



Meeting Minutes
Northern Capacity Building Advisory Committee
Kenora and District

Date: September 19, 2022

Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88959125514?pwd=cWhyNXRGWm9tWjV6Z3drKzFVY2Yrdz09>

Present: April Szpara, Chair
 Joel Willett
 Sarah Pyzer
 Fallon Cody
 Trevor Bosse, CCR
 Sherry Fournier, CCR (Co-Chair)

Regrets: Barb Tibbs
 Christie Nerino
 Karly Janisse
 Brandi Tait

Item	
1.0	Welcome & Introductions
	The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Central Time by the Co-Chair
2.0	Progress updates (Capacity Grants, Goals & Funding)
	<p>Trevor Bosse presented an overview of the projections for the Capacity Building Funding distributed to providers across the region. A total of \$1.2 million has been provided to 10 public and private agencies. Funds were distributed evenly across the 4 districts of Sudbury-Manitoulin, Thunder Bay, Algoma, and Kenora-Rainy River (\$300,000.00 each).</p> <p>Regionally, it is projected that funds will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support onboarding of 4 Board Certified Behaviour Analysts, 1 Board Certified Assistant Behaviour Analyst, 9 Therapists, 1 Service Navigator - 40 children / youth served - 12,000 hours of service (inclusive of direct and indirect time) - 700 hours of supervision - Aid in creation of new group-based curriculum in Sudbury-Manitoulin District - Staff training opportunities in Algoma District - Enhanced capacity to support referrals for assessment in Kenora-Rainy River District
3.0	CCR & OAP updates
	<p>Sherry Fournier provided updates regarding the Ontario Autism Program Workforce Capacity Fund, and future of Capacity Building Funds for Northern providers. Sherry Fournier encouraged providers to apply for the Ontario Autism Program Workforce Capacity Funds as it is uncertain whether Child & Community Resources will be successful in receiving additional Capacity Building Funds for Northern providers in the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Sherry Fournier attending introductory meeting with the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services representative week of September 26th to discuss future funding opportunities.</p>

4.0	Committee feedback and discussion
	<p>Committee members discussed the intention of the additional funds being directed to Diagnostic Services in Kenora-Rainy River Districts. In addition to funds helping to build capacity in a District traditionally underserved in diagnostic assessments, the intention was to expedite family access to the Ontario Autism Program. Perception is that there are still several delays on the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services' side.</p> <p>In addition to the above, limited funds are being provided to providers for programs such as Entry to School. Providers have capacity to serve additional children and have expressed these concerns to the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services however no additional commitments have been made. Providers now have a waitlist for service.</p> <p>There is confusion amongst families and providers as to the flow of accessing services in the new Ontario Autism Program. There is a need for 'Case Managers' to help families navigate the system.</p> <p>Considerable concerns from families on Manitoba border that have purchased phones from Manitoba. Families cannot call the Ontario Autism Program's toll-free number.</p>
5.0	Additional Items
	<p>FireFly will be reaching out to families via survey to determine where their needs are, and to respond accordingly.</p> <p>Reminder that FireFly will provide services to youth up to the age of 21 years of age, if they are attending school. These services DO NOT include Ontario Autism Program.</p> <p>Families are having a very difficult time being able to purchase services 'up front' and then wait to get reimbursed. Some families cannot afford to purchase services up front, so their children go without much needed treatment.</p>
6.0	Next Meeting
	TBD (March 2023)
7.0	Adjournment
	Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. Central Time