

**Diversity Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008**  
**Family & Children's Services Multi-Use Boardroom**

*In attendance: Heather Campbell, Jack McMaster, Christine Denby, Bob Mainville, Lauren McCoy, Anne McCoy, Christina Hahkala, Nancy Daley, Sharon Tibbs, Grace Silander, Lincoln Dunn, Wayne Woods, Lori Maki, Linda Plumridge, Jim Cumming, Mary-Catherine Kelly, Mary Jane Allen, Julie Herr, Sheryl Gladu, Kristie Gushulak.*

*Regrets: Anne Renaud, Ashlee Grimard, Donna Krocomo, Margaret Sedgewick, Vik Nowak*

### 1.0 Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order at 11:20 a.m.

### 1.1 Welcome to New Partners

Introduction of all members, and an additional welcome to Mary-Jane Allen of the Rainy River District Victims Services Program and Christina Hahkala., an additional member from the Canadian Mental Health Association. As well, the committee has expanded across the region to include membership from Atikokan, who joined the meeting via teleconference: Sheryl Gladu, Julie Herr, and Kristie Gushulak from Atikokan & District Association for Developmental Services.

### 2.0 Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved as written by all.

### 3.0 Committee Organization

Anne McCoy was acclaimed to position of chair, but agreed to do so on the condition that it be for a one-year term. All in attendance agreed to this.

Heather Campbell, Sheryl Gladu, and Lauren McCoy all agreed to share the responsibility of secretary, with responsibility of taking minutes for meetings to alternate.

The position of Treasurer was not discussed at this time, as there are no funds to take care of. This position will be looked at in the future when the need for management of funds occurs.

A monthly meeting structure was established. The committee will meet on the first Wednesday of the month in the Boardroom at the Family and Children's Services in Fort Frances, with video-conferencing from Atikokan to occur at their Family and Children's Services boardroom.

#### 4.0 Mission Statement

Following a brainstorming session of ideas of what actions diversity entails, the committee worked as a team to come up with a mission statement, which reads as follows:

***“Working together to create communities that celebrate diversity by actively practicing and promoting dignity, respect and inclusiveness.”***

Committee Members are to be accountable for promoting dignity, acting respectfully and by being inclusive of all.

Identifying other organizations for resources will include finding members/services from the west end of the district (i.e. Rainy River)

#### 5.0 Action Steps

Heather Campbell, spoke about the **Students Support Leadership Initiative**, which provides funding for resources, to share expertise, etc. Funding could be available to the committee to develop resources.

Grace Silander will also investigate whether funding could be accessed through Safe Communities Canada’s initiative, “Dreaming Trails”

Linda Plumridge has registered [www.celebratingdiversity.ca](http://www.celebratingdiversity.ca) as a web address and has graciously offered to have someone work on a basic site design.

#### 6.0 Committee Goals and Objectives

Each committee member to develop their own set of Committee Goals and Objectives. Please forward to Chair Anne McCoy prior to the next meeting date of Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Mary Jane Allen graciously offered to organize the goals and objectives for review.

#### 7.0 Other Business

Prior meeting minutes to be forwarded by Anne McCoy to the new members in Atikokan to give them a better indication of what has been accomplished thus far, and where the committee is headed.

#### 8.0 Next Meeting

**Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. (CST), 1:00 p.m. (EST)** in the **Boardroom at Family & Children’s Services** in Fort Frances with Video Conferencing from Atikokan FACS office

## 9.0 Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 12:20 p.m.