



Georgian Bay Youth Roots Meeting - July 31, 2019

Attending: Jason Wepler (Grey Bruce Health Unit), Andrea Matrosovs (Town of the Blue Mountains), Jennifer Moore (Connect The Dots Fibre Communications Inc), Lori Pierce (Meaford Library), Melri Wright (BV), Mike Wright (Ledge Leadership), Emma Smith (Town of Meaford Recreation Department), Emma Barker (Blue Mountains Library), Sarah Milne (Grey Bruce Health Unit), Therese Samuel (Grace United Church), Mandi Lamb (Big Brothers, Big Sisters), Sarah (YMCA)

Financial Update

- We currently have \$2,294.97 in the bank account.
- We have received \$2,000 from the Municipality of Meaford Grant.
- Melri will track amounts that are used from the grant.

Funds from Municipality of Meaford

- Emma is planning to ask for funding from the Municipality as well.

Funds from Town of The Blue Mountains

- Council is using the old process, but may review and change that process in the future.
- They have put out a call for people to sit on the grant committee.

RBC Future Launch Grant

- The regional group met to talk about this opportunity, but GBYR could also apply.
- We are looking at doing an event in each high school in Grey Bruce.
- Applications are due in September and youth need to be involved in the process.
- We could look at transportation (maybe a pilot project and research about those needs in our community) and/or employment/retention (resources for youth to explore).

Meaford Grant

- We had requested \$4,600/year and received \$2,000/year.
- We were interested in funds for space, events, vocational training and need to revisit our plans given the amount of money we received.
- In order to develop space, we will need research and data to show the importance of that space.
- It would be helpful to do some events and see about response to those events. We could also partner with other organizations to use their space.
- We decided to not use the grant money for space. Instead, we will look at ways to take Youth Roots on the road.

Parents Council Meeting

- Jason and Melri have been invited to attend the first Parent's Council meeting in September.

Transportation

- We could look into bussing and getting sponsorship for bussing if we are doing events in one community and need to get youth back to their community.

Next Steps:

- **Melri will contact Emily Morrison**, from Launch Pad, about the funding they received to help them with transportation.

Youth Leadership

- Ways to inspire youth to be involved in Youth Roots - offer them leadership training opportunities, internship, mentoring as part of being part of our team.
- As youth have positive experiences and connect in our communities, they might be more likely to come back after school.
- We could approach Jeff Smith about a unique co-op experience that would expose youth to a variety of organizations. Andrea is willing
- We could also look at opportunities for youth who are at risk, maybe even not in school and helping them connect with businesses and organizations.
- Offer a certificate at the end of their year with GBYR.
- We could approach the Grade 8 classes to get involved... show the fun and leadership side of it.
- We will need to have a project for youth to work on - information gathering, a cause, an event.
- We discussed three different groups to connect with - Grade 8, High School, At Risk/Out of School.
- Town of The Blue Mountains is doing joint committees with surrounding municipalities. Perhaps a youth council could be a joint committee between The Blue Mountains and Meaford.

Next Steps:

- **Sarah will do research.**
- **Melri will connect with Jeff Smith about possibility of a Youth Roots co-op.**
- **Emma B will connect with Grade 8 teachers at GBCS.**
- **Melri will connect with Jeanetta about speaking at the Link Crew Day in September.**

Fall Kick-off Event

Thursday, September 19th

11:30 am - BBQ at lunch

12:45 pm - Meeting

- Have flip charts for people to vote.
- Have survey monkey link to a survey they could do on their phones.
- **Jennifer could provide a prize for a draw.**
- **Emma has ipads to use for the surveys.**
- Bread Depot in Owen Sound could help with food.

Changes

- having veggie burger option.
- make sure we have compostable products for our plates, cups, and napkins.
- bring lighters for the BBQ.
- ask to have tables in the location when we arrive.
- not do water balloons.
- build bridges with neighbours.
- find out from Kathy if we could do the BBQ in the courtyard.
- chalk messages.

Repeat

- having karaoke.
- have therapy dogs.

Next Steps:

- Emma S will check with a chef about helping with food and with Graze Restaurant.
- Lori will ask about the therapy dogs being at the school.
- Mandi will ask Jackie about karaoke.
- Mike will work on sample questions for the survey.
- Melri will contact Kathy about the date, details, and meeting space afterwards.
- Emma B will do a flyer for the event.

Next Meeting:

Conference Call - Thursday, September 5th - 11:30 am

Jennifer will provide a link to the meeting.