



Meeting Minutes - Canadian Community Mental Health Network

DATE: MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023

TIME: 12:30 P.M. ET

LOCATION: TEAMS

ATTENDEES:

- Martin Boucher
- Ken Porter
- Jacqui Wasacase
- Laura Rinaldi
- Sharla Robertson
- Gary Thandi

WELCOME:

Ken Porter welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

BUSINESS PLAN:

Ken Porter provided an update on the business plan, mentioning that feedback had been received and he was working on incorporating it. He noted that no major changes required a complete rewrite of the plan. He also mentioned the potential meeting with Minister Saks and the importance of having a well-prepared document.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP:

Ken discussed the potential benefits of membership, including access to resources, programs, and best practices. He emphasized the importance of creating a strong membership base and mentioned ongoing outreach efforts to identify potential members.

MEMBERSHIP:

The discussion focused on the ideal Canadian Community Mental Health Network (CCMHN) members. It was agreed that mental health organizations providing services in the community, without being affiliated with a national body, would be suitable members. The importance of lived experience and the grassroots nature of the organizations were also acknowledged as beneficial factors but not mandatory for membership.

OUTREACH:

Ken emphasized the need for membership outreach and the importance of sharing information about potential members who meet the network's core mandate. He mentioned ongoing efforts to create a list of interested individuals and organizations before finalizing the membership process.



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MANDATE:

The mandate of CCMHN was discussed, with an emphasis on mental wellness and mental health. The inclusion of substance use organizations within the network was also addressed, recognizing the complexity and varying opinions surrounding this issue. It was agreed that collaboration with substance use organizations would be important, with careful consideration of their expertise.

MEMBERSHIP TIERS:

The idea of different membership tiers was raised, with a sliding scale of fees based on the organization's budget. It was suggested that academic institutions and researchers could be included as affiliate members. The discussion also addressed the inclusion of substance use disorder organizations and their potential membership fees based on the same sliding scale as other organizations.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU):

Ken introduced the concept of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to outline the network's expectations and requirements for partner members. He shared a draft of the MOU and requested feedback from the committee members.

COMMUNICATION:

The importance of effective communication within the network was emphasized. The discussion highlighted the need to establish a reliable communication channel for members to stay connected and informed about network updates and initiatives.

LAUNCH OF CCMHN:

The launch of CCMHN was briefly mentioned, with the committee members acknowledging the progress made in developing the business plan, membership criteria, and communication channels.

CCMHN WEBSITE - RESOURCE HUB:

We shared the CCMHN website and gave a brief overview of its features. The website serves as a platform for sharing resources, information about the network, mental health related news, and upcoming events. The committee members were encouraged to explore the website and provide any suggestions for improvement.

POLITICAL UPDATE:

Impact provided a political update, highlighting recent activities and engagements related to mental health. They mentioned the involvement of various organizations and the election of an indigenous premier, emphasizing the potential positive impact of the election results.

NEXT STEPS:

The next steps towards establishing CCMHN were discussed, including finalizing the membership proposal, reviewing and incorporating feedback on the MOU, and updating the structure and communication protocols document based on the discussions.



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ADDITIONAL MEETINGS:

The frequency of future meetings was discussed, with the consensus being monthly meetings rather than biweekly. The scheduling of the meetings was discussed, with a decision made to hold them on the third Monday of each month at 12:30 P.M.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

The floor was open for any additional discussion, and participants had the opportunity to ask questions or provide further feedback.

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, November 20th, 2023

12:30 p.m. E.T.

Link [here](#)