

# Minutes of the Acadia Road Combined Daycare Communicare Society

March 13, 2008, in the Administration Building

**In Attendance (in bold; absent members are not in bold):**

<b>Infant Center</b>		<b>3-5 Centers</b>	
Little Goslings:	<b>Lisa Sundstrom</b> (VP Advocacy, faculty) <b>Christina Conati</b>	Acadia:	Katherine Todd Millar (VP Advocacy, student)
<b>Toddler Centers</b>		Little Raven:	<b>Ben Pfeiffer</b> <b>Maria Ezhova</b>
Sitka:	<b>Laura Wheeler</b>	Pacific Spirit/ S7UMUX Kindergarten	<b>Cristina Conati</b> <b>Reuben Ford</b>
Huckleberry:	Leslie Paris <b>John Pitcher</b> Brenda Wessel	Tillicum:	Paul Pavlidis (Webmaster) (regrets) Megan Riter (regrets)
Canada Goose:	<b>Jeff Terry</b>	Lluvia:	Jessica Irwin (Co-Secretary) (regrets)
Discovery:	Brenda Wessel	Barish:	Jessica Irwin (Co-Secretary) (regrets) Brit Lampe (Fundraising, Treasurer) (regrets)
Lilliput:	<b>Julie Bettinger</b> (Co-Secretary) Jim Salzman	Summer of '73:	Julie Stitt (President) (regrets) <b>Kristin Loheyde</b> (VP Advocacy, staff) <b>Kelli Kadokawa</b> (Fundraising)
Chuva:		Kids Club:	Annie Moradain
<b>Staff</b>		<b>Other</b>	
Director	<b>Darcelle Cotton</b> Bev Christian	Kids Club Staff	<b>Diane Tannahill</b>

Please ask your council rep or senior staff members for contact information if you have any questions.

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## 1. Review of the Minutes

**Minutes:** The minutes from the **Feb 12, 2008** meeting have been approved with one correction. **Loveable Labels** is the company being used for labels and on the daycare council website.

## 2. Introductions

See attendance of board members in bold on first page.

## 3. Administrators Report (Darcelle)

All 5 capital funding grants to the provincial government were rejected (a total of 2.5 million); therefore there will be no provincial funding for the daycare expansion. UBC is searching for other money to make up the portion the Provincial government would have contributed. The new construction is currently short 1.3 million. AMS and Darcelle and Bev wrote to Linda Reed, the Minister for Childcare to express their disappointment. Darcelle best guess as to why UBC was not funded is that we were not viewed as desperate as other communities. Of note, Acadia Road Childcare has never received a grant for capital funding. Darcelle felt parents have done a good job about educating UBC about the critical need for daycare and now UBC will be required to make up the difference in funding. UBC agreed to give AMS 40% access to daycare because of its 10 year contribution to the expansion and UNA will be guaranteed access because funding is also coming out of UNA community amenity charges. UNA's contribution of 1.1 million will buy 18-24 spaces for UNA residents who are NOT affiliated with UBC. This is a lot of spaces in the new buildings, but not when looked at over the entire system, including Kids Club. Quotas for the wait-list will be tracked separately (two waitlists); however places will be offered wherever they become available, there will not be separate centers for students or UNA affiliates. Residents in the endowment lands are not part of UNA, so they will not be given special access.

Darcelle and Bev met with licensing again to discuss the mixed aged model at the new centers. Licensing continues to be nervous about the different age grouping and Darcelle and Bev have to describe the program in order to indicate what will be different about UBC child care operating it. Again, it will be presented as a pilot project.

Government: All day kindergarten is supposed to be in place by fall 2009 according to the throne speech. There was no indication if before and after school care will be made available to kindergarteners around this longer day. Feasibility studies will be done to explore all day K for 4 year olds by 2010 and 3 year olds by 2012.

## 4. Fundraising Update (Kelli)

\$214 has been raised from Lovable Labels for the daycare council fund. Over \$1000 in total has been spent on labels. Posters and sample labels are now available for centers. Kelli will send paragraph description about fundraiser to distribute to parents and staff.

The daycare council website has a list of things that have been purchased with fundraising, if parents are interested.

There was a question raised about holding a Stongs fundraiser for the spring. There was not much support to do this. There was support to hold the fundraiser again in the fall. There was discussion around pre-buying Safeway cards next fall in order to sell in the spring, but it was felt this would be very complicated because only set denominations would be available and a safe place would need to be found in order to keep the pre-purchased cards. Put on agenda for April.

Action Items: 1) Organize sub-committee for Grocery Store fundraiser at April or May Meeting
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## 5. Traffic Coordinator

The traffic coordinator position is open. The issues are speed and parking. The position could be what person wants it to be anything from working with RCMP and administration or putting up signs or waving flags to slow traffic, or stopping cars for children to the cross street. There will be a light put in for turning onto Westbrook; however this will not happen for several years as the Mather building first needs to be relocated. It was suggested that the position become an official parent jobs at the centers and then each center would have a parent in charge to help out. Another suggestion was to have parents buy a sticker for drop-off parking. This would be a fundraiser for the centers and would identify parent cars. Another suggestion was for a covered place to park bike trailers—this might be a good for a council fundraiser. Finally, when the new elementary school goes in daycare council can work with PAC on the problem.

There will be more parking with new buildings. Also short-term parking is available at the high school after 4 pm. Concerned parents can send letters to the community liaison group about speed problem. Construction has blocked all extra sites on Revelstoke Court so there are no additional spaces available until after construction is finished.

Action Items: 1) Parent reps need to remind parents to slow down (the speed limit is 30 km) and of additional spaces to park at high school (after 4 pm)
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## 6. Swap Meet Co-Chair

Laura Wheeler volunteered to be co-chair with Kelli Kadokawa. The swap meet will be for toys, gear and children's clothing and will be open for attendance citywide. A free venue needs to be found for the weekend of May 3 or 4. Some suggestions were commons block, the community barn, of a covered campus parking garage

Action Items: 1) Representatives should post a sign in sheet at their centers to see who would want to buy a table Sat or Sunday May 3 or 4 2) a free venue needs to be found
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## 7. Advocacy Update (Lisa and Kristin)

Conservative candidate for Vancouver Quadra declined to visit the daycare council. Lisa attended the Faculty Association status of women open house. Vice president of faculty association had brought council issues to pres. Toope so he has been made aware of them. It sounds like he is most interested in pursuing emergency child care. Other institutions buy access to it from private operators. Childcare and housing top were ranked as the top concerns in quality of life study conducted at the faculty of science.

## 8. Discussion about Continuity of Care

There was a discussion about the continuity of care with the issues being the lack of guarantee for care in next age group and the lack of guarantee for full time care. The dynamics will change again when the new centers open, so it was felt a large overhaul of the system to address the current problems with continuity of care may not make sense. A suggestion was made to let parents with part-time spots “buy” extra days at their center when they became available (e.g. when full-time parents go on vacation). The funds could go to each center. Another suggestion was to require 2 months notice for people to leave; however this had been tried in the past and was not enforceable and ended up created a great deal of hard feelings.

## 9. Hours

Hours of operation for infant and toddler centers are 8 am – 5 pm. Care ends at 5 pm. Staff is paid only until 5 pm, which means all parents should be out of the centers with their children by 5 pm. Staff is not paid after 5 pm, unless they fine parents for picking up late.

## **10. Miscellaneous**

Parent's info night is not on list of achievements for last year. At this time Darcelle believes the Daycares will be open during the Olympics.

Action Items: 1) Julie Bettinger will follow up with Paul about adding parent info night to the website
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## **11. Confirm next meeting**

Our next meeting has been scheduled for **Thursday, April 10, 2008 at 7:00 pm** at the Main Office.