

# MINUTES OF THE ACADIA ROAD COMBINED DAYCARE COMMUNICARE SOCIETY

December 14, 2010  
Administration Building – 2881 Acadia Road

**IN ATTENDANCE (IN BOLD; ABSENT MEMBERS ARE NOT IN BOLD)**

<b>INFANT CENTRES:</b>			
LITTLE GOSLINGS	<b>Sonya Cressman</b>	COHO	
<b>TODDLER CENTRES:</b>		<b>3 – 5 CENTRES:</b>	
SITKA	<b>Katy Thomson</b> (Co-Secretary) Shi-Ling Hsu (Fundraising Chair)	ACADIA	Allen Lehman
HUCKLEBERRY	Marla Mickleborough	LITTLE RAVEN	Christina Hendricks <b>Csilla Tamás</b>
CANADA GOOSE		PACIFIC SPIRIT	Jim Johnson (Web Master)
DISCOVERY	Harjoat Bhamra <b>Maged Senbel</b>	TILlicUM	<b>Elinor Delgatty</b> (VP Advocacy, Staff)
LILLIPUT	<b>Julie Stitt</b> Karen Bakker	LLUVIA	<b>Melissa Johnson</b>
CHUVA		BARISH	
		SUMMER OF '73	<b>Lisa Sundstrom</b> (Secretary) Todd Handy (Treasurer) Hong Lin <b>Jeannie Scarfe</b> (Co-Fundraising Chair)
<b>18 MONTHS – 5 YEARS CENTRES:</b>			
SALAL		KITTIWAKE	<b>Yasmin Nassar</b> Musarrat Nahid
AUKLET			
<b>OUT-OF-SCHOOL CARE (AGES 5-12):</b>			
KIDS' CLUB	<b>Kelli Kadokawa</b> (President)		
<b>STAFF:</b>		<b>OTHERS:</b>	Sedi Minachi (GSS)
<b>DIRECTORS:</b>	<b>Darcelle Cottons</b> <b>Bev Christian</b>		

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

## MEETING AGENDA:

1. Introductions
2. Review of the Minutes (November 2010 meeting)
3. Administrators' report (Darcelle & Bev)
4. Advocacy: response letter re: Kids & Co membership (Elinor, & Mara)
5. Grant Proposals –revision of the program
6. Financial Goal Setting
7. Roadside Safety Miscellaneous
8. Confirm Next Meeting

## **MEETING CONTENT:**

### **1. INTRODUCTIONS**

See attendance of council members in bold on first page.

### **2. REVIEW OF THE MINUTES (NOVEMBER 16, 2010)**

Elinor moved, Csilla seconded accepting the minutes from our last meeting with a minor revision to the listing of centres under renovation in the administrator's report. The minutes from the November 16, 2010 meeting have been approved.

### **3. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORT (DARCELLE AND BEV)**

#### **DARCELLE:**

Wrapping up final offers for staffing of new centres Pioggia and Chuva. Daycares will open Feb. 1 in the Childcare Administration building. We have decided to reopen Barish in March due to slowness in locating appropriate staff; also the difficulties simultaneous opening of three centres presents for wait list management.

Planning still under way for the University Services Building (USB) daycare with the renovation contract being advertised soon and a plan to open by September 2011. The building will include one toddler daycare and one 3-5 age centre (total 37 children).

Parents have had concerns about dropoff/ pickup parking. UBC Parking Services will soon take over monitoring of parking along Osoyoos Crescent near the daycares. The UBC Housing Department will allow Childcare Services to rent out some of its parking out to daycare staff at lower rates than regular faculty/ staff parking. So far the Parking Services plan designates parent dropoff parking spots for 15 min parking, but Darcelle is trying to negotiate with them to allow 30 minutes. Paid meter parking will be interspersed with 15 min parking zones.

JULIE: What can council do to push for 30 min parking and express our interest in this? Darcelle: wait and see if there's a problem and then we can ask for your support.

LISA: It seems to me the plan includes a lot of metered parking. Why?

DARCELLE: For short-term substitute staff, work-study support students, gradual entry parents, etc who may need longer than 15-30 minutes.

KELLI: FYI, the new U Hill Elementary School renovation plan across the street from the Childcare Services Administration building does not include parking or a turnaround area for dropping off students, and this could affect traffic flow by daycares significantly.

DARCELLE: Other options for childcare: In addition to the Kids & Co contract, UBC has concluded a contract with Westcoast Childcare Resource Centre to have its staff spend some time in the University Neighbourhood Association (UNA) neighbourhoods trying to figure out who is providing unlicensed in-home childcare and encourage them to become registered license not required along with insurance coverage. Benefits for childcare providers would include opportunities for training, access to toy sharing libraries, etc. and parents being eligible for subsidy receiving a higher rate for registered care. UBC has also signed a contract with the Developmental Disability Society to give priority access to an agreed-upon number of spaces at their childcare centres at Berwick Centre on campus, as well as Vancouver General Hospital area (Kids in General daycare) and Richmond.

Darcelle has started to look at the budget for the coming year. As of September when USB opens, UBC Childcare Services will be operating a \$6 million annual budget. Some market adjustment to fees will need to take place. Each infant centres loses \$89000 per year. Toddler centres lose 65000\$ per year. 3-5 centres generate \$14000 revenue. The new mixed-age group centres are anticipated to break even. Kids' Club generates a slight revenue margin. The current estimate is that we will incur a \$500,000 deficit for this year. As a result, we are anticipating an increase of at least \$100/ month for care for children under age 3 as of July 2011.

**BEV:**

There will be a lot of toddler spaces for February. In the end, this is resulting in us calling people to offer spots who applied in Oct/Nov 2008, so unfortunately there is still a 2-year wait for toddler spaces. Bev was hoping the opening of the newest centres would reduce the waiting time more. We will be enrolling the newly renovated Barish for March, licensed for age 2-3 children. This age mix will help to assist those children who traditionally have been too old to start at a toddler centre when their name comes up on the waiting list and thus have had to wait until age 3 to begin with an age 3-5 centre. Some families have been skipped until now because the child is around 32 months old, so they have to wait months until they are eligible for an age 3-5 centre. Currently, for children ages 3-4, the wait time is just over 1 year.

We are considering revising our withdrawal requirement period to more than 1 month, because some other childcare providers require 2 months' notice, and this puts wait-listed families in a financial bind when we can only offer them a spot one month in advance.

LISA: What is the current situation with infant spots – how many non-sibling infants are being enrolled?

BEV: Infant spots still 98% siblings rather than new families from the waiting list.

#### **4. ADVOCACY: RESPONSE LETTER RE: KIDS & Co MEMBERSHIP (ELINOR)**

**ELINOR:**

The advocacy VPs revised our letter to university re: the Kids & Co contract, to make it shorter and more to the point. We are hoping to send letter out either before Xmas or first week of January so that all campus union organizations will receive it prior to UBC sending out its official announcement about Kids & Co.

Feedback:

JULIE: The reference in the letter to the Charleson Park Centre closure in the city should be given some context for people who don't know of that incident.

Discussion ensued about order of sections of argument and it was decided to place the affordability section lower in order as the argument is not as strong, perhaps folding the key points into the accessibility section.

SONYA: It would be good to have the letter end by indicating what parents and/ or the university should do further upon rejecting Kids & Co.

MAGED: We need to show that we are open and wanting cooperative solutions to resolve childcare provision problems. A statement at end of the letter should suggest we continue to work together to build nonprofit quality childcare on campus.

Lisa moves that council approve the letter in principal for the council executive to grant final approval following Elinor's final revisions; Katy seconded, vote was all in favour.

<p><b>ACTION ITEMS:</b> Elinor to finalize letter reflecting these last suggestions, send it out to Executive for approval, then send out to listed recipients (UBC administration, union representatives, student organizations).</p>
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#### **5. GRANT PROPOSALS – REVISION OF PROGRAM**

Discussion deferred to next meeting in January due to absence of Treasurer and Fundraiser.

## 6. FINANCIAL GOAL SETTING

Discussion deferred to next meeting in January due to absence of Treasurer and Fundraiser.

## 7. ROADSIDE SAFETY (KELLI)

KELLI: Kelli had a conversation with David Grigg of Campus and Community Planning, regarding traffic calming and the lack of a sidewalk on the west side of Osoyoos Crescent leading up to daycares past fire station. He was surprised to hear about this absence of a sidewalk and promised to follow up and keep in contact to resolve it. Kelli thanked him for the Thunderbird through road, which has made driving to daycares much easier.

ELINOR: has noticed that when people come from Thunderbird direction to the daycares there are no reduced speed limit signs to notify people coming from that direction.

MELISSA: There is insufficient sidewalk coverage and a lack of crosswalks along Osoyoos Crescent for long stretches, which makes it very difficult for pedestrians, particularly in the dark and rainy weather when visibility is compromised.

KELLI: Campus and Community Planning is planning a speed survey in January to check on whether more traffic calming measures are needed along Osoyoos Crescent. If less than 15% of vehicles are speeding, considered normal. If more are speeding, it is deemed an issue of concern. The types of traffic calming measures implemented thereafter will have to be thought through since emergency vehicles and buses do not like speed bumps.

MAGED: suggests council has a meeting with David if he is willing to talk about potential solutions.

JULIE: propose a meeting with him in February following traffic speed survey results.

Council representatives present decided to appoint a Road Safety Subcommittee, comprising: Elinor, Melissa, Maged, and Kelli.

<b>ACTION ITEMS:</b> Road safety sub-committee will arrange a meeting around pickup time one day in February with David Grigg.
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## 8. MISCELLANEOUS

**JULIE:**

What will be the hours of the new USB centre?

BEV: Not fully decided yet, but we plan to open earlier to accommodate a different client group (who often start work before 8 am), with longer hours available at an additional fee if there is sufficient interest and we can make it financially viable.

**KELLI:**

Kinderclub afterschool care at U Hill school is wondering about sending out a survey to parents regarding how that space could be used effectively for childcare once U Hill transitions to all-day kindergarten next year and Kinderclub becomes obsolete. They are wondering if they can house their survey on our site. Council agreed to have link to survey housed on council website when ready.

## 9. CONFIRM NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 7 pm in the Administration Building [2881 Acadia Road].

***All parents are welcome to attend.***