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**CCDI PROVINCIAL MEETING**  
**Minutes - March 1, 2019**

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**1. Approval of Agenda**

- Approved by Trina Budd; Seconded by Nicholas Triantafillou.

**2. Approval of Minutes dated November 23, 2018**

- Approved by Andrea Finkelstein ; seconded by Bev Dynes

**3. Updates/Reports**

a) ***Treasurer's Report –Carla Gray***

- We are in good standing.

b) ***Heads of Student Services (HOSA) Report – Carla Grey on behalf of Neil Buddel, HOSA***

- Neil Buddel, our HOSA representative was attending the HOSA meeting today and was unavailable to report. He is currently advocating for CCDI on our position paper which was sent to HOSA in 2016 on UDL.
- [CCVPS Conference](#) has been scheduled for May 13-15, 2019. There has been a call for proposals sent out which ends today.

c) ***BSWD Update -Anik Powell, Senior Policy Advisor, Student Financial Assistance Branch, MTCU Disability Verification Forms (DVF)***

- Anik advised they are still waiting on the federal budget to be confirmed. They are still looking at issues around the disability verification form, the flow of information, and how to simplify things. They are still receiving complaints from students and are looking at a number of options.
- Anik confirmed the forms are currently being reviewed. They are still having conversations around having the financial forms similar to the information that the accessibility offices use so it is one form. He confirmed that there are two versions on the forms and institutions may use either form.
- Anik advised the intention was that the Financial Aid Offices should have access to information to documents across college but this did not work. He was not sure what the status was but he will follow-up.
- Anik confirmed that the amount of time for processing OSAP is four – six weeks from the time they hit “submit”. If a student submitted on September 5, they will probably wait a while. Institutions are struggling right now and some cannot hire more people. If students can apply early, their documentation is processed early.

***BSWD***

- There was concern expressed with the BSWD manual getting three different versions a year and as a consultant it is challenging when the process changes in the middle of the academic year. Anik advised they are trying to do an earlier launch in June/July/August. Then mid- year updates depending on the federal government.
- Anik advised there is no direction to changing plans to exempt computers from BSWD eligibility. There has been a change to OSAP for computer funding in which a \$500.00 computer allowance in year one of their program, but if students take multiple year *one* programs, they will only receive funds once every 4 years.

- Anik confirmed he could not provide an update on changes to the BSWD manual regarding MID, but it is on the list to review.
- *Repayment Assistance* – Anik confirmed there is a process in place for students who have to take time off school for medical reasons and cannot pay back their OSAP. He advised they would have to apply and self-identify. About 35% of students will access this. They apply online. Their eligibility is based on their budget, income, family size, prolonged medical issues, permanent disability etc. There is also an appeal's process in place.
- *BSWD Funding* – it was suggested that maybe the funding should be given to the institutions instead of the student and have the institutions could ensure paperwork is complete. Colleges could provide a summary. Although this was an interesting idea there is an impact on institutions in that he has found that the institution will write the check where the Ministry will not. It has been discussed before.
- Some members felt the spirit of the BSWD is being washed over in the mountain of paperwork the students and counsellors have to complete.

#### *Financial Aid*

- *Justifying Resources* – We are now seeing a trend in applications being rejected and financial aid officers are asking for more documentation. There seems to be an increase in the need for rational – anything that deviates massage, physio, therapy. Anik some cases are very clear ie assaulted on campus – a student would need therapy. Another student may present with generalized anxiety because they live in Toronto and go to University. This would be a gray area.
- Another example was a counsellor met with a student who needed two monitors. It was justified by the Adaptive Technologist but was questioned at Financial Aid Office as it was not specifically identified on the DVF. Anik advised the DVF was intended for DSO to ensure students have what they need. Anik advised we do have a document that has roles and responsibilities and they may need to clarify.
- Anik advised the intention of the grant is to provide students assistance

#### *Resources*

- Carla Grey is the representative for colleges and part of the BSWD working group and if there are any concerns, to please send her an email.
- Anik also advised if responses from MTCU are not satisfactory to please escalate them and email him. Next steps are basically awaiting federal budget. They will be putting together the draft copy of the manual.

d) ***Disability Accommodation Process with Colleges of Nurses of Ontario (CNO)*** – Kristopher Librera, Entry to Practice Intake Coordinator, Rebecca Chakraborty, Entry to Practice Intake Assessor, Jing Ren, Entry to Practice Intake Assessor and Donna Rawlin, Education Consultant (*See Attached*)

- There was discussion around restrictions on a particular setting in nursing ie someone in a wheelchair; but could work in long term care. Kristopher advised they have to ensure the student is fit and safe, student is competent; they cannot restrict practice setting. They cannot come back to complete the same credential to address something that is still a gap once they graduate. Many go to another province or the states. Alternate accommodations – will provide a reader, scribe.
- Members are seeing more sight impaired students; deaf/mute applicants who requires an ASL interpreter at all times;
- Kristopher advised he is open if we have questions.
- George Brown has a work integrated learning project around nursing to educate faculty what accommodations look like in placement. She mentioned a book....<https://www.springerpub.com/the-guide-to-assisting-students-with-disabilities-9780826123749.html>

- *Physical Limitations* – Ensure the employer is aware of any limitations. Employers, schools, college all have a duty to accommodate and if employers are saying no, they are not holding up the Human Rights requirements.
- *Mental Health* – There was discussion around student’s mental health and suicide. From an administrative procedure if red flags go up you need to have some communication with the placement area to ensure there are safety guards in place.

e) ***David C. Onley Initiative Update*** - Julie Caldwell, Assistant Director, Program Operations and Tara Connolly Assistant Director, Research & Development (*See Attached*)

f) ***CCDI College Updates*** – CCDI College Representatives – (See Attached)

**g) *Other***

- *PD for 2019-2020* - PD survey was sent out February 28, 2019 asking members what they would like to see with regards to PD.
- *Strategic Goals* – Members were asked to think about what goals they would like CCDI to focus on for the 2019-2020.
- *Award nominations* – We will do our awards in November 2019.