



General Meeting

(Nokee Kwe)

(9th February 2016)

Therese Crozier (City of London – Ontario Works Office)
Kate Wypior (Fanshawe College)
Kelsey Currie (Fanshawe College)
Matthew Routliffe (Hutton House)
Amanda Burdick (Literacy Link South Central)
Sherry King (London Employment Help Centre)
Lana Winchester-Tucker (London Public Library)
Jason (Nokee Kwe)
Deb Armstrong (Nokee Kwe)
Summer Thorp (Nokee Kwe)
Paula Massiah (Nokee Kwe)
Donna Moore (Western University, Toast Masters)

Guest Speakers: Deb Armstrong, Summer Thorp, Paula Massiah, Jason Martell

Topic: Nokee Kwe Adult Education and Employment Service programs

Speaker Notes

Paula Messiah

- Job Developer at Nokee Kwe
- students often ask how do I achieve..... often the answer is networking, churches, associations, chamber of commerce, etc.
- Nokee Kwe offers free services that serve everybody (not just Aboriginal community)
 - Aim to make Nokee Kwe synonymous with jobs
- Participants are often given multiple chances to succeed
- Nokee Kwe has their own employment/training incentives
- Job Connection Program, ES Youth Program, Youth Link, these funding streams change quickly
 - New stream will be available April 1st
- Sometimes employers need only to pay 1/6th of the labour costs with these incentives
- Nokee Kwe offer WHMIS training, computer training, etc., the goal is wrap around services

Deb Armstrong

- Nokee Kwe has colocated LBS and ES services
- Flyer handed out on Employment Services offered *see *Appendix*
- They will have a specialist in on the 25th February re: the AODA, Employment Legislation updates etc., for businesses who are unsure if they are compliant
- Discussed the advantages of colocation – idea is to have seamless transitions/integration
- Nokee Kwe works in conjunction with Fanshawe and UWO in securing funding for participants
- Den and Nokee Kwe also do a lot of work in Apprenticeship – Mrs. Armstrong previously worked for a year in the field of Apprenticeships

Summer Thorp

- Nokee Kwe Workshops – 1. Mechanics of resume writing, job applications, applying online, what information you need etc. valuable to multi-barrier clients
- MS Word, Linked In, Excel
- Workshops on finding a job, networking workshops, interviewing workshops, workshops related to personality dimensions, job retention (diversity, personal HR)
- Workshops – ‘Research Your Choice’ students looking for more training on labour market research, worktrends.ca etc., helping learners make an informed choice about their careers
- Boutique Sessions – knowing your human rights related to the hiring process / there was another workshop where a recruiter came in discussing the resumes that come across his desk – was very successful – praised by participants
- Urban Aboriginal Women program – once running will be interested in receiving referrals, mentors, advisors, participants (Aboriginal women who may be going through a life transition) – looking to launch first session in September

Jason Martell

- Introduction in Oneida language
- Discussed cultural competency and how we can use Milestones to achieve it
- Discussion of colocated programs and services
- For those who are not colocated referrals can be made to Nokee Kwe ES program
- LBS – just had 3 GED test written on Friday!
- Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework (OALCF), pros and cons
- Some in Aboriginal community were skeptical about it when it was first released, weary of government collection of data/statistics
- Milestones – 36 and 60 – incredibly proud of adaptations and inclusion of cultural competency
- Money from MTCU to host cultural workshops
- Workshops this year: moccasins, soap stone carvings, Haudenosaunee condolence canes, etc.
- There are 640 First Nations in Canada (Coast to Coast to Coast) – diverse group
 - Difficult to cover all of the bases when dealing with such diversity
- In London most Aboriginals are from the Six-Nations Haudenosaunee population
 - Also many from Ojibwa and Oneida
- Milestones – 36 – concerning artistic expression – this year Nokee Kwe ran a Wampum Belt Workshop that was very successful
 - Concerns: How do you put a mark on someone’s art? Follow up questions concerning the creative process are asked to achieve this Milestone
 - This has resulted in participants taking more pride in Milestones as they were connected to their culture
 - ex. Participants have put their Wampum/Milestone up on the wall with pride
- Nokee Kwe services are for everybody – this is in line with First Nations’ traditions
- Ken Miracle – showed two Wampum designs, learners had two options, ex. Creating a wampum that reflected one of the first peace treaties
- A big part of the process here is the process of rediscovery of culture and history for some learners
- Some participants are inspired to take these stories and history and culture out into the greater community
- What to do to accommodate cultural studies in between these workshops? – Milestones and targeted culturally appropriate lessons (LBS and language studies)
- Connection between language and culture – not all verbs have objects in English language, in Oneida every verb has a subject and an object, the object often referred to in Oneida is the creator, ex. they have pronouns for the relationships between subjects and objects
 - ex. ‘Work’ – I ‘work’ for Nokee Kwe – in the original Oneida conception of ‘work’ it was something that everybody had to do on a daily basis – so the relationship with ‘work’ in Oneida is also a relationship with the creator
- Prior to colonialism people did not have surnames
- Hopes to take some funding for crafting workshops – which were a great start – but shifting some of those funds into language studies/instruction in both Oneida and Anishinaabe

- Recommended documentary: *The Eighth Fire* (CBC website, Youtube)
- In the process of proposing/creating a Three Sisters Garden, utilizing traditional blessings and planting technology, etc., shared space and techniques - attempting to create a curriculum resource to supplement this, looking to create 14 task based activities that will use this community garden, ex. Readings, mathematics, videos created, etc., goal is to publish through Ningwakwe Learning Press

Agency Updates

- Deferred until next meeting due to time constraints

Meeting adjourned (1:05pm)

Appendix

FREE

**employment services,
adult learning programs,
job search support,
& workshops
for youth and adults!**

at NOKEE KWE

104-1069 Wellington Road South (Enter off of Montgomery Road
London, ON N6E 2H6 | Tel: 519-667-7088 Website: nokeekwe.ca
Program Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm

The South London Employment Help Centre

**EMPLOYMENT
ONTARIO**

Career Directions

- » Job search assistance & support
- » Employment counselling & career planning
- » Connecting people with employers
- » Job training
- » Assistance with accessing post-secondary funding including Second Career
- » Drop-in resource center for faxing, scanning, printing, & job search
- » Apprenticeship
- » Access to job opportunities and employers not advertised on job sites
- » Drop-in assistance with resumes, cover letters, & interviews
- » Referrals to community services
- » Return to work support for OW recipients
- » Financial support for new hires for qualifying individuals

Free Workshops

- » Assessments—personality, values, skills, interests, & more
- » Resume & Cover Letters
- » Research Your Choice
- » Networking
- » Ace the Interview
- » Portfolio Management
- » Personal HR: Dealing with Difficult People
- » Diversity

Learning & Educational Programs

- » Literacy & Basic Skills Program
- » Access to secondary school credit & GED preparation and examination assistance
- » E-Learning
- » Tutoring
- » Assessment in: Literacy, Basic Skills, Numeracy, & Essential Skills
- » Support & transition to post-secondary for qualifying individuals