



Youth Futures Council Records of Discussion

May 23rd, 2017, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m AST

In Attendance:

Special guest: Sharon
Cameron and Olive Crane
Ex-Officio: Brad Colwill and
Alicia Bruce

Moira Shaw
Nicole Mountain
John Ployer
Kenzie Lund

Adam Ross
Luke Poirier
Tyler Murnaghan
Alex Dalton

Welcome

This meeting commenced at 6:00pm with a welcome and introductions of guest speakers Sharon Cameron and Olive Crane.

Consultation: Poverty Reduction Strategy

Consultation by Sharon Cameron, Special Advisor to the Executive Council and Olive Crane, Labour Market Specialist

Olive Crane led a lively, interactive discussion with Council members on perceptions of Poverty on Prince Edward Island. Discussions ranged from what poverty is, who is affected by poverty, what supports are currently in place, what appears to be working, what could be changed or improved, thoughts on the concept of a Basic Income Guarantee, what should be done to prevent poverty and who should be at the table for such discussions (i.e. those affected and front-line workers). Council members shared a variety of viewpoints shaped by their own personal experiences, careers, education, volunteer work and community involvement.

Sharon Cameron is developing a Poverty Reduction Strategy to be presented to the Executive Council and Olive Crane develops programs directly related to improving the lives of disengaged youth. Both were invited back at a later date to continue discussions on their important work.

Decision: Council members saw immense value in this style of consultation and request more time for these discussions at meetings.

Action: Alicia and Brad to convey to Interdepartmental Youth Advisory Council the merits of early consultation with Youth Futures Council on policy/program development.

Items Stemming from the ROD

Website

Council members' bios and head shots are up on the YPEI website. If any Council members would like their bio updated, please email Alicia with any revisions. Brad provided an update on efforts to update the website with a page related to youth employment services, as per the Council's first recommendation.

Letter from the Minister

A letter from Minister Sonny Gallant was given to each council member. The Minister regrets being unable to meet the Council to date, but thanks them for their hard work and recommendations. He plans to meet them at an upcoming meeting.

Community Service Bursary Recommendation

Brad provided an update on the status of this recommendation.

Work Plan and Sub-Committees

Continuation of Discussion on Barriers/Enablers to Youth Employment

During April's conference call, Council members expressed interest in the idea of creating sub-committees to develop recommendations in different areas. At this meeting it was discussed that many members have strengths they could lend to specific sub-committees, but are not necessarily interested in or knowledgeable of all topics relating to youth. It was also suggested that a lot of time dedicated at meetings reviewing the nuances of recommendations could be reduced by having sub-committees present their developed recommendations for review.

Decision: Sub-committees will be formed to explore different issue areas, consult with youth as required and develop recommendations surrounding their topic. Sub-committees will present their recommendations to the board for final approval and revisions prior to submitting to the Executive Council.

Action: Council members are to notify Alicia as to which sub-committees they wish to be on. Alicia to develop standard operating procedures for sub-committees

Engagement Strategy

Continuation of Discussion around Council's Engagement Strategy

A discussion was held around negative perceptions of youth and how that may be a barrier to ensuring Council's voice is heard and respected by elected officials.

It was also discussed that Council members would like a standard, quick description to sum up the work that council does for interested members of the public.

One of the roles of the Council is to conduct engagement sessions with Island youth. A subcommittee will be struck to explore how the Council should approach that.

Action: Council to begin work on recommendation surrounding attitudes towards youth. Alicia will begin work on script for YFC communications purposes. An Events and Engagement subcommittee will form and provide recommendations for engagement strategy at the next meeting.

Adjournment

Prior to adjourning the meeting, co-chairs reminded Council members that the “Meet and Greet” that was originally scheduled for March has not yet happened. Council agreed it is difficult to schedule meetings in the summer, so dates in June will be explored first and if that does not work, July will be considered.

Decision: The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for our regular time, Tuesday, June 20th from 7:30-9:30pm via videoconference. Any changes or requests for new dates will be communicated via email.