

## Minutes

### Cross Party Group on Poland

24<sup>th</sup> September 2014 , Scottish Parliament in The Burns Room TG.40-CR1

#### 1. Apologies & Present

Present: Jean Urquhart MSP, David Torrence MSP, John Lamont MSP, Magdalena Augustyn, John Bates, Monika Ciska, Magdalena Czarnecka, Grazyna Fremi, Tom Galbraith, Pat Glacken, Karol Gruszczynski, Violeta Ilendo, Katarzyna Jajszczok, Dobrawa Jezior, Antony Kozlowski, Ewelina Lukaszek, Anna Martowicz, Robert Merezcz, Artur Mosko, Andrew Roach, George Rubiński, Anna Ruszel, Maciej Szarek, Paulina Trevena, Kasia Uflewski-Watson, Maciej Wiczynski, Zosia Wierzbwicz-Fraser, Sylwia Zabinska-Macintyre, Joanna Zawadzka.

Apologies: Martin Stepek, Tomek Borkowy, Raymond Raszkowski-Ross.

#### 2. Welcome

Jean welcomed everyone and invited Police Scotland to speak about Missing Person- Maciej Litwa, the group agreed to disseminate information through their network of contacts.

#### 6. Reports (as applicable)

##### - Business sub group.

There was no update from business sub-group, none of the members were able to attend due to other commitments. Andrew Kozlowski suggested to add one person to business sub-group, Joanna will add his email to the contact list.

Asbiro conference will take place in Edinburgh and Aberdeen, aiming to promote Polish entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship in Scotland.

Robert Merezcz to email Joanna with more details about the event at the Church.

##### - Education sub group

Series of meetings are planned to follow up on the report prepared by Andrew Roach, Anna Martowicz and the Education-sub group. New members who haven't received a report will email Joanna to get a copy.

Ewelina Lukaszek talked about initiatives at No-Boundaries School and an unofficial visit by Michael Russell in June.

##### - Culture

Joanna updated the group about the cultural events in the next few weeks including Wojtek Trust events, Scottish Polish Cultural Association City Lights Exhibition and Polish Scottish Heritage Autumn events. Organisers of the Film Festival to email Joanna information about this event.

Polish Scottish Book Club invited everyone to join film screenings at the Scottish Arts Club, every first Thursday of the month at Scottish Arts Club.

Katarzyna Jajszczok informed the group about the possibility of promoting their work through her audition in the Kirkcaldy Community Radio and Polish Column n Kirkcaldy press every week, she also has links with a gallery and would like to promote young Polish artists.

Joanna thanked Jean for sponsoring Polish Scottish Heritage exhibition at the Parliament.

Support Sub-group was created, Sylwia Kiro Zabinska and Magdalena Czarnecka updated the group with the latest projects more information to follow.

## 7. AOB

Joanna suggested to create a newsletter with information about the projects and events, and use Edinburgh.pl website to keep all information in one place.

All members are asked to submit information about their projects and events before or shortly after the meeting. Joanna will email members after the meeting for updates.

Next meeting to be organised around issues in the Polish Community: homelessness and Human Trafficking.

Date of the next meeting TBC.