



MEETING MINUTES
NORTHERN CAPACITY BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THUNDER BAY DISTRICT

DATE: February 24, 2022

LOCATION: Zoom Meeting

PRESENT: Danielle Paananen (Chair)
 Alina Cameron, Parent
 Liz Hathazi, Creative Therapy
 Carolyn Mancuso, Ignite Behaviour Consulting
 Melissa Bianco; SGDSB
 Melissa Stolz, GJCC
 Trevor Bosse, CCR (in lieu of Co-Chair)
 Brittany Bolduc (Recorder)

REGRETS: Sherry Fournier, CCR (Co-Chair)
 Patty Haney, Parent
 Adrianna Atkins, Parent

Item	
1.0	Welcome & Introductions
	Regrets – Sherry Fournier Melissa Stolz will be joining the Committee as representative from George Jeffrey Children’s Centre.
2.0	Progress updates (Capacity Grants, Goals & Funding)
	Trevor Bosse presented ‘Northern Capacity Building Initiative: 2021-2022 Fiscal Year (Appendix A)’ and the ‘Improving Foundational Family Services – Results: Caregiver Feedback Survey (Appendix B)’ to the committee.)
3.0	CCR & OAP updates
	Trevor Bosse presented an overview of the funding allocations for 2022-2023. Members of the Northern Collaborative will be invited to submit Capacity Building Fund proposals in response to the identified priorities.
3.1	CCR Northern Capacity Building Presentation
	Trevor Bosse presented ‘Northern Capacity Building Initiative: 2021-2022 Fiscal Year’ and the ‘Improving Foundational Family Services – Results: Caregiver Feedback Survey’ to the committee.
3.2	CCR NCB Presentation

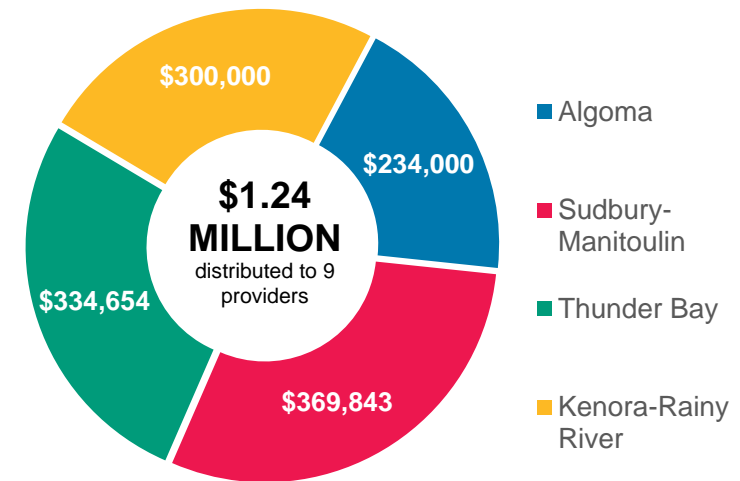
	Improving Family Foundational Services. Trevor Bosse discussed improvements that are being made to the website to allow it to be more user friendly. This includes a more detailed filtering system when searching for things such as programs, and more clarity for French users to access the French website.
3.3	Updates
	The Independent Intake Organization (IIO) has been selected. Goal is to begin implementation in the spring.
4.0	Committee feedback and discussion
	Nothing to report.
5.0	Additional Items
	Nothing to report.
5.1	Committee Role and Commitment
	This is the final year of the Capacity Building Grant. As we are moving to the monitoring phase of the project Committee Meetings will be held twice, one in September 2022 and the second and final in March 2023. Like last year, additional updates and announcements will be shared with committee members throughout the year as appropriate.
6.0	Next Meeting
	September 29, 2022 – 530 pm
7.0	Adjournment
	Meeting was adjourned at 7:27pm

Northern Capacity Building Initiative: 2021-2022 Fiscal Year

THE FOCUS

Address the most significant barriers to service in the North Region

- Support providers across the region to enhance professional capacity
- Provide high-quality autism-related services and supports to more families
- Equip providers with resources to meet demands of families purchasing services in the new Ontario Autism Program
- Work with caregivers and community partners to leverage available capacity building funds in a meaningful and accountable manner



THE IMPACT



137 Children Served



15,027 Direct Service Hours



2,574 Supervision / Indirect Hours



70 Staff Received Training ^a



^a Includes: 39 RBT, ABA Trainings, 3 BCBA, 2 BCaBA, 2 Clinicians, 2 DIR Floortime, 6 LAMP, 2 PECS, 2 ACT, 8 Therapists receiving ADOS, M-CHAT, SCQ, Anxiety & ASD, Hanen (More than Words / Talkability), RDI and ADHD/ASD.

In addition to above, funds allocated to translate ABLLS materials and programming to expand French Language services.

PROVIDER FEEDBACK

“The capacity grant funds have allowed us to train multiple new ABA Therapists and to support our Lead ABA Therapist in pursuing her BCaBA certification. The grant not only supported immediate capacity building, but long-term capacity building that will have a direct, positive, impact on service delivery for our agency.”

“We served 16 children/youth and families that we otherwise would not have, and for the first time offered service in a school setting.”

“This funding allowed us to offer SLP and Behavior support services in an area where these services were not an option before for intensive direct service delivery model. Families in this region saw immense growth in their children/youth due to increased access created by this funding.”

Northern Capacity Building Initiative: 2021-2022 Fiscal Year

THE PROVIDERS

Led by Advisory Committee Members, providing capacity building funds to:

ALGOMA DISTRICT



KENORA-RAINY RIVER DISTRICT



SUDBURY-MANITOULIN DISTRICT



roots & wings
psychology



Behaviour Analysis North



THUNDER BAY DISTRICT



Overview

On January 24th, 2022, a survey was widely distributed to caregivers and community partners. The survey was recommended by, and developed in collaboration with, Advisory Committee Chairs.

Result of the survey are to be used to determine how CCR and our partners can improve the next round of Foundational Family Services (2022-2023 fiscal year). The survey was comprised of 5 open-ended questions. Numerous themes emerged which have been summarized below.

A total of 56 responses were received.

Data to Inform Service Selection and Address Barriers to Service

What specific services, supports, or topics are you most interested in?

Based on the responses below, combined with a review of interest in previous sessions, families are most interested in brief consultative-type services. Families are also interested in workshops with opportunities for follow-up coaching sessions.

That said, it is recommended a wide variety of services are provided, including the additional service-types mentioned below.



In addition to the themes outlined above, families also commented that they would benefit from:

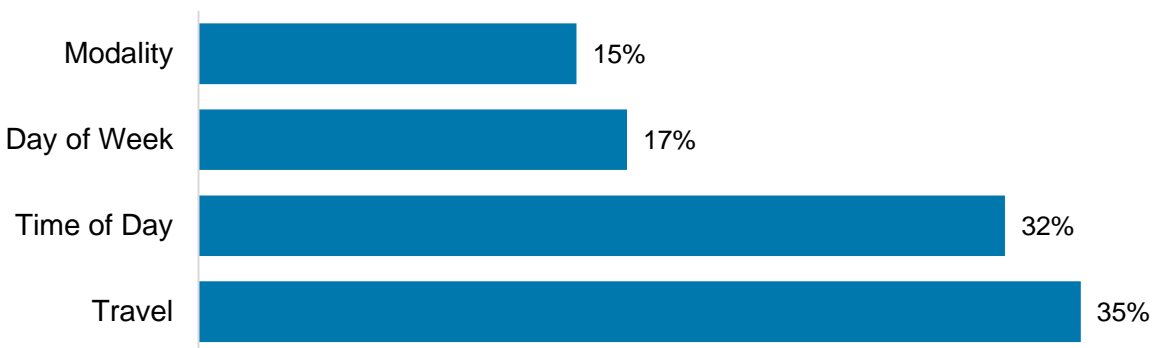
- Indigenous-specific services and resources
- Speech-Language services
- Occupational Therapy services
- Caregiver support groups or opportunities for parents to connect post-service
- School-readiness for older children (those transitioning to high school or post-secondary)
- Feeding clinics (including services for children with sensory barriers)
- Picture Exchange System
- Self-regulation
- Anxiety and demand-avoidance
- Sibshops for multiple age groups
- Services for complex needs

Are there any barriers to service that you would like us to be aware of?

Travel continues to be the most significant barrier to service for families, particularly for those living in remote areas. If possible, it is recommended that a portion of your in-person service budget be directed to travel to accommodate families in remote areas.

Families have also expressed that there needs to continue to be service options available at multiple times in the week, including evenings and weekends.

In addition to the themes above, there is also an immediate need for timely post-registration follow-up with families. This is feedback that has been received in the past, and it is important that partners follow-up with families on their registration lists regularly. Families also expressed the need for post-session follow-up, including access to materials and notes. Families would also benefit from an overview of the technology to be used during the initial contact to ensure they are comfortable with how to connect to virtual services.

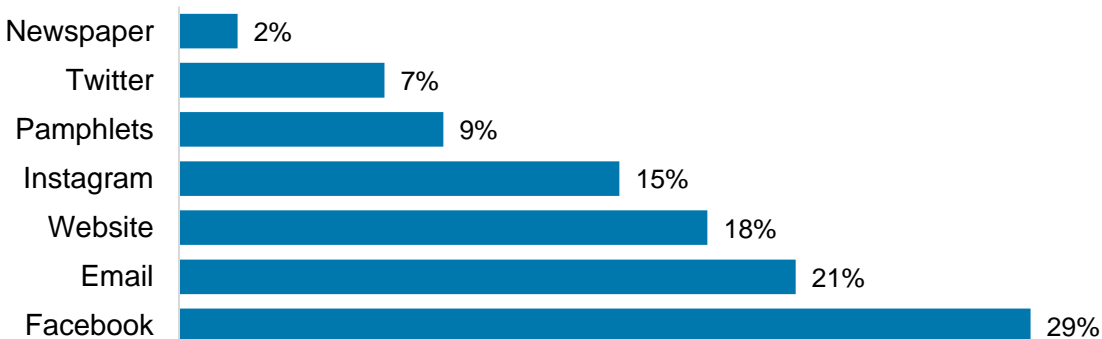


Data to Inform Communication Methods and Website Enhancements

The following information is provided for information-purposes only and will be used by CCR to enhance communication to families, and our website.

What is the most effective way to 'spread the word' about Services?

Social media continues to be the most effective way to reach families. CCR has recently created an Instagram page and we will use the platform to reach families. Additionally, we will continue to use email to communicate updates to families. We are also in the process of finalizing a video-series on a variety of topics.



How can we improve our website?

CCR has begun working with our web developers to improve the Foundational Family Services section of the website, which will include:

- Filter functions for in-person, virtual, hybrid service modalities
- Filter for service location (for in-person / hybrid services)
- Increased visibility on how to navigate to French services
- Search function limiting return of results
- Sort services by most recent start date
- Remove or reduce amount of information for closed sessions