

MB4Youth Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 12, 2007

Council Members in attendance: Michael Alty, Danelle Chaput, Amber Darling, Laura Duffield, Jean Gaultier, Vanessa Kozak, Victor Le, Courtney Schwegel and Gladys Yeung

1. Overview of day

- Veronica Dyck, Executive Director, MB4Youth Division discussed the role and importance of the Advisory Council in making connections between youth and government.
- Council members identified the reasons why being part of the council was important to them and what they expect from their experience.

2. Cultural Awareness Presentation – Labour and Immigration

- Ximena Munoz and Erick Pay from the Department of Labour and Immigration spoke about Newcomer Youth Settlement in Manitoba. The presentation identified 60% of newcomers to Manitoba as being between 0 and 29 years of age. The majority of newcomers are moving to Winkler, Steinbach and Morden. The majority of newcomers are moving from the Philippines, Germany and India.
- Two areas of focus were identified for the department of Labour and Immigration as being employment and centralized orientation for newcomers.
- Council discussed the importance of council members being informed about the priorities and changing demographics of Manitoba.

3. Lunch with Minister Peter Bjornson, Education, Citizenship and Youth

- Honorable Peter Bjornson spoke briefly on the importance of MB4Youth Advisory Council contributions.
- Individual members had the opportunity to introduce themselves and speak with the Minister over the lunch hour.
- Photo with Minister.

4. Council Business

- Terms of Reference were presented and details about travel and honorariums were discussed and approved.
- Importance of conference/event feedback was discussed and council members agreed that after each event, individual council members would write up or present a review/overview of the event.
- Council discussed the importance of recruitment to ensure that the MB4Youth Advisory Council remains a diverse group of youth. Council expressed an interest in traveling to schools and presenting on the importance of youth engagement and involvement.

5. Youth Citizenship Conference and Youth Town Hall

- Hugh Sigurdson from the MB4Youth Division presented an overview of the event with council members and highlighted their role as facilitators and recorders for the two-days.
- Council members had the opportunity to work through the sessions and ask questions.

6. Facilitator Presentation

- In preparation for the Youth Citizenship Conference and Youth Town Hall Meeting with Ministers, council members had facilitator training that focused on the role of the facilitator and facilitation troubleshooting. The Advisory Council focused on problems such as silence, conflict, conversation dominance and agenda hi-jacking.
- The Advisory Council also identified icebreakers that could be used at the event.

7. Closing Remarks

- Vanessa Kozak presented on the Global Young Leaders Conference.
- Michael Alty was elected as council chair for the 2007/08 MB4Youth Advisory Council.
- Next meeting is a teleconference meeting in December 2007.