Lethbridge Indigenous Sharing Network Interagency Meeting

Wednesday July 6th, 2022

Time: 9:00am | Location: Online Teams

# In Attendance

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Cassandra Chalifoux | Jill Manning | Sara Townsend |
| Marilyn Contois | Shawn Daye-Finley | Kathryn Linder |
| Caitlin Gajdostik | Margaret Lyster | Charmaine Buckskin |
| Denille Tizzard | Janine Jackson | Janice Randhile |
| Maritza |  |  |
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|  |  |  |

# Meeting Opening

* -Land Acknowledgement by Cassandra Chalifoux
* -Prayer by Cassandra Chalifoux

# Caitlin Gajdostik-Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta

* Caitlin is from the community foundation of Lethbridge in Southwest Alberta. I'm the grants coordinator there. Because it's summer, they don't have a whole lot to update. They don't have any of their grant programs open, so if anyone's looking for funding, unfortunately they don't have anything open right now, but they're hoping to open up next month, both their community priorities and our role life grants programs.
* let her know if you guys are working on any projects or might need some funding coming into the fall and winter. If there's not something that they can provide, she'd be happy to connect you with some other funders as well.

# Charmaine Buckskin – Peak Support Services Our Space

* Charmaine Buckskin works at peak support services Our Space. Currently they have nothing planned. They're just trying to look for more resources to connect their clients with activities to do and stuff that involves like the Blackfoot culture or the Cree culture.

# Denille Tizzard-Program Manager-YWCA Harbor House

* Denille Tizzard is the program manager with the YWCA for Harbor house, which is a women's emergency shelter and Harbor house support services, which was formerly known as our outreach team. She has not update this meeting but is looking forward to working with everyone.

# Janice Randhile- Family Information Liaison - Indigenous policy and services, community justice, and integrated services division, strategies support and integrated initiatives branch

* Janice Randhile works for the Department of justice indigenous policy and services, community justice and integrated services division, strategies support and integrated initiatives branch with the family information liaison unit. They provide supports for families of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls.
* Her area of coverage is Edmonton down to Lethbridge. She has been coming down here for the past five years to help provide supports for any families that may be looking for services or resources supports that can help them through what they're going through with the loss of their loved one.
* She just enjoys connecting and being a part of this group. It helps her to know what's going on and also for other people to know what supports they provide. Generally during the summer she’ll come down on a needs basis, but she also likes to continue to do her outreach because just because of COVID and all of us not being able to do the hands on face to face stuff.
* Hopefully by August, she'll have relocated to Calgary, cuz right now she is in Edmonton. So she is working on relocating to Calgary, so that she can be closer to her families, so that she is able to provide that support and be there and at least closer to them.
* They're also part of the video that just recently went out with bear paw media, it's called Through the Storm. It’s a resource that was created for, for the families of missing and murdered indigenous peoples.

# Janine Jackson- Family Centre

* Janine is the indigenous program coordinator with family center. They actually have a few events coming up this summer. They're not running programs right now, but starting in September, they'll be running their traditional parenting program, they don't have the dates on that yet. Today they are actually doing a Tipi raising event down at Indian battle park. They were actually able to get that event full and actually have people still calling about it, but they limited it at 50 people. Then on July 21st, we have a barbecue at Pavan park coming up for indigenous families. They have to register in order to come. They're gonna have MandM meats there providing the barbecue providing food for everyone. They are gonna have Kona ice truck there providing ice for the families as well. They are asking agencies who work with indigenous peoples to come and set up a table there so they can get a lot of information out to their families.
* If you wanna set up a table you can contact Terry Young Pine, she's the one who's gonna be in charge of setting that up in her email is [terri.youngpine@famcentre.ca](mailto:terri.youngpine@famcentre.ca). They're asking that each agency only bring two people since They're providing supper for everyone, that will be July 21st at Pavan park from 5:00pm to 7:30pm.
* They'll also have Mary Ellen Little Mustache coming to do traditional games with the kids. Then on August 6th, they're doing a nature walk and talk with William singer down at Helen Schuler nature center. And that's a Saturday, that'll be from 1:00pm to 3:30pm and they will have Kona ice truck there as well again.
* They're hoping to try and plan a pool party, but they still haven't really heard back on that with the pool that they're trying to rent.
* She will send out posters.

# Jill Manning-Lethbridge Public Library-Manager of Information Services

* Jill Manning is the manager of information services at Lethbridge public library. She is leaving the update to her coworkers today.
* She is new to group and looking forward to the meeting minutes with everyone’s information.

# Margaret Lyster-

* Margaret is from the Lethbridge public library with the Read-on program they are located in the Lethbridge public library downstairs, just off the children's wing.
* They're one of about 80 community adult learning programs that are in the province. So what they do is help adults with basic skills, reading, writing, math, and they can help up to about a grade 10 level so they can help with pre GED and possibly even GED through an outreach program with Northwest college in Evington.
* They haven't been seeing a lot of people from the community lately, but they have been seeing a lot of newcomers. So people from Ukraine coming in and other places. So we've been fairly busy with that.
* They will be having a brochure coming out next month with Their fall programming in it.
* Most of their classes start in October, but they also have one on one tutoring for people that want some individual help with writing, reading or math or just updating those skills.
* Greetings from Read On Adult Literacy at the Lethbridge Public Library! We help adults with math, reading, writing and more up to about a grade 10 level. We are able to provide one-on-one tutoring will the help of volunteers from the community. I can be reached at margaret.lyster@lethlib.ca or 403-320-3133. Thank you!

# Maritza

* Maritza is from the Chinook Sexual Assault Centre. They haven't been doing a lot of activities outside, but they have been very busy at the center.Right now they have four system navigators working on crisis calls.
* One of the things they're doing is they're getting a new office space on the fifth floor. Those offices used to be for birthright while they keep looking for funding for their Youth Advocate Center and repairs are being done.
* The chinook youth advocate center is looking for a indigenous family advocate. They have been placing the ads for the job on Instagram, LinkedIN, and indeed. They had a great person in the roll, but someone stole them from them so now they are looking for another great person to fill the roll.
* Groups for peer support groups will start again in September.

# Kathryn Linder-Lethbridge Legal Guidance

* Kathryn is from Lethbridge Legal Guidance. They provide free legal advice to people of low income in the community. They also started a program back in April assisting victims of sexual assault and domestic violence that has absolutely blown up. They have been completely swamped with those kinds of calls, which is a good thing and a bad thing. It's awful to hear people have to deal with that, but the fact that they're that busy means we were right in starting the program.
* They've got a student in for the summer to help with some of the phone calls and paperwork so the rest of them can take little vacations and get away and pretend that they don't do this for a while. Not much going on for the summer, just trying to keep their heads above water and keep up with all everything. They've just gotten busier and busier, it's not a bad thing, but it's kind of sad that there's that many people in that much need.

# Marilyn Contois- Lethbridge Public Library

* Marilyn joined the meeting with Madison, she's their indigenous summer student. Madison shared the update about the Art Hive. The art hive is a weekly program that they started on June 7th. They've been running for about a month now. On Tuesday nights, they meet from 5:330pm to 7:30pm and everyone creates art together. It is basically an art club where they provide all the materials for everybody, the art supplies, and they just meet every week and create together. It's been a really great program so far. They usually get a pretty good turnout every week with them having the most people attend indigenous people's day. They did a really cool Alpache medicine bag craft. All the people that came really enjoyed it. Definitely join them on Tuesday nights if you guys are available. They will share the poster again.
* The other thing they have happening is the Our Stories Matter. And that is in partnership with voices of the land.org. It's an online digital storytelling platform based out of Edmonton public library. If you wanna know more about it, you can go to [www.voicesoftheland.org](http://www.voicesoftheland.org) This will be leading up to a round dance that They will be having tentatively. They'll be having a round dance on September 30th on national day for truth and reconciliation at the library in the theater gallery between 5:00pm and 10:00pm.They will be sending out a poster when it is ready and It'll be advertised in the happening newsletter.
* Another exciting thing they have for the fall. This is kind of just down the road is, there's a really awesome film that was done by Colin Van Loon. He lives inin BC and he created this film documentary called This is not a Ceremony and it's on a VI virtual reality device that they have. If you wanna know more, you could go to the national film board website, and there's a trailer teaser for people to view, but it's a 360 experience so all the way around you up and down. They will have that for viewing for patrons for the month of September and October and they'll have that information in the happening and on the website and likely on their social media, they have a Facebook page. It's LPL Piitoyiss Indigenous Services Team. That’s where they post a lot of the things, not only happening there, but in the community. If they see things that are happening, They share other people's posts and that's where a lot of their information will be posted as well. Colin is gonna be one of the indigenous speakers in the indigenous speakers line up for the word on the street and he will be coming to the library on September 17th, if not, if he can't make it, he will join them on zoom. They'll have six indigenous speakers, 45 minutes each. They hope everybody has the time to come and check out the film. It's geared towards non-indigenous people to try to help them understand and experience something that we all experience or our families have experienced, it brought Marilyn to tears watching it. And it takes you through a few different journeys, including Brian Sinclair, a man from Winnipeg, how he was in the hospital waiting room for almost three days and by the time they got to him, he had already passed away in his wheelchair and it was just really sad.
* This summer they were supposed to go do a Berry picking evening at the CR fruit farms, they just recently posted that on our Facebook and website. Unfortunately it has been cancelled due to the weather ruining the crops for this year. They will however, not be canceling the berry soup class yet. They may due the class with frozen berries. They will send an update on that when they have one.
* [Marilyn.contois@lethlib.ca](mailto:Marilyn.contois@lethlib.ca)
* <https://www.nfb.ca/interactive/ceremony>

# Sara Townsend

* Sarah Townsend works for Alberta labor and immigration as the indigenous partnerships coordinator. They fund organizations to run Indigenous training and Employment programs on and off reserve.
* So they do have funding available if organizations are looking to run a training to employment program.
* Grants for eligible Indigenous organizations to assist unemployed individuals with skills training and work experience - <https://www.alberta.ca/indigenous-employment-training-partnerships-program.aspx>
* Indigenous Employment Training Partnerships Program
* Grants for eligible Indigenous organizations to assist the unemployed or under-employed with skills training and work experience.

# Shawn Daye-Finley-Lethbridge Sport Council

* Shawn is the programming event coordinator at Lethbridge sport council. They are kind of involved with everything that has to do with sports. The reason Shawn is in this meeting is they have a grant, the name of pathway to participation for indigenous families. The idea is that they're trying to pave the pathway for people to get involved in sports.
* July 13th, next Wednesday they have indigenous traditional games with Mary Ellen little mustache In conjunction with the Southern Alberta summer games there will be some traditional games taught and then competed in with Mary Ellen leading the way. That'll be down at Indian battleground under the gazebo near the Helen Shuler nature center. People will be able to register through the Southern Alberta summer games website, there will be metals awarded and t-shirts through registration.
* They have a two-day lacrosse come try it event July 13th and 14th at Nicholas Sharon arena for the first day and the second day will be at the blood reserve recreation center happening next week. They're bringing in a pro lacrosse player and national lacrosse league MVP Jeff Shattler. They ran this event last year and they had 46 kids come out to try lacrosse, both indigenous and non-indigenous. they got to take part in a quality lacrosse clinic while also leaving with a lacrosse stick, some kids left with gear as well that was donated by the Calgary flame sport bank. They're looking to try and have everybody leave with at least a stick again this year so that they can play at home. The local lacrosse association will be involved as well, providing information about how kids can get involved.
* There's also one in pincher Creek and crows nest pass led by coach Chad Chief Moon, who's heading this whole project. If you have any questions Shawn will be available to answer them. They're really excited for next week’s events, right now they have over 45 participants registered for the lacrosse event.
* They have very few registered for the indigenous traditional games event on the Wednesday and that would be the one that They'd love everybody to share if possible, right away. It's a great opportunity and there's gonna be medals awarded at the end and they've never done anything like it before, so they would really like to help share the traditional games.
* <https://lethbridgesportcouncil.ca/programs/pathway>
* Pathway to Participation
* Pathway to Participation for Indigenous Families in Lethbridge is funded by the Physical Activity and Recreation Division of the Government of Alberta.
* <https://www.southernalbertasummergames.ca/cityoflethbridge>
* City of Lethbridge
* <https://lethbridgesportcouncil.ca/programs/roving-gyms>
* Roving Gyms
* Roving Gyms are free, inclusive, play spaces for children five and under and their parents or caregivers.
* Shawn@lethbridgesportcouncil.ca
* <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sikoohkotokisportconnection>
* Log into Facebook | Facebook
* Log into Facebook to start sharing and connecting with your friends, family, and people you know.

# Cassandra Chalifoux- NCSA

* Recovering from a busy June of making frybread and supporting events, but she would like to see more participation from the community and has made that her focus for now.
* She attended the Lacrosse event in the park, the Hootenanny in the park event and was called to the square by the sound of Indigenous music which turned out to be a beautiful Indigenous singer. She was disappointed with the turn out at that event as well.
* She is starting the preparation for the second annual Nikso’kowaiksi dinner. She is looking to partner with more agencies to help with the bill as well as make the event bigger and better. There are a few things that need to be addressed, like the fact that the soup kitchen only operates within a certain window and she would like to feed the people that show up late. The retention of the homeless was a lot higher then expected because of the entertainment.
* She requested that all of the organizations send in a short write up who they are and what they do as there are a lot of new people joining the meetings. She is considering a welcome package for new members.
* NCSA has a new family court worker in case anyone is in need of their services. Also just a reminder that NCSA has a free Commissioner of Oaths service. She is also working toward her Commissioner of oaths so that she can help more people in the community. The NCSA can help with filling out paperwork, filing paperwork, representing someone in court, basically all the court stuff that there is no lawyer needed for.
* There is no update at this time about the bowman building. Cassandra will follow up with Echo and Treena. The reconciliation committee cancelled the meetings in her calendar so she will find out how to attend and will let everyone know if she get an update.
* She wanted to remind everyone that she is here if you need support. If you need her to hand things out, cook food, set stuff up, whatever it is, if she has time she will help.

# Meeting Duration

**Start Time**: 8:51am **Adjourned**: 9:48am **Duration**: 57 Minutes

# Next Meeting

**Date**: August 3rd, 2022 **Time**: 9:00am **Location**: Online Teams