moved to CERB. Current caseload is 6,700. Ontario Works currently has 50 of 141



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staff re-deployed to assist with long-term care. This reduction in staff may affect the anticipated surge in OW caseloads when the first round of CERB expires.

N. Huether updated the group on the Economic Development Office - Covid-19 Business Support and Economic Stimulus Action Plan. This includes numerous initiatives under 6 pillars including;

1. Financial Support
2. Business Outreach, Support & Resources
3. Workforce Alignment
4. Economic Development Network Collaboration & Research
5. Business Promotion
6. Broader Economic Stimulus

The Economic Development Office has been working with the Simcoe Muskoka Development Board in re-designing the Job Central platform to the new "Work in Simcoe". This job aggregator is scheduled to launch at the end of June and features an automated fetching tool and labour market data collection that will be useful the work of the EDO.

S. Lee – Emergency Childcare is currently being offered in two locations in Simcoe County. In addition, Wee Watch is providing home based care in other locations.

b. Emergency Community Support Fund – the LIP secretariat hosted an on-line meeting to inform potential applicants about the funding that is available from the federal government that is being administered by United Way Simcoe/Muskoka, Red Cross and Community Foundations of Canada. R. Junke, from the United Way, encouraged the attendees to apply as the funds will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.

c. Progress Report – S. Lee shared that the LIP secretariat is working on content and will have a draft to share with the group, at the meeting in September.

d. IRCC Reporting – numerous reports have been submitted to IRCC (attached below).

New Programming in Simcoe County – the LIP secretariat had a meeting with CMHC York/Simcoe informing of new IRCC funding to be delivered in south Simcoe (Bradford West Gwillimbury, Innisfil, New Tecumseth, Essa and Adalja Tosorontio).

7. Sub-Councils/Working Groups
  - a. Settlement Sub-Council



10JUN2020Sub  
Council Report.pdf

8. 2020 Newcomer Recognition Awards



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S. Lee informed the group that due to the COVID-19 situation there will be no in-person event. A virtual awards celebration is a possibility. Sponsorships would still be required to fund the event. A. Fletcher suggested that the various police services across the county could highlight award winners on social media. Further discussion will take place at the September meeting.

#### 9. Community Projects

a. Immigrant Job Finding Club – **H. Hie**

M. Arbour reported for H. Hie. They continue to deliver service remotely and have connected clients to mentors virtually. They are seeking new clients/referrals.

b. Ethnic Mosaic Alliance – **S. Sarin**

The group welcomed a new board member who brings a wealth of fundraising and social media experience. The group is in the process of developing a land acquisition matrix in order to fairly evaluate all land options. They continue to wait for a decision from their application to the Provincial Infrastructure Grant program. The City of Barrie approached the EMA to help them with their virtual Canada Celebration. S. Sarin will be filming individuals at her home shortly to be part of the festivities.

c. Libraries – **G. Hall**

Libraries continue to be closed to patrons, however there has been a large increase in library memberships. Approximately one third of libraries are now providing curbside pick up service. All libraries are planning for safe re-opening, which could be a challenge for smaller locations. At this time no in person programming is planned.

d. Walk Before You Run – FCM Grant – **S. Lee**

Development of curriculum continues and will be made available to libraries. The content would be of great benefit to clients wishing to become Canadian Citizens.

e. Health Survey – **M. Dunot**

Currently working with the County of Simcoe Research Analyst team moving forward with Lakehead University REB. The survey questions will be reviewed and a steering committee meeting for final approval will take place prior to releasing the survey in October.

#### 10. Ambassador Community of Practice

S. Lee introduced the idea to the group. M. Dunot shared the attached overview of the proposed content of the extranet. The Cultural Competency Working Group will meet later this month for further discussion.

The group was asked to send any resources they have to be included to the LIP secretariat.

#### 11. Meeting dates and times



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Group was informed of tentative meeting schedule; September 30, 2020, December 9, 2020, February 10, 2021, March 31, 2021.

12. Questions – Open Forum

No questions brought forward.

**Next Meeting** – Wednesday September 30<sup>th</sup> 2020, 9:30 am to 11:30 am, Simcoe County Administrative Offices, Simcoe County Conference Room, to be confirmed.

## ***Educational Inclusions;***

1. *Emergency Community Support Fund (ECSF)*



EN\_Who-Should-Apply\_20200516\_1.pdf

2. *IRCC Semi-Annual Report*



2020 Semi Annual Report FINAL.docx

3. *IRCC COVID-19 Report*



County of Simcoe  
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4. *Accessing Healthcare in Simcoe County*



Document for  
Uninsured Simcoe C



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