



Advocacy Meeting
Monday, November 18, 2019
10:00 – 11:30 am
The Common Roof (165 Ferris Lane, Barrie)
MINUTES

Attended:

Suzanna McCarthy (co-chair)
 Sarah Papple (co-chair)
 Kathy Manners
 Julie McAlpine

Regrets:

James Thomson
 Lesley Watts

Item		Minutes	Action
1.	Review of Minutes: September 16, 2019	There were no changes.	
2.	Federal Election Strategy	Good accomplishment for this group. The All-Candidates meeting was a success.	
3.	Pulse Poll Topics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results: Sept. 26/19 Council Meeting • November 28th Council Meeting 	<p>From the poll taken at the last Council meeting, most member agencies served families affected by issues related to poverty. The enabling factors identified that would be most helpful to someone in a low income situation were connection to community and access to safe shelter. A discussion took place what to do with this information.</p> <p>Instead of doing a pulse poll at the next Council meeting, these results will be taken back to members for a discussion how they want to action this from an advocacy perspective.</p>	Sarah to lead discussion at Council meeting.
4.	Request for Letter of Support Process	<p>We have been getting requests for letters for support recently and there have been different opinions on how these should be handled i.e. when member agencies are competing for the same funding.</p> <p>The Request for Endorsement/Letter of Support process was reviewed and will be going back to EC for further discussion/decision.</p> <p>It was suggested creating a template for a letter of support which would include a paragraph specific to the requesting organization. Members need to send their requests to Kathy and clearly specify what they are asking for.</p>	Take suggestions to Executive Committee.
5.	Social Assistance Cuts Reversed	<p>An article from the Toronto Star confirming the Ford government is scrapping cuts to welfare for vulnerable children and adults with part-time jobs was shared as an FYI.</p> <p>https://www.thestar.com/politics/provincial/2019/10/03/ford-government-cancels-planned-cuts-to-social-assistance-payments.html</p>	
6.	Coalition Website – Advocacy Page	<p>The Coalition's refreshed website is live and has an Advocacy page.</p> <p>https://simcoecountycoalition.ca/advocacy/</p>	Remind members at Council meeting to access this page. Add a link to the

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			Endorsement/Letter of Support process to Advocacy page.
7.	Meeting Dates: Stat Holidays	Two upcoming Advocacy meetings fall on stat holidays and will be moved to the Monday the week before. Going forward, this adjustment will automatically occur for stat meeting dates.	Julie to send revised meeting dates for February and May meeting dates.
8.	Next Steps	Sarah will do the advocacy report at Council as Suzanna will be absent.	

Next Meeting: Tues. December 16, 2019 – 10:00-11:30, Barrie Common Roof, 165 Ferris Lane, Barrie