# **Logo Toronto Child and Family Network  Toronto - Together for our childrenToronto Child & Family Network**

**Steering Committee Minutes**

Date: Thursday, October 29, 2020

Time: 2:00 pm – 3:30pm

Webex meeting

| **Present** | **Regrets** |
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| * Kevin Pal (Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services) (TCFN Co-chair)
* Karen Gray (Children’s Services) (TCFN Co-chair)
* Diane Banks (Toronto Public Library)
* Tamara Augsten (Children's Services)
* Paula Carrie (Aisling Discoveries)
* Cynthia Grundmann (Toronto District School Board)
* Connie Giorando (Toronto Catholic District School Board)
* Nancy Hendy (Children’s Services)
* Brenda Weitzner (primary care physician)
* Anna Patola (Humber College)
* Siobhan McCarthy (Native Child & Family Services of Toronto) (AAPC Co-Chair)
* Margaret Howard (Surrey Place)
* Isilda Kucherenko (Ministry of Education)
* Leanne Nicolle (Big Brother Big Sister of Toronto)
* Anne Lambert (Viamonde)
* Patricia Chorney-Rubin (George Brown College)
* Cheryl Webb (Lumenus)
* Jillian Sewell (YMCA)
 | * Carolyn Ussher (Children’s Aid Society of Toronto)
* David Willis (East Metro Youth Services)
* Dr. Lee Ford-Jones (Sick Kids Hospital/ UofT)
* Nicole Welch (Public Health)
* Pamela Hart (Native Women's Resource Centre) (AAPC Co-chair)
* Jeffrey Schiffer (Native Child & Family Services of Toronto)
* Pam Blanchfield (Parks, Forestry & Recreation)
* Annique Farrell (United Way of Greater Toronto)
* Michele Lupa (Mothercraft)
* Sarah Jimenez (Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network)
* Lee Soda (Agincourt Community Services Association)
* Danielle Layman-Pleet (Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services)
* Jennifer Miles (Catholic Children’s Aid Society)
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**Staff Support:** Kelley Baldwin (Children’s Services)

**Observers/Guests:** Matt Hilder (Toronto Children's Services), Glory Ressler (Toronto Children's Services), Aly Velji (Toronto Public Library)

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| **Agenda Topic & Lead** | **Action** |
| 1. **Welcome & Introductions** (Lead: Kevin Pal)
* Welcomed TCFN members
* Land acknowledgement

Review purpose of today's meeting* Continue the conversation from September and provide space to coordinate, create a shared understanding of relevant data from Raising the Village and Toronto Public Health, and move forward on TCFN theory of change work
* Start the conversation on confronting anti-Black racism at TCFN and hold an initial discussion on how TCFN can move forward on this work in a meaningful and good way

Agenda and minutes approval* Ask if anyone wants to add anything to the agenda
* Approve the agenda
* Approve minutes with change of name to Lumenus
 | Agenda approvedChange September minutes from Adventure Place to Lumenus |
| **2. Check in with TCFN members** (Lead: Kevin Pal) * Purpose is to ask TCFN members to discuss for their sector things we should know, highlights, and opportunities to reach out and collaborate

Updates * **Lumenus** – newly amalgamated organization offering broad scope of services, including autism, development services, mental health services and community based services; with COVID-19 return to on-site work and face-to-face service delivery for some programs such as day treatment, autism and intensive services as well as limited counselling services for those who can't access remotely; working through EarlyON outdoor programming guidelines
* **EarlyON** – release of guidelines for restart outdoor programming for EarlyON, in planning stages
* **George Brown College** – all academic classes for School of Early Childhood online currently; child care centers reopened; field placement remains a big challenge for post-secondary, students currently allowed by MEDU to go into child care centres; adaptability of sector to managing COVID-19
* **YMCA** – 82 of 83 child care centres open; enrollment drops following an active case; went from 62% to 42% capacity and continues to drop with active cases
* **MCCSS** – regional office manages nearly $1 billion is transfer payments to various programs in the city; diversity and unpredictability of impact from COVID-19 on variety of services; congregate care and developmental services seen large impact for children and youth; learning how to respond and tackle outbreak management
* **Toronto Public Library** – low numbers of children in libraries as well; 80 branches open of 100, still not delivering in-person programming but hoping to reinstate by January 2021; bringing parent workshops on raising confident kids; homework help (Leading to Reading) program has been reinstated with existing children and volunteers in branches and piloting virtually
* **MEDU (via chat)** - Child Care and Early Years Act is currently under review (5 years). The areas being reviewed are: Flexibility and responsiveness; Qualification requirements; Administrative/regulatory burden; Health and safety; Regulations requiring clarification of intent; Technical matters; feedback due Nov 20, 2020 and info is available on the Ministry of Education website
* **Child care and EarlyON** – slow and steady reopening of the child care sector; approx. 953 open of 1000 (95%) with many vacancies; all offered spot back with time to consider; exploring reasons families not returning (work change, unemployment, virtual services for school age group); Stat Can did stats around return to work and labour (52%), in line to experience of folks in returning to work for child care (42%); large gaps of families in receipt of fee subsidy returning (approx. 30K subsidy available and 16K placed currently); looking at marketing campaign to address what child care is like now
 | **Shared Resources**TPL parent workshops: <https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/search.jsp?view=grid&Erp=25&Ntt=parents+caregivers&N=37867+37848> MEDU link to Child Care and Early Years Act (CCEYA) consultation: <https://www.ontariocanada.com/registry/showAttachment.do?postingId=34107&attachmentId=45856> **Decision**Continue to create space for updates and info sharing for TCFN members |
| **3. Raising the Village and COVID-19 data*** Tamara had been supporting Toronto Public Health on COVID-19 data dashboards, identifying impact and disparities of COVID-19 across the city

**COVID-19: Status of Cases:** <https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-latest-city-of-toronto-news/covid-19-status-of-cases-in-toronto/> * Shows daily numbers and newly reported cases, recoveries, fatalities, hospitalizations and outbreaks
* EPI Summary – gives a story of COVID-19 with new pop-ups of info on data source and importance of data points
* EPI Curve – showing that we are going into second wave, can see more sporadic cases (not related to outbreak) than outbreak cases right now than first wave, linked to increase in testing
* Who is getting sick from COVID-19 – seeing more younger people (20-29 greatest proportion of people testing positive), also shows changes over time
	+ Have not seen since reopening of schools a dramatic increase in children getting COVID-19, which tells an interesting story
* Severity of COVID-19 cases – 8.8% hospitalized, 5% fatal, 1.2% intubated
* Neighbourhood Cases and Rates – map showing the number of cases in neighbourhoods in Toronto, can look at outbreak and sporadic cases, can look at all cases or most recent three weeks, looking at the case rate gives better sense of how concentrated COVID positivity is in that neighbourhood, can see NW Toronto can cluster of neighbourhood with high rates
* Testing Data by Neighbourhood – suppression if less than five people tested positive in a week, gives a sense of range of testing positivity in neighbourhoods, testing rates highest in the downtown core
* Monitoring Dashboard – testing positivity in Toronto is at 4.6%, bed occupancy and PPE supply is good
* Ethno-Racial Group, Income, and Infection – looks at the disaggregated data of COVID-19 and can monitor inequity proportions of racialized people getting COVID, show percent of COVID cases and percent of Toronto population in bar chart, for instance disproportionate impact on South Asian or Indo-Caribbean as well as Black people compared to White people; same story of inequity plays out with income with lower income folk disproportionately impacted by COVID-19
* Can download the data and technical notes

Raising the Village * [Child and Family Inequity Score](https://raisingthevillage.ca/child-family-inequities-score/) – socio-economic index created with census data, similar inequities on child and family score and COVID-19 score, some correlation happening there
* [Active Transportation to School](Active%20transport%3A%20https%3A/raisingthevillage.ca/indicators/#active-transportation-to-school) – collected prior to COVID-19 but interesting indicator to see how children getting to school and associated risk factor of spread of COVID, see that Black students are more likely to take public transportation to school than Southeast Asian or White students, and White students more likely to bike or walk to school, look at map and see it is reflective of neighbourhoods with lowest cases (not causation, just interesting to look at during COVID times)
* [Difficulty Finishing Homework at Home](https://raisingthevillage.ca/indicators/#difficulty-finishing-homework-at-home) – looks at the barriers to why students have difficulty finishing homework (access to Wi-Fi or computer device) and impact on online learning; 89% said that they rarely or never don't have access to computers or 92% said that access to internet is not a barrier to finishing homework; but demographics show stark inequities with 33% of Indigenous students all the time or often have difficulty finished homework because they don't have access to a computer at home; also see inequity for parent's SES

Discussion around what we know and how we are using the data to make service delivery decisions* Toronto Children's Services – used data to allocate federal Safe Restart Funding for child care programs and EarlyON, took a universal approach and then targeted approach to support programs in neighbourhoods where families are experiencing high rates of COVID-19 (more PPE needed, anxiety around returning to child care, etc)
* TCDSB – board used data to be responsive to communities with higher rates of COVID-19 data with smaller class sizes and directed funding
* TPL (in chat) - At TPL, just starting to use this data to plan services. We take a universal approach as well, and then target many service to Neighbourhood Improvement Areas, but we are planning to use the RTV data as part of our review in 2021 in assessing where we offer Leading to Reading (our homework help program)
* TDSB – used hot spot data initially when looking at reopening schools to look at ratios for class sizes, also looking at trends for virtual school; also using data to plan for EarlyON service delivery for outdoor programming, and where it is needed and where they might be larger uptake; also seeing trend in families opting into virtual classes if an outbreak occurs
* Surrey Place (in chat) - We have used the data to confirm that we are targeting areas experiencing inequities and doing specific outreach to support access
* Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Toronto – question on map of where TDSB students have opted into virtual programming; using the data to pivot homework help from a mentorship perspective; continue to have demand for mentoring services during COVID with demand increasing by 45%, challenge of needing placement students, especially for high needs children where placement students are used as mentors, using RTV data to amplify the case for mentoring services and homework support for 7-11 year olds; unique look into the home, struggling to complete homework and helping pivot with homework help support and caring adult in life; stepped up to facilitate the online learning
 | **Shared resources**Toronto Public Health COVID-19: Status of Cases<https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-latest-city-of-toronto-news/covid-19-status-of-cases-in-toronto/> Raising the Village Child and Family Inequities Score <https://raisingthevillage.ca/child-family-inequities-score/> Raising the Village Active Transportation to School: Active transport: <https://raisingthevillage.ca/indicators/#active-transportation-to-school> Raising the Village Difficulty Finishing Homework <https://raisingthevillage.ca/indicators/#difficulty-finishing-homework-at-home>  |
| **4. TCFN Theory of Change update*** Overview/background on the TCFN grant to have collective impact coach to think through intended impact statement and theory of change – convened a network development team to develop intended impact statement and theory of change review by advisories and steering committee
* Went over the feedback received for the Theory of Change on former version in January from TCFN steering committee
* Walked through changes made and new Theory of Change
* Child and family well-being in the centre, Data and Reporting top half with understanding child and family needs through listening and learning, building relationships, and taking an evidence-based approach -> bottom half of Mobilizing for Action with systems responding to needs through service and programs responding to needs
* Theory of Change to action and aligning to the working tables and current TCFN strategic goals and moving towards intended impact
* Aligning with the Equity Framework and intentional practices

Discussion* Invited to continue to provide feedback via email to Kelley.Baldwin@toronto.ca
* Received consensus on moving forward in the coaching and grant process to continue work on theory of change and moving forward with action plan
* Ideas on how we can take the structure of TCFN theory of change and integrate into the member TCFN organization's work and strategies to embed further

  | **Decision**Move forward in the Theory of Change work with collective impact coaching and Innoweave grant process**Next steps**Add "having evidence-based approach"Bring back the TCFN Theory of Change for discussion on impact and how to integrate/embedded into TCFN organization sector members to move towards more impact |
| **5. Key decisions required by Working Table** | **Deferred** |
| **6. Discussion regarding Confronting Anti-Black Racism and TCFN** | **Deferred to November meeting****Next steps**TCFN members think about sector responses to anti-Black racism strategies and prepare for a discussion in NovemberSend out CABR discussion ahead to give time prepared for an active discussion in November |

**2020 Meeting Schedule:**

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| Thursday, November 26 | 2 - 3:30pm | Virtual meeting |