



2015 Meetings:

Thursday 12 March 3:30-5:00 Wu Chopperen
Thursday 9 April 10:30-12:00 Relationships Australia
Thursday 14 May Forum *Play for Life* 3:30-9:00 James Cook University B1.O31
Thursday 11 June 3:30-5:00 Wu Chopperen

Thursday 12 February

Facilitator: Moniek de Kievith

Notetaker: Annabel Daunt Watney

Attendance: Reesa Sorin, Moniek de Kievith, Brigitte Strivens, Annabel Daunt Watney, Lynne Smith, Irene Goodrich, Sharon Holden, Jamie Storch, Naomi Porter, Ben Walker

Apologies: Donna McCulloch, Chris McGibbon, Andrew McLean, Damien Knight

Meeting began at: 6.30pm and concluded at: 8.00pm

Item	Topic/Presenter	Discussion	Action
1	Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moniek welcomed participants to the meeting and gave an overview of FNECN as being for those interested in early childhood. FNECN aims to promote community awareness of the importance of early childhood and to 	

	Business arising from last meeting	<p>arrange workshops and presentations of interest to members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings are scheduled monthly and this year meetings will rotate around various venues at different times to support attendance by members. See the schedule of meetings to June above. 	
2	<p>FNECN REPORT Network - Reesa</p> <p>Website & FaceBook Update - Andrew</p> <p>Finances - Annabel</p> <p>Speakers and Forums</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion followed regarding possible presentations for the Forum on 14 May. • Jane Bourne, CEO Gowrie Qld, Irene Goodrich and Ben Walker, both working with DETE Qld, have agreed to make presentations. Naomi Porter indicated she would be involved in a parent discussion panel which Reesa will facilitate. Jamie Storch will present on "Mind Up" a program for children being implemented at his service. Sharon Holden will investigate opportunities for a presentation on IT. Annabel to follow up on Reesa's contact with Gabriel Sinclair, Deputy Director-General in DETE Qld. • Discussion followed about how to advertise the Forum in the community and suggestions included advertising in local parenting magazines, Q Kindy a DETE publication and Sharon offered to create posters. • The current balance in the Bendigo Bank account is approximately \$950 • See above 	

3	<p>Overview of Events and Partner updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brigitte gave an overview of the change of structure for Playgroup Qld. Upcoming activities include National Playgroup Week and locally this will be celebrated on Wednesday 25 MARCH, with morning activities at the Tanks Centre. Anyone interested in volunteering to help please contact Brigitte. <p>Playgroup Qld is a strategic partner in the Cairns Children's Festival on Sunday 10 May also at the Tanks Centre. A range of activities will be available for children and families including Planet Playgroup, a tank set up for reading and familiar activities for children and The Galaxy Tank, an adventurous sensory experience. The Taipans and Young Drama Company will be involved in these. Playgroup Qld currently has a number of partners for the event including Wu Chopperen and the Cairns Early Years Centre and is looking for further contributors to be involved. Please contact Brigitte at Playgroup Qld if you or your organization is interested in being involved in any way.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Benevolent Society and Mission Australia are organising an Early Years Conference on 10 & 11 September. Anyone interested in making a presentation or conducting a workshop should contact Damien Knight at The Cairns Early Years Centre with an abstract of the presentation. Volunteers are being sought to assist in planning and running events throughout the conference. Please contact Damien if you are able to 	
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		<p>volunteer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECTA is conducting a meet & greet session at Bayview Heights Kindergarten from 10-11.30 on 28 February. Everyone is welcome to attend. • Families as First Teachers (FAFT) DETE Consultant Ben Walker gave an overview of the program. At present there are 24 sites in FNQ and Central Queensland where the program operates. The focus is on pre-literacy, pre-numeracy and language development and resources are made at each program site with the children to take and use at home. Parent engagement in the early years of their children's development is the major aim of the program. Ben is finalising articles on the FAFT program for inclusion in a number of early childhood publications including ECA's <i>The Voice</i> and <i>Australasian Journal of Early Childhood</i> as well as Gowrie's publication. 	
4	Q&A	N/A	
5	New Business	N/A	
6	Topic of the Month	Workshop presented by Reesa Sorin "Discover Your Inner Artist."	
7	Next meeting: 3.30-5.00 Thursday 12 March at Wu Chopperen		