

SAGKEENG INTER-AGENCY GROUP MEETING MINUTES

Date: October 21,2009

Location: Sagkeeng CFS Boardroom

Present:

Derrick Henderson-Council

Pat Bruyere-Sagkeeng Gaming

Linda Twoheart-AHTF Disabilities and Gaps

Joan Bruyere-AHTF Disabilities and Gaps

Darian Courchene-Sagkeeng Wellness Centre

Cheryl Hanson-Sagkeeng Child and Family Services

Susan Thomas-Sagkeeng Child and Family Services

Lawrence Bruyere-Community Liaison

Meeting commenced at 10:25 am

Opening prayer

1. Councillor Henderson briefed the group on some of the issues that we have been dealing with at the political level.
 - a) H1N1 up-date-all homes are being provided with H1N1 kits and are being delivered by volunteers from the community. Every household is to receive a kit. The immunization clinic for the swine flu shot at Sagkeeng is on November 2,2009.
 - b) New Health Centre-the new facility is in the design stage and this phase is near completion. There will be a sod turning ceremony and it was suggested that it be held on the day of the "Community Assembly" in November. Date was not confirmed for the assembly. The health centre has to be completed by the year 2011 as it was part of the Federal Governments Stimulus Expenditures.
 - c) The new school board is in place and functioning as we speak. They were provided board training by MFNERC over a two day period. They are a critical aspect to the schools and the overall education program here at Sagkeeng. They will provide direction and guidance to the schools and give the Director of Education a mechanism to assist her in her role.
 - d) DPW has hired a user-fee clerk to get the program operating as of November 1,2009. The user fee is a fee that is charged to each home at Sagkeeng so it will help offset some of the operational costs for the department. The monthly fee to be charged per household is a flat rate of \$23.75. This fee is to cover any additional costs incurred in water/sewer or refuse services at Sagkeeng. We are currently working with the Social Services Director so their department will cover the fee for social clients. Homeowners who are employed will be required to pay for the fee directly to DPW or arrange a payment schedule and this fee may be pro-rated dependant on the number of social clients that reside in the home. There have been discussions for seniors to have the fee waived due to their limited income.
 - e) The band hall will be getting an expansion and Ayshkum Engineering has been contracted to draft up the design and provide the architectural drawings for the expansion. The expansion is to provide space for an additional twenty (20) video lottery terminals for the current gaming lounge. With the expansion and addition we are not building a new facility so our gaming lounge will remain as a smoking facility.

- f) We now have three (3) Band Constables and they have been scheduled to work seven (7) days a week and patrol the community. They also are continually stopping vehicles who are speeding and also for safety for children at the schools.

Pat Bruyere – Director of Gaming

- a) Pat explained that the new Band Hall expansion is going to go as planned. The reason for the expansion is to accommodate 20 more Video Lottery Terminals. The only way that we can keep the facility as a “smoking facility” is to add to our upgrade existing building that houses the machines.
- b) Ayshkum Architectural Engineering has been awarded the band hall expansion and they will be meeting with Pat and the gaming personnel to see the expansion proceed. The firm will be meeting onsite to see what we require in the facility. Construction on the expansion may not commence till spring of 2010 due to the high cost of construction during the winter months.
- c) Pat also brought out the concern that the purpose of the “Interagency Group” is one that was tried by past leaders in the community. The group was used as a forum to bring issues to the directors/participants and then forwarded to the leaders to bring to the assemblies and inform the community. Pat doesn’t want that to occur in this group and Derrick Henderson assured him that this was not the purpose of the group. The terms of reference were mentioned to Pat and that is the mandate that the group is going to use.

Linda Twoheart/Joan Bruyere – “Gaps and Disabilities”

- a) They explained the purpose of the pilot project and it is funded under the AHF and it has been extended to 2011. The project is just what it says; the service gaps for persons with disabilities on or off-reserve. It also deals with children services and mental health issues.
- b) The group is going to interview all of the Sagkeeng services departments to get a on-reserve perspective. Sagkeeng members who live off-reserve are going to be interviewed also to get the off-reserve perspective.
- c) “Jordan’s Principle” is an example of what we don’t want to happen to our people.
- d) The method of gathering the data is by survey and one of the key points in the project is that the people can become hesitant because of “labelling.” This is something that will be discussed from the recommendations.
- e) Dr. Rachel Enni, will be doing the report findings and the recommendations and it is hoped that the “gaps” in services for the disabled will disappear so the people who need to access the services get it whether on or off-reserve.
- f) Another discussion in the project is to use the “Integration of Services” model and what needs to be outlined for this to occur is to look at training our own people. Questions of type of training, training plan and who should be trained needs to be addressed.
- g) We know that there are discrepancies in funding provided if you are on or off-reserve and we need to address this issue. Why is it we can get the services off-reserve and we are not provided the same opportunities on-reserve. Professional services are difficult to provide in

rural areas due to the profession, and the number of clients looking for specialized services. The cities have access to more specialized service personnel.

Darian Courchene-Wellness Centre (representative for Shirley Laforte)

a) She informed us of the new health centre and she is here in place of the Director and did not have anything to report at this time.

Susan Thomas/Cheryl Hanson – Sagkeeng Child and Family Services

a) Statistics indicate that children in care is rising.

b) Accountability is of some concern.

c) On-reserve services sometimes are not able to provide the needs of the child so they may be moved off-reserve.

d) Housing is an issue with the overcrowding and the lack of homes that are required.

e) Police/ANCR are being referred to CFS especially when it is a domestic dispute.

f) Winnipeg Sub-Office is faced with extremely high rental costs for office space. They are recommending that we look at purchasing or building an office so we will eventually own it. The need for an off-reserve office will always be required with the number of Sagkeeng members who live in Winnipeg

g) There was some discussion regarding a “Differential Response Coordinator” who would be responsible for awareness, networking and working with existing organizations to assist the Child Welfare Agency. This is a different child response model and they will be seeking funding for 2010.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:50 a.m.

Next Meeting November 18, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at CFS Boardroom