

Western Region Fostering Focus Team Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2016
Lunenburg District Office

Present:	Jill Barkhouse	Joanne Mutton
	Melanie Mood-Deveau	Nancy Parker
	Kim Brown	Laurie D'Entremont
	Annette Lorette	Annette Davidson
	Ethel Wentzell	Gary Landry
Regrets:	Joanne Frost-Trimper	Joy Sweeney
	Crissy Richardson	

1. Communication

- Plan of Care: Foster parents still not always included. A suggestion was made that Plan of Care be reviewed four times per year including Foster Parents at all meetings
- Suggestion of more contact from c/c worker
- More follow through
- Foster parents to be included in decision making regarding children-in-care in the home
- A review of "Roles and Responsibilities" for Foster Parents and Social Workers
- A "Restorative Approach" to dealing with conflict/disagreements between Foster Parents and Social Workers would work better than the old system of "when you disagree."
- "Timely contact" with Foster Parents & focus on "Team Work"

2. Respite/Access

- This issue will be discussed at the Access/Transport Meeting. Laurie D'Entremont will bring it forward
- This topic will also be added to the Agenda for the next Regional Meeting

3. Peer Support Services Program

- Gary Landry gave an update on the Peer Support Services Program. Training for the volunteer Peer Support Foster Parents will take place in Halifax on March 23rd & March 24th, 2016. It is our hope to have the "on call" component of the program running for the end of April 2016

4. Foster Care Forum

- Discussion surrounding having another "Foster Care Forum" as had taken place a few years ago
- We will discuss further at the June 6th meeting
- It would be great if we could put something in place for the Fall of 2016
- We spoke that maybe our committee could be in charge of planning and organizing the event

5. Next Meeting

- The following meeting will take place on June 6th at the Bridgewater office.

6. Website

- It is our plan to make these minutes available on the FFFNS website.