

### CKY Advisory Group Meeting

August 23, 2023 | 6-7:30PM YWHO Office Chatham | Zoom



### Attendance

#### **Accepted**

- Jason Brown (Co-Chair)
- Megan Siddall (Co-Chair)
- Laura Wheeler
- Kaitlyn Smoke
- Saysha Michiels
- Colin Edmonstone
- Olivia Jones
- Colm McGivern
- Sarah Weaver

#### **Unknown/Tentative**

- Evan Rogers
- Danielle Esch
- Jessica Thibeault
- Md Asadul Islam
- Morena McDonald
- Spencer Stinson

#### Regrets

- Councillor Allyson Storey (Ward 6)
- Victoria Bodnar (CKY Staff Support, Community Attraction & Promotion)

#### **Guest Presenters**

- Aaron Horvath, YWHO
- Sharon Friesen, LINCK
- Katie Goulet, VisionUS

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## Land Acknowledgement

The land that is known as Chatham-Kent today was established as part of Treaty #2, the McKee Purchase Treaty of 1790.

At that time, the land was also inhabited by the Three Fires Confederacy: the Odawa, Potawatomi and Ojibwe. These Indigenous Nations, known as the Anishinaabeg and Lunaapeew, agreed to the mutual sharing of the land, with obligations and responsibilities to the environment.

Today, Chatham-Kent neighbours the Lunaapeew at Delaware Nation which is part of the McKee Purchase Treaty, as well as the unceded territory of the Bkejwanong Walpole Island First Nation. Chatham-Kent continues to be home to diverse First Nations Peoples and Métis Peoples.

As beneficiaries of the treaty, we recognize all Peoples have responsibilities including collective responsibilities to the land and water.

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### Minutes

- · Land Acknowledgement shared by Olivia
- Welcome & Introductions
- Youth Mental Health Supports (YWHO & LINCK)
  - Tour of YWHO ACCESS, overview of existing services & system navigation supports
    - YWHO- ACCESS was one of the first spaces of its kind, designed by youth
    - There is a free to take area with donated items, Hygiene products are most needed donation
    - 60% female 40% male in terms of clients
    - Have not found social media to be a successful tool for promoting services
  - LINCK service overview and feedback on young people's mental health needs
    - CK Youth Social is a new space for youth to be themselves (safe space)
      - Importance of a welcome and safe space for all 'youth" to address the stigma of weakness – focus on strength
      - Importance of sharing experiences
      - Educating the general public older ages
      - More female than male youth participate 75% female identifying vs 25% male identifying
      - 90-95% part of the 2SLGBTQ+ community
      - · Word of mouth is important to promoting programming
      - Distance is important outer communities feel neglected but funding restricts services spreading
    - Overview of the Youth Listening Event at local high schools
    - Feedback requested of CKY Advisory Group:
      - Where are our concerns surrounding mental health in CK?
      - How do you cope with mental health and does it work?
        - Food, shopping, music, crafting, schedule
      - What barriers do you see in seeking mental health support?
        - Money, time, need more diverse supports
        - 20s experience is neglected, dropped from service once we are adults

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- Volunteer Connections (VisionUS)
  - Introduced CAMP/VisionUS as meeting a need for integration of services
    - CAMP event all about connecting community members to organizations and vice versa through impactful spaces rather than booths more active engagement
    - CAMP Kent participation invitation September 15/16 at the Portuguese Club
      - Showcase CKY survey feedback and engage on volunteerism with young people
      - General volunteers needed
  - Introduced Volunteer Portal and discussed needs identified from CKY:
    - One-stop-shop for volunteers portal to be user friendly, using filters on experience
    - Noted that an ad hoc volunteerism group exists but talked about how a more tangible recognized group is needed
    - Goal is to help fight isolation and build connections for young people in CK
- CKY Activities
  - YP Engagement
    - LSN Recap
      - LSN was a good experience although weather may have had an impact on the amount of engagement gained (had to leave early due to a storm)
      - Found dropping comments was not successful but there was interest in painting as a form of engagement
      - Worth considering again next year but with different timing and approach
    - Bkejwanong Youth Council Meeting
      - Visit to BYC was a great success there was a lot of value in meeting and learning about what each group does respectively

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- CKY Activities
  - Public Art Plans
    - Artist overseeing original engagement idea can no longer commit the time
    - BYC engaged on discussion of working together on the art project to do some type of piece in Wallaceburg
    - May have a plaque of some sort to commemorate cooperation between groups
    - Looking to engage a variety of local artists on this project
    - There is also a goal to invite the group to a future meeting in potentially Wallaceburg for a further dialogue
  - Working group status updates
    - Council Engagement reminder
      - Clarification of process:
        - Let Vic/staff know if you are meeting up with a Councillor to do a profile
        - She will send the questionnaire sheet to you
        - Send final product to <a href="mailto:cky@chatham-kent.ca">cky@chatham-kent.ca</a>
        - Can reach out directly if you'd like since Council has been informed
        - Councillor B McGregor, Storey, and Anderson are already engaged

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