Lethbridge Indigenous Sharing Network Interagency Meeting

Wednesday June 1st, 2022

Time: 9:00am | Location: Online Teams

# In Attendance

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Cassandra Chalifoux | Lisa Despas | Miranda Hargreaves |
| Debbie Deak | Shawn Daye-Finley | Kathryn Linder |
| Caitlin Gajdostik | Patrick Yellow Wings | Kerby Elfring |
| Terri Young Pine | Janine Jackson | Nadine Eagle Child |
| Patricia Bruised Head | Marilyn Contois | Deborah Engen |
| Andrea Taylor |  |  |
|  |  |  |

# Meeting Opening

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

# Caitlin Gajdostik-Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta

* Pretty quiet as grant submissions are closed.
* If you have any funding needs, organization needs that you have questions about, please reach out to her. She'd be happy to help you with the federal grants application for their organization. Their current programs are closed right now until the fall, but she is always there to help if you need it.

# Debbie Deak – FASD Network

* I attended the Kainai Interagency Meeting “in person” at Standoff on May 26th; it was wonderful to once again, meet in person
* I will be meeting with a group of expectant mothers from the Piikani Nation on June 9th and am excited and humbled for this invitation
* The Network is gearing up for the September 9th “International FASD Day” Awareness and Prevention of FASD Campaign – more information will follow in July/August
* Our AGM will be held June 21st

# Lisa Despas – Service Canada

* Just wants to continue to promote their mobile outreach program, they give presentations on their various service offerings. They actually do have a presentation solely for an indigenous community group. So if anybody's interested in that, please do feel free to let her know, all of their presentations are free of charge.
* Right now they are still in the virtual world as well. They're not able to go out to present, but she suspects that's going to be coming to an end soon, but virtual still works as well.
* If you would like to come into a service Canada office, you can book your own appointment online instead of having to put in the service request. You're able to go into the service request and book an appointment.

**Eservices:** **EN:**<https://eservices.canada.ca/en/> **FR:**<https://eservices.canada.ca/fr/>

* If you need help or to book an appointment, complete the online service request at: <https://eservices.canada.ca/en/>
* **Eservice video** [Video: Discover the eServiceCanada request form - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/service-canada/video-eservicecanada-request-form.html)
* **Benefits Finder/Chercheur de prestations:**[**https://benefitsfinder.gc.ca/**](https://benefitsfinder.gc.ca/)
* **Applying for a SIN online:EN:**<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/sin/apply.html>**FR :**<https://www.canada.ca/fr/emploi-developpement-social/services/numero-assurance-sociale/demande.html>
* **My Service Canada Account:EN:**[Statistics related to the Old Age Security Program and the Canada Pension Plan - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/programs/pensions/pension.html)**FR:**[Statistiques concernant le programme de la Sécurité de la vieillesse et le Régime de pensions du Canada - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/fr/emploi-developpement-social/programmes/pensions/pension.html)
* **Despas, Lisa L [W-T] (External)**2022-05-04 10:20 a.m.
* **Helpful Contacts:**
* **General Information – 1-800-O Canada (1-800-622-6232) (EN/FR)**
* **Employment Insurance: 1-800-206-7218 (EN) / 1-800-808-6352 (FR)**
* **Employer Contact Centre – 1-800-367-5693 (EN/FR)**
* **Canada Pension Plan / Old Age Security – 1-800-277-9914 (EN) / 1-800-277-9915 (FR)**
* **Social Insurance Number – 1-866-274-6627 (EN/FR)**
* **Passport Call Centre – 1-800-567-6868 (EN/FR)**
* Contact information: Lisa Despas, Citizen Services Specialist / Mobile Outreach
* [ESDC.WT.SMLC-COLS.WT.EDSC@servicecanada.gc.ca](mailto:ESDC.WT.SMLC-COLS.WT.EDSC@servicecanada.gc.ca) or lisa.despas@servicecanada.gc.ca

# Janine Jackson- Family Centre

* All their programs are going have limited spots available.
* For the Movie in the Garden event, they need about 10 or 11 families, they only have five at the moment. If any of you have any indigenous families who would like to join that event, it is on Saturday June 18th from 5:30 to about 10:15pm. They will be cooking with the families, then they will be showing a movie around eight o'clock out in their garden. Everything is free for that event.
* On July 6th, they're doing a teepee raising in Indian battle park. They haven't advertised for that one yet, but they will be this week. They're going to have a food truck there and they're just going to have Travis Plated Hair there to teach everyone about the teepee.
* August 6th, they're going to be doing a nature walk and talk, traditional land-based teachings with William Singer down at Indian battle.
* July 21st, they're doing a big barbecue in Pavana park. So they need to recruit a bunch of families for all those events. So if you have anyone who's interested please contact her.
* Email: Janine.jackson@famcentre.ca

# Terri Young Pine- Family Centre-Indigenous Program Facilitator

* Terri is the new Indigenous program facilitator at Family Centre. She has been there for a month now and is from the blood tribe.
* She is looking forward to attending the meetings and getting to know everyone.

# Kerby Elfring-Chinook Regional Library System-Reconciliation Liaison & Conference Coordinator

* Kerby is from Chinook regional library system.
* The province public library services branch and Edmonton public library have been working on expanding their voices of a Amiskwaciy project, which is basically a virtual storytelling platform for indigenous content. It uses a platform called Murkutu. It's a specifically designed piece of software that was created in Australia specifically for indigenous content to produce a safekeeping place to store content online. You can create a community and upload your content, but it doesn't have to be available to everybody, it can be made available to the people in your community only. As well as you can manage time sensitive things. If there's a story or a telling that is not to be told in spring, it'll turn that off for that time period. It's quite in-depth and the are still learning to use it. They have launched it province-wide and they're calling it voices as a land. She'll pop a link in the chat, so you can take a look at it. If it's something that you think people might be interested in it, it is up and running and it would be neat to get some community stories up.
* <https://voicesoftheland.org>

# Marilyn Contois- Lethbridge Public Library

* Madison Singh is the indigenous summer student here at the library with Marilyn she is just getting her trained-on voices of the land and. What we're going to be doing is they will have their own community on that platform and through the Lethbridge public library.
* The name of the project is Our Stories Matter, they've dedicated 10 hours a week to capturing people's stories and archiving them into history. Say she wanted to go and sit with her grandmother and talk to her about stuff and documented it, they have a voice recorder at the library to record it on and then they just upload using the mukutu software that that's available through voices of the land. If you look at the platform itself, there's so many awesome stories that have been captured across mostly Alberta, but borders are different for indigenous communities so there will be stories that pop up from elsewhere.
* The focus is on healing, resilience, sharing stories, like, even people that didn't go to residential school. For example, Marilyn, if she was to do a story her mom went and that impacted her, but also to the resilience, what helped, the healing and the things that her family did that helped them to come out of that and how they're still coming out of that. As well as how she is just trying to move forward in a good way, being able to have a voice and share your story with people.
* Linda was starting on this project before the pandemic hit, and Marilyn got a chance to look at some of the work that she did, that she didn't get to upload yet. One of the stories was a young girl who shared her story of how she got her Blackfoot name, who gave it to her and what the name means. Prior to that she shared about how every summer she used to always get hurt but since she got her name those things stopped happening for her.
* The uploads could be a voice clip or a video. Marilyn has seen ones on the trap line with a Metis elder, they didn't have a video, but it was their voice telling the story, and when you followed along there was like black and white photographs of their story on there.
* Madison is working on the promotional material that we're going to post on Facebook and the website. Marilyn will send it to Cassandra so she share that.
* Our Stories Matter will be all throughout the summer, June, July, and August, then they're goingto ,for those that want to share publicly, upload their stories on the voices of the land on September 30th, National Truth and Reconciliation Day. If they don't want to share, that's fine, this is their story to keep for themselves and their families it'll be on a USB and they get to keep that. We're going to have, tentatively, a round dance on September 30th at the library between 5:00pm and 10:00pm. Marilyn will send out details as they come up.
* They able to travel so they're also going to be designating time to be able to go out to the reserve or wherever people are at locally, not more than a hundred kilometers. In that, and they're able to, to meet people where they're at, if they don't want to come to the library or if they want to meet somewhere else.
* Madison is starting an art hive every Tuesday evening from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at the library in the north wing, the area that we call the Eagle's nest, the victorious that's where we're going to have a art session. They have all kinds of supplies, people could use their supplies and create something or they could bring their own thing. Maybe it's beadwork, knitting, whatever they're working on, just come together as a collective, socialize, work on stuff, or get help if they need help with something.
* For Aboriginal day Marilyn sent the posters to Cassandra. They're having an evening of stick games on June 20th from 6:00pm to 10:00pm at night at the library main branch in the theater gallery. They have some kindness elders joining them to help with the songs, drumming and other things. Cassandra will be providing fry bread and Berry soup.
* June 21st there is a Storytime round dance with the Paolo dance demonstration in the children’s area.
* Saturday June 25th there is the Indigenous Cinema where they will be showing a series of short indigenous films that they received from the national film board.
* Every day of that week in the children's area from the 21st to the 25th there will be Indigenous crafts and activities. It's going to be self-managed, but she believes Madison and her are going to be helping putting that together.
* They have a virtual reality project that they're not rolling it out until August, they're just trying to work out the kinks because it's very sensitive material and they have this available at the library probably for the month of August and September. What it is is a virtual reality experience that is coming from the national film board and it was filmed locally. Parts of the film are filmed that the Paolo out into funny, and it is 360 all the way around. When you look up, when you look down it's like you're actually there when they're telling the story and the story that they've sent to us.
* Marilyn will email it to Cassandra so everyone can take a sneak peek at the trailer if they want. It's called This is not a ceremony and it's a 25 minute documentary that captures the stories of a few people. One of the guys is from the county, he talks about his foster system story, his experience growing up in the foster system and it's pretty sad. Now Patrick, from the national film board is working on a dialogue that they can tell people prior to their viewing, because for Marilyn she broke down crying, watching them. There's the other part of the story. I don't know if you guys are familiar with him, but he passed to me in the lobby of the hospital in Winnipeg, Brian Sinclair, and I guess it took the Kiva sitting there for 36 hours before they found him, he was already in rigamortus, but how it ends off is pretty amazing.
* Marilyn has reached out to Dan Fox. She knows that he works with a lot of foster families and they told him about this so he's going to come and check it out.
* [Marilyn.contois@lethlib.ca](mailto:Marilyn.contois@lethlib.ca)
* <https://www.nfb.ca/interactive/ceremony>

# Kathryn Linder-Lethbridge Legal Guidance

* At our last meeting she discussed our new victim’s representative council, that's still ongoing. It's taken off like gangbusters, they're still working the kinks out on it, but they're certainly happy to help people who are dealing with domestic violence, sexual assault, those kinds of things. They walk them through reporting to police, dealing with the trial and getting EPS. It's a new program, so they're still working on all the details on it, other than that, everything else is systems go. They met with people at the Blackfoot lodge last week and did a service presentation for them. They’re more than happy to just serve as presentations or public legal education on a variety of legal matters with some lead time and requests, they can usually set that up. Sometimes finding a volunteer is a challenge, but with this new program or their lawyer on staff for that is happy to do that kind of work. So that's kind of where we're at right now.

# Miranda Hargreaves-Chinook Sexual Assault Center

* They have a whole bunch of new staff, one new system navigator, they have a volunteer coordinator, so hopefully they can get our volunteer program up and running. Miranda is excited that their permanent counselor has now started. She is in-house and will be seeing clients that are 15 and up at the center of that have been impacted by sexual violence. Those will be 12 free sessions.
* They’re going to be at pride in the park, which is happening this month as it's pride month.
* They have a ton of printed resources right now. So if anybody wants any printed resources on things like consent, healthy relationships, their programming, their peer support groups, they have that for distribution. They also do tailored education, so if anybody wants an education, like a presentation or education to come out to their service, let them know, they're happy to bring that out as well. They can tailor that from anything to healthy relationships to boundaries, to their programs, to impacts of sexual violence, to how to support with sexual abuse.
* They also have their first responders training. Their first responders training an opportunity with AASAS, which is out of Calgary, to learn how to respond as a first responder to sexual violence. The program is a two day program running on July 12th and 13th. It is a paid program, so it is $300 right now for participants, but it gives you a whole bunch of knowledge and a whole bunch of resources from it. You get a participant book, the opportunity to learn how to respond in an appropriate way to people that are experiencing sexual violence. [Buy tickets for Association of Alberta Sexual Assault Services (AASAS) (tickettailor.com)](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.tickettailor.com%2Fevents%2Fassociationofalbertasexualassaultservices&data=05%7C01%7Ccassandra-chalifoux%40ncsa.ca%7Ce19a62299fe84a903f1808da44e7af41%7Cce254aa915c345a2a15c98778c47583c%7C1%7C1%7C637898059120125131%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C2000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=74tPj%2BKFm%2BQA6gdIzY7F90THF0J7Zd%2F1PuwnQ4WW0oQ%3D&reserved=0)
* They're still doing our Capital campaign for our child advocacy center and right now they are part of Shaw's charity classic, which is doing, a chip in for kids fundraiser right now. Where you can text to donate an automatic $10, which that is matched by Shaw charity classic and Shaw itself will match. If you donate $10, it becomes $30. You text to donate an automatic $10 and that is then matched. Everything goes towards their child advocate center and building our space. Their child advocacy centers still taking on cases and still moving forwards with referrals while waiting for the centre to be build.
* Text KIDS082  to #30333 automatic $10 donation
* They have partners within the blood tribe, Lethbridge Police, RCMP and children's services out on the reserve as well and here. All referrals come from the partners and our advocacy centre supports with cases that are going through the system and kids that are experiencing child abuse, neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and supporting the children and their families and the non-offending parent through the system. But of course they need their physical space, so any donation is a great donation and right now with it being matched with that $20 to every $10 is fantastic.
* They're running open at the center, referrals can be made by giving them a call and that's for anybody, any age, any gender that's experiencing sexual violence or people that are supporters of sexual violence survivors. Feel free to reach out to them and send an email if you are interested in any of the information packages.
* Referral Number: (403) 694-1094
* Email for printed resources: [miranda@csacleth.ca](mailto:miranda@csacleth.ca)

# Nadine Eagle Child-First Nation Health Consortium-Regional Service Coordinator

* She is the new regional service coordinator with the first nations health consortium. She has just started in her role and does not have updates at this time. She just wanted to introduce herself and see what's happening in the community.

# Patrick Yellow Wings- Opokaasin- Family Preservation Supervisor

* Patrick previously worked with Cassandra at Native Counseling Services as their Family Court counselor. He has transitioned to the role as Family Preservation supervisor for Opokaasin. This is his second week in his new role.
* Their programs are referral based from Children's Services.
* They offer three different programs. One is youth engagement, youth who are in foster care are assigned a Child Youth Engagement Worker (CYEW) who will assist with service planning and help with cultural identity, self-identity, and promote healthy living.
* They also do family preservation programs on a referral basis. If a family is in need of intervention services, the team will work with families to promote healthy living.
* They also provide Supervised Visit’s for family in need of this service.
* They're currently in the process of developing their summer schedule for their youth. So all of the suggestions that everybody has brought forward, thank you so much. Patrick will definitely be reaching out to everybody. He will attach his email here if someone wants to communicate with him, please feel free to do so.
* [Patrick.yw@opokaasin.org](mailto:Patrick.yw@opokaasin.org)

# Shawn Daye-Finley-Lethbridge Sport Council

* The Sport Fest that they had last weekend, May 28th was a great success. They had various groups, including Marianne and the little mustaches, traditional games as a booth.
* They had a cousin's skateboard community that brought a ramp, so that every kid could try dropping in on a ramp and skateboarding.
* They had the Oki sign from the city out and people acknowledged the welcoming environment that we had at the entrance. They couldn’t have done it without all of their partners. Thank you very much to anyone that partnered on that event.
* They had a slew of interactive booths from sport organizations that came out to advertise their programming to the community. It was a free event and there happened to be a soccer event happening next door, which brought in a lot of kids from the field to come in and try different sports.
* The next announcement will be in July, they have a poster for this event that Shawn will be sharing with everybody, but they're working on a second or third annual lacrosse event. It'll be a contrite event. So much more than that, where they host the coaching courses, do a mental performance training, teach about the history of the game as a medicine game and in celebration.
* They are bringing in lacrosse pro league MVP Geoff Shandler to lead that with a grant they earned in the name of pathway to participation for urban indigenous families.
* They're really trying to push that a lacrosse game, uh, here to be a Blackfoot community as it kind of missed this area historically. And we're trying to really promote that as a way to stay active and get healthy again. Shaw will be sharing more information about that at our next meeting.
* [https://lethbridgesportcouncil.ca](https://lethbridgesportcouncil.ca/events/sportfest)

# Deborah Engen-Corrections Canada

* She just wanted to introduce herself. She is in an acting role for the indigenous community development office. She works at the Drumheller institution, she facilitates the section 84 releases for the indigenous offenders. She is new to this role and is filing in for Deanna Chambers.

# Andrea Taylor- Women Building Futures-Recruitment Lead

* Andrea works with women building futures up in Edmonton. She recently changed positions and is now one of the two recruitment leads for their organization.
* Her job is to go out into communities across Alberta and talk about our programs, right now they are pretty quiet. They only have their journey women's start program running at the moment. They do have some programs that they'll be running down in Calgary and they will have their program for wind turbine technician they'll be running down in Lethbridge again, they're just waiting for more confirmation about the details on that.
* They have started their own driving school that be running out of. It's not up and running quite yet, but they'll be doing class one and class three driving programs.
* As the programs launch and become available she will reach out to the network with information on them. Hopefully that way they can have some of the community members from southern Alberta join some of our programs.
* If there is anyone who is looking to have either an in-person or a virtual presentation about who they are and what they do, shee would be happy to facilitate that.
* They've got some really exciting programs that we'll be running and they're actually moving into Saskatchewan a mining project.
* There all sorts of really great opportunities to help women and gender diverse folks find their way into jobs that pay above a living wage.
* They have housing that is below market value. There are fully furnished units rated our training center here in Edmonton, so if there are people who are interested in transitioning even for a month or two to take one of their programs, that's also an opportunity that they can connect them with. If anyone is interested feel free to contact her.
* ataylor@womenbuildingfutures.com

# Trish Bruised Head-Red Crow College-Addictions Counselor/Academic Advisor

* They are in full swing for student recruitment for the fall 2022 academic school year. All of their programs are up and running, upgrading for both main and satellite campus, arts and science.
* The arts and science two plus two program is currently being housed at the main campus. They also have an indigenous bachelor of social work program. They will be working on an indigenous master's of social work program, but that's in probably a couple of years to come.
* They have the agriculture Livestock production program, which consists of working with bison, equine, and cattle. They have a Blackfoot language, culture program and are taking registration for the indigenous mental health diploma program it's a new program that takes two years to complete. When you're done the two years, you have the option of either transferring into the social work program or into the university of Lethbridge Aboriginal health program. We also have a need it to be education teacher degree program that starting in September. Needs it to be educational certificate assistant program.
* They will have some of the programs at both the satellite campus and the main campus.
* They are scheduled to move into their new building in July with all programs running in September.
* They're hoping to have 400 plus students for the fall of 2022 at the main campus, the new building. However, when the building is at full capacity, they will have up to 900 students and they hope to have that in probably four to five years, if not sooner.
* They are having a open house tomorrow. It is all online, um, through zoom from 9:30am to about 2:30pm in the afternoon. She will send that information to Cassandra to send out.
* Their funding deadline is coming up June the 15th. If you have any one thinking of returning to school now is the time to fill out your funding application. If you do not fill out that funding application, then they cannot help you after June 15th, just because every year they receive up to 800 plus applications and they are only able to fund about 400 students. The waiting list is long, so please, if you know anybody who is wanting to return to school, have them fill out that funding application as soon as possible.

# Cassandra Chalifoux- NCSA

* Is looking into keeping the LISN meetings virtual with a quarterly in person meeting. She is looking at doing this so that more people have the ability to attend the meetings as its easier to attend virtually. She also thinks that it will give them a chance to improve the quality of the in person meetings with food, presentations, and performances.
* As always send any posters and any information that you have on events and stuff and she will definitely distribute it to the network. Anything that you want to be attached to the minutes, feel free to send that to me, if she receives it before they go out she will attach it.
* The reconciliation meetings show as cancelled on her calendar so she is not sure if they are still going on. With the meetings being cancelled, she does not have an update on the Bowman building at this time. She will look into it and send out an up date if she hears anything. The funding has already been granted as well as the choice as to who is going to run it has been made, so the building decision should not be far off.
* Cassandra took the empowered filmmakers masterclass in April. The videos have finally been released, so please check those out on YouTube. There are a ton of mini documentaries on YouTube from the empowered filmmaker masterclass, they do four classes across B.C. and Alberta. It's, everybody's personal stories that they turn into a documentary, so it is highly recommended. They stick to mostly indigenous communities where they teach people documentary filmmaking. They chose Lethbridge for one of their classes this year.
* Sage clan has a video on there that shows what they do and, there's one about missing and murdered indigenous women and residential schools, they could really use some views. So if everybody has a few minutes go and check them out, most of them are 10 minutes or under and were made in 5 days.
* As Marilyn said Cassandra will be making Berry soup and fry bread for the stick games event. She would highly recommend coming out and supporting the library as they do a ton of ton of stuff for the indigenous community.
* If you need help with an event, contact Cassandra. If she has free time, she is more than willing to help out doing whatever you need. It doesn't matter if you have a tiny job that needs to be done.
* Cassandra is also looking at partnering with Samis. They have an indigenous business market slash powwow going on in September. The students of their program are.

Free to have a table at that event. Cassandra is looking at covering the expense of the public indigenous entrepreneurs that joined that event. There are different sponsorship levels. So if anybody wants to get involved with that, there are different sponsorship levels to the point where you can sponsor a coffee cart and have your business advertised on the coffee cart that's traveling around the market. If you have information and stuff that you want to get out there, or you want to get your company name out there and that sort of thing, then feel free to contact Cassandra and she'll hook you up with SAAMIS.

# Meeting Duration

**Start Time**: 8:52am **Adjourned**: 10:04am **Duration**: 1 Hour 12 Minutes

# Next Meeting

**Date**: July 6th, 2022 **Time**: 9:00am **Location**: Online Teams