SCDSN Board meeting minutes
November 4, 2025

Virtual - Teams

Present:

Marnie McDermott (Chair)	CLH Developmental Support Services
Himanshu Shah (Treasurer)	Canopy
Sherry Novak (Secretary)	Brantwood Community Services
Joel McCartney	CTRC
Jason Young	Regional Support Associates
Paul McGowan	Bethesda
Terri Hewitt	Surrey Place
Jennifer Shaw	Administrative Support

Regrets: Patricia Kyle (Vice-Chair), Tom Turner

Guests: None

Minutes

Marnie opened the meeting with quorum at 1:02 p.m. thanking everyone for attending.

1. **Approval of Agenda:**
   Marnie asked if there were any changes to the agenda, hearing none she called for a motion to approve.

   Motion: To approve the agenda as presented.
   Moved/Seconded: Sherry/Paul
   CARRIED

2. **Approval of Minutes from September 8th and 9th 2025**
   Marnie asked if there were any changes/corrections to the meeting. Hearing none she called for a motion to approve.

   Motion: To approve the Board meeting minutes as presented
   Moved/Seconded: Himanshu/Jason
   CARRIED

3. **Business Arising**
   SCDSN Proposal for DD ALC upskilling Oct 2025
   Marnie talked about the work done to submit the proposal to MCCSS and the scope of the project, noting it has two phases and will address not only the initial training needed but also on-going Communities of Practice and clinical support clinic to ensure ongoing support.

Marnie said that the proposal was endorsed by the Board Executive and has been reviewed by MCCSS; Marnie has been told that the proposal is approved in principle, but final approval is currently on hold.
Marnie said that she will be presenting information on the proposal at the upcoming OADD conference (November 12th & 13th) to general interest and awareness and has received endorsement from Lilit and Kyrel to do this. Marnie noted she shared her slide deck (a mixture of Sherry's "who we are" slides from the AGM and new slides about the proposal) with Lilit and incorporated some additions from Lilit.
Marnie said that when the proposal is approved there will be funds for administrative support; she said that she has spoken with OADD and they are making plans to incorporate the proposal work and the SCDSN contract. Marnie said that details will be worked out when funding is approved since timelines will likely need to be adjusted.
Jason suggested that the success of this project would increase awareness of SCDSN and it's work in the sector and may even lead to additional projects.

4. **Items**

   a. **Financial Updates**

   Interim Treasurer's Report
   Himanshu said the September 30th treasurer's report was distributed with the agenda. He reviewed the information in the report noting things are trending well and the investment is increasing over time.

   Motion: To approve the financial statements as presented
   Moved/Seconded: Himanshu/Marnie
   CARRIED

   b. **Provincial Network Update**
   Marnie said she attended the PN meeting last week, she noted the following from the meeting:
   - There is a call out for registration for the Micro & Nano credentials (last of the series)
   - There are 30 spaces for people interested in leadership training
   - The "Level-up" event will be happening again and the PN will have a table at the event
   - The PN is launching a succession planning tool kit.
   - #waiting to belong is messaging the number of people waiting for services and promoting a request for a 3% increase in base funding for agencies
   - MCCSS messages:
     a. Rob Balantine is responsible for the labour file and spoke about the labour situation and contingency planning.
     b. Agencies are requested to contact their Program Supervisors to keep them advised operation elements affected by the labour situation
     c. Amy Olmstead talked about the work of the technical table saying that they want to design a needs-based funding model

based on SISA scores. Amy said that the table is only giving advice at this point and there will be more information to come

d. MYSLP are still focused on the TAY and CNS cohorts

Marnie said that there was discussion at the meeting following the MCCSS update about how the labour situation today differs from that of 2007 (last major labour action). She also said that Rob had said the ministry will support agencies but had no specific dollars or suggestions on how to do that.
Marnie said that in response to the information about the MYSLP there had been discussion about people in crisis and that Lexi Deece-Cassidy talked about data to understand the issues faced by regional service tables when supporting people in crisis or on urgent response.

c. **Finance committee**
Himanshu said there is no report as the committee hasn't met since the last Board meeting.

d. **Conference Committee – 2026 Planning**
Marnie said that the committee had met and confirmed that the date of the event is March 24th at Caesar's Windsor (same location as last year).
Marnie said that the theme for the conference is: ***Clinical Innovations for Inclusion: Shaping the Future of Specialized Supports.*** She said that the streams will be:

- Dual Diagnosis (understand the clinical needs of persons)
- Alternate Level of Care (pathways to the community)
- Accessibility & Inclusion (the intersection of accessibility and inclusion)
- Justice (Supporting persons with justice involvement)

Marnie also said that she has asked the committee members to attend the conference, arriving the night before, to help get things set up and stuff the bags for participants.
Marnie said the call for abstracts for the March SCDSN conference has been sent out and one abstract has been submitted so far. She said the deadline for submission is November 21st.
Marnie said that the registration for the event will open November 17th and be separate from OADD registration to help increase awareness.

e. **Operations & Communications Committee**
Sherry said the committee met in September. She noted that the committee members came from varied backgrounds and perspectives and that most of the meeting had been about understanding the Board's definition of the role of SCDSN. She said the committee members are ready to work but not sure of the direction they should take.
Sherry said that several good ideas had come out of the meeting including creating a tiered structure of presentations targeting specific audiences and sharing those with members. She said another suggestion had been a "one-line" explanation of what SCDSN does that can be easily used by members (see below)

The Specialized Clinical DS Network provides networking and advocacy for Specialized Clinical supports for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
We do this by:

- *hosting an annual conference with presentations on clinical support needs for persons with IDD*
- *cross-sector representation on inter-provincial and inter-ministerial committees and associations*
- *provincial networking and advocacy on clinical supports for persons with IDD*

Sherry said she will be looking to set another committee meeting for the end of November and start work on the targeted presentations.

f. Membership Committee
Paul said that the group is scheduled to meet this Thursday.

g. **Members' open discussion**
There was no further discussion.

5. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting
Moved/Seconded: Paul/Sherry
CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.

January 6, 2026 – 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Virtual

Minutes recorded by Administrative Support person, Jennifer Shaw