

Regular Meeting of the Management Committee of UWSA Day Care

Minutes for October 9, 2025

In attendance:

Ioulia Berdnikova-Executive Director

Kim Bhathal Chair/parent

Brandon Damel-member/parents

Vanessa Wiedman-member/parents

Sanoji Wijenayake-member/parents

Andrei Hillonov-member/parents

Aleecia Doyle-member/parents

Robyn Liddle-member/parents

Debbie Froese-member/parents

Nadine Vroom-member/parents

Omega Budhathoki-UWSA Vice President External Affairs

Ted Turner- UWSA Special Project manager

Sheri-Lynn Skwarchuk- professor, Faculty of Education

Yejin Lee- UWSA staff

Regrets:

Justin Friesen – member, vice chair

Matthew Busilla – member / parent

Nathan Laser – member / parent

Chelsea Drane – member / parent

Joshua Hofmeister – member / parent

Marcela Castro – member / parent

1- Start Meeting

1. Meeting called to order at 4:35PM by Chair – Kim B.

2- Agenda and Minutes Approval

1. September 11 ,2025 Agenda approved by Vanessa W and Sanoji W

2. June 26 ,2025 Minutes approved by Vanessa W and Andrei H

3- Reports

1. Daycare's Director report – please find attached.
2. Financial Update – Motion to accept Brandon D, Aleecia D, and Nadine V

4- New Business

1. **Daily outdoor play guideline-** Ioulia B asked everyone to look at our new outdoor play guidelines in policy handbook.
2. **Parents handbook review**– Ioulia B asked to review our policy handbook and let Ioulia B know if we need to add anything or make any changes to it.

Ted T also talked about the enrollment policy. We are going to sit down together with UWSA and talk about the enrollment policy. This is meant to be a collaborative effort and there is no pressure or demands on the student's enrollment. This is something that needs to be sustainable and accessible.

Ted T and Ioulia B are working on getting applications together for the Winnipeg Foundation Grant. Sheri S and Kim B will write a support letter detailing how important getting the security system is for us.

Peggy Gissco from Gymkids approached and asked if our children in PS 456 were interested in doing some sessions. Julianna (PS 456 group leader) is working on scheduling at the Rex Plex. Ioulia B will follow up.

5- In Camera –

6- Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

1. Next Meeting November 13, 2025 at 4:30PM
2. Adjournment: 5:45PM

Ioulia's Notes October 2025

Enrollment

- As of today, we have 144 children (100%).
- 64 spaces are allocated for the students. As of October 6, 2025 we have 60 children.

Staff update

- There are 40 staff on a payroll now. This number includes 2 ECEs on the long-term disability.
- Proportion of trained staff is 88.04%
- Maria will graduate RRC by January 2026 and Lan will graduate in spring 2026. Both will receive ECE II classification. Both are enrolled in the work place program.
- 3 ECEs are taking Developmental Studies courses.
- We had a First Aid training on September 17. 15 staff completed it.
- Staff meeting was on October 7. It will be a presentation on our Health plan and pension presented by Prosper Wealth Ltd. (our brokers)
- We are ready for our PD on October 14 (8:00 – 3:30).

Other items

- We are continuing painting the building.
- There is no update on the strobe project. Ted is talking to Kyle about the quote.
- Ted and I met with University Foundation. We will apply for Winnipeg Foundation grant to update cameras in the area.

PS 1,2,3 news presented by Arlene T.

This month PS123 has had a great “back to school” month. With welcoming many new”er” 2 year olds from the Preschool room and Infants 1/2/3 rooms. The older children welcomed all our new little friends with open arms and are showing them the ropes.

This month we re-started our weekly Rec Plex visits, as well re-started our monthly programs with Music and Movement with De, Music with Margo, Yoga with Cathy, and Guitar Gary.

We recognized Rosh Hashanah with an apple and honey activity as well as introduced a “shofar” craft with the children.

On Monday September 29th PS123 were invited to wear the colour orange in recognition of “National Day of Truth and Reconciliation” (Orange Tshirt Day).

Our friend Niibin from PS5 (a previous PS1 peer) and her mom Skylar shared a beautiful story book with the children from PS123. The book was called “With our Orange Hearts” a great book to tell the children about Phyllis’ story. (Great book for 2-3yrs)

PS 4,5,6 news presented by Julianna

During the beginning of September, we welcomed new friends into our programs. Some of our friends changed rooms and some of our new friends joined us from Room 1,2,3. We spent some time getting to know our new friends. We played name games and did some art with the children’s names.

We developed a Treaty within each of our rooms. We promised to be kind, use our words, listen to each other, be respectful to each other, and try to pick up our toys. We would work on these promises daily.

We did some apple crafts. We looked inside an apple to find the star, tasted different types of apples, and talked about different colors and names of apples.

We learned about Rosh Hasanah which is a Jewish celebration. We ate apples dipped in honey and wished everyone a good and sweet New Year. Then, our own Susan showed the children a Shofar (Rams horn), listened to the sound, and the children did a simple craft with a noise maker.

We focused on some nature crafts and changes in the season. We brought in different items from outside to show the children. We talked about some of the animals that are getting ready for winter like the squirrels who are gathering acorns. We talked about the leaves as we were outside noticing that they were changing color and falling from the trees.

During the week leading up to National Truth and Reconciliation Day, we chose activities to help the children understand the importance of this day. We talked about Orange shirt day and how it is a symbol. We also talked about how “Every Child Matters”. We used some beads in a craft activity. Some of the children created drumsticks that we used when Ogimaa’s’ Father Cade came to visit us. He led the children in some drumming and singing. He taught the children a song. He showed the children a traditional hand drum, a rattle made from moose hide, and a whistle made from an eagle leg. As a center we will be wearing Orange shirts on Monday, September

29th, to show a unified step towards reconciliation and building stronger relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. We also attached new orange ribbons on the fence and around our playground to show our support. We enjoyed the traditional taste and flavor of Bannock and homemade saskatoon jam with the children. Yum!

Outdoor activities are a big part of our program. Please check the weather each morning and ensure that your child has the proper clothes for the day. We go outside on a daily basis for over an hour. Warm clothes suggestions are - Jacket and sweater, running shoes (not croc/sandals) and boots if it is wet, hat, mittens, and splash pants. Some of the children are telling us that they are cold.

Infants and Toddlers news presented by Yeojin L.

It's been a wonderful month, full of learning and exploration for our infant and toddler rooms!

Some highlights from our infant room program were about being appreciative of all of our community workers. Our infant room baked muffins for our daycare cleaners that work hard to make sure that our daycare is clean and tidy! The children also made thank you posters for the mail carriers and fire fighters! They were so happy and really appreciated the posters that we made for them.

Pajama day was another big highlight for our infant and toddler room! The children and staff all came to daycare in their comfy and cozy pajamas. We did a special activity called "Shadow play". The children were so excited to use and experiment with flashlights to see how lights moved. They were amazed at all the colorful lights. We sang songs and explored and experimented with shadows in a fun and playful way.

We talked about the medicine wheel for our Indigenous Education. Our children created their own medicine wheels by applying glue in the shape of a circle on some paper and then sticking coloured tissue paper onto the circle. The children also created their own orange shirts for National day for Truth and Reconciliation. Everyone got an outline of a t-shirt and then put their handprints on the shirts. This activity honors the healing journey of continued reconciliation.

We are excited to see what autumn will bring for us!

Pre-school room presented by Yeojin L.

It has been a wonderful month filled with learning and exploration for our preschool room. We have some new faces in our preschool room that we are extra happy to build new friendships with. The children learned about our families and all of the community helpers around us, like gardeners, firefighters, dentists, bakers, and scientists.

The children had so much fun baking Bannock. They helped with the measuring, mixing, kneading and shaping of the dough. They were all so very cute dressed up in their little chef's hats and aprons. The children got to enjoy the Bannock, it was delish!

The magic milk science experiment was so much fun! The children explored how colors moved and swirled around on the milk's surface.

To honor National Truth and Reconciliation Day, we all wore orange shirts as a symbol of remembrance and solidarity. The children did an art activity where they colored their own shirts orange with crayons.

September was a magical month for our preschool room. We welcomed new friends, learned a lot of things, and got creative with our activities. We look forward to seeing what we will explore and learn about in October!