

Members of the Federation of Foster Families of Nova Scotia
&
Staff Members of the Mi'kmaw Family & Children's Services of Nova Scotia
Indian Brook, NS
December 6, 2018

MEETING MINUTES

Attendance:

Gary Landry, <i>Executive Director</i>	Federation of Foster Families of NS
Debbie Thibault, <i>Coordinator of Training</i>	Federation of Foster Families of NS
Jill Martin, <i>Allegation Support</i>	Federation of Foster Families of NS
Sue Giffin, <i>Coordinator of Foster Care</i>	Department of Community Services
Helen Doyle, <i>Adoption Supervisor</i>	MFCS – Eskasoni
Dorothy Francis, <i>Recruitment/Kinship Assessor</i>	MFCS – Eskasoni
Sheraine Young, <i>Foster Care Supervisor</i>	MFCS – Eskasoni
Sheila Cabot, <i>Foster Parent</i>	Eskasoni
Jodi Phillips, <i>Foster Care Supervisor</i>	MFCS – Indian Brook
Ella Knockwood, <i>Recruitment</i>	MFCS – Indian Brook
Erica Bilodeau, <i>Administrative Assistant</i>	MFCS – Indian Brook

Regrets:

Annette Saulnier, <i>FC Worker /PRIDE Trainer</i>	MFCS – Indian Brook
Rhonda Denny, <i>Administrative Assistant</i>	MFCS – Eskasoni
Melanie Smith, <i>Kinship Assessor</i>	MFCS – Eskasoni

1. Helen Doyle opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. Agenda:

Reviewed and approved.

3. Minutes:

Reviewed and approved.

4. Eskasoni Gathering:

- The gathering went well; all the attendees enjoyed it.
- Helen emceed.
- Approximately 11 foster parents, 30 staff, 6 FFFNS staff and 2 DCS workers attended.
- A mainland gathering is being planned that will be take place in the spring.

5. FFFNS Training Program/Peer Support Services Program:

- Fall training is now finished. The spring training schedule will soon be available.
- The refresher course in the spring will be a new topic.

6. FFFNS Allegation & Support Program:

- Jill attended PRIDE Module 9 and discussed the Allegation and Support Program.

7. Foster Parent Banquet:

- The Eskasoni Banquet went well, approximately 31 adults and 34 children attended.
- The Indian Brook Banquet went well.

8. Federation AGM:

- Will take place on May 24, 25,26, in Halifax.
- All attendees must register.
- Guest Speaker will talk about sex trafficking/exploitation.

9. PIC Tool

- The PIC tool will be going live in January, it will replace form A and B
- It is a live document and can be altered when needed.
- There is a larger cultural history section.

10. Sexual Exploitation

- Approximately 20-40 youth have been identified as being at risk.
- Province is looking to develop housing options, such as contracted care homes that will specialize in sexually exploited youth.
- They are testing a finance model with these contracted homes.
- There will be training sessions for youth workers and Foster Parents about this program.

11. Miscellaneous

- Memo went out to Agencies and Foster Parents about the changes to the insurance benefits.
- A Foster Care Redesign committee will be meeting to discuss ways to attract and retain new foster parents, finances etc.

12. Dates and Times of the next meetings:

- April 3, 2019 in Eskasoni at 9:30am (lunch will be provided)
- June 6, 2019 in Eskasoni at 1:30pm
- September 12, 2019 in the Western Region (location yet to be decided) @ 12pm (Lunch will be provided)

13. Helen Doyle closed the meeting with a prayer.