



## NHSP Executive – October 22, 2010

Northern Lights School Division board room, La Ronge

**Present:** Tyra Watt (co-chair, Social Services), Michelle Hewison (NSCRD), Mark Williment (NLS), Rebecca Galloway (KidsFirst North), Allan Reed (Social Services), Tony Bunz (New North), Kathy Wheaton (New North), Clarence Neault (KCDC), Rhonda Hueser (Justice), Monika Dutt (Population Health Unit), Ralph Pilz (NLS), Karen Eckhart (NHSP coordinator)

**Guests:** Luke Groenen (CPSP)

**Regrets:** Daryl Arnott (Education), Nap Gardiner (Northern Health Strategy), Toby Greschner (FNMR), Elaine Malbeuf (KYRHA), Jarrett Parker (CPSP), Vince Robillard (AHA), Ron Woytowich (Kikinahk Friendship Centre)

Thanks to Northern Lights School Division for the use of the board room. Their support of our collective work is much appreciated.

We suspended our regular agenda in favour of sharing data relating to early childhood. The data as presented on the PP presentation was collated by the Early Childhood Unit, Ministry of Education. The PP is available from Karen. It should be noted in the presentation that the NHSP data for the EDI collection reflects only Ile a la Crosse and Creighton at this time. Northern Lights School Division will be delivering the EDI survey this coming February and March. The EDI at this level is intended to assist with identifying macro needs and support community planning so that children can reach their highest potential.

General discussion followed presentation of the data. We noted that urban area have more seats in day cares, better access to day cares, and this has a huge influence on EDI domains. We need more information about what makes a difference.

Can we determine a community cost of living? Does FNMR still tabulate these costs?

**Action:** Karen will check with Toby and relay information back to group.

We believe the data shows us that more front-end investment is needed, not a reactionary process. We cannot stay at status quo. Where is the leverage to get into front-end investment? We need to work / network with other ministries to change the datasets.

Additions we'd like to see on the data:

- Number / percentage of children in licensed day cares
- Numbers of children in foster care at age 5, and those with Persons of Significant Interest
- Income
- food costs
- Stats from Justice as they relate to housing – overcrowding increases recidivism and can lead to chaotic home lives for children
- Alternative measures numbers for people under age 12

One of the priorities on our workplan is the Early Childhood Coalition as a hub for initiatives related to early childhood. We anticipate they will be able to further analyze what is happening across northern SK. It is our role to support and build that Coalition, and recommend that the Coalition see this data.

**Action:** Karen to talk with Coalition members November 1 to determine date to present data.

**Next meeting:** December 3, 9 am – Northern Lights School Division board room  
The meeting will focus on the mechanics of the NHSP – meeting timing, working committees, etc.