Lethbridge Indigenous Sharing Network Interagency Meeting

Wednesday March 1st, 2023

Time: 9:00am | Location: Online Teams

# In Attendance

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Cassandra Chalifoux | Janine Jackson | Andrea Taylor |
| Caitlin Gajdostik | Miranda Hargreaves | Eric Cid |
| Raymond Ivanus | Royal Adkin | Nisa Lambrecht |
| Jennifer Moar | Treena Tallow | Shawn Daye Finley |
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# Meeting Opening

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

# Royal Adkin – Indigenous Student Advisor – Iikaisskini Indigenous Services – University of Lethbridge

* Royal Akin works for Iikaisskini Indigenous Services at the university of Lethbridge as the Indigenous Student Advisor. They are doing Indigenous Awareness Week at the University of Lethbridge next week. They've been really busy putting together different events. The events will be happening throughout the entire week and Royal will be updating them and adding them to the website, uh, so that there's more stuff for people to check out. One highlight that they're doing is we're doing another Buffalo Treaty signing and they're hoping to have a bunch of external stakeholders present. Royal just started at the beginning of February but is looking forward to everything to come.
* (403) 329-2492
* Royal.adkin@uleth.ca

# Andrea Taylor – Recruitment Lead - Women Building Futures

* Andrea is the recruitment advisor for Women Building Futures. They are located up in Edmonton, but they do programming across the province and into Saskatchewan. The programs that they offer are fully funded training opportunities for women and gender diverse individuals to get into non-traditional career paths, things like trades and construction and class one, class three driving, and power engineering, places where there's not a lot of women and gender diverse individuals working, that's where they want them to go, so they're fully funded opportunities and at the end they have employment. Their employment rate is about 90%, so if you kniw anyone who is interested let Andrea or Cassandra know.
* They do have a program for carpentry running out of Calgary. They're open for enrollment for that now. It's a four-week program with a job opportunity at the end to get started straight into carpentry. This is also where they start to wrap up for the summer and then we go hard at it again in the fall.
* Tomorrow Andrea will be down at Red Crow College for the career fair there. If you know anyone who might benefit and is a little bit more mobile, they do have programs that'll be running up in Edmonton and surrounding areas, so please send them their way.
* (587) 412-5541
* ataylor@womenbuildingfutures.com

# Caitlin Gajdostik - Grants Coordinator – Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southern Alberta

* Caitlin is the Grants Coordinator at the Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta. They are a charity that funds other charities throughout the region. They've currently just closed on a couple of grant programs, but they still have two open for applications, their Community Priorities. Program and their Rural Life Grants Program, both of those grants programs will close on March 15th. If your organization has any needs right now or could use some funding for certain aspects of the programming or internal needs of your organization, let Caitlin know and they can help you through a grant application and if it's something that they don't cover at the Community Foundation, Caitlin will be happy to recommend other funders as well.
* If you have any questions or want to talk about your projects that may need funding, please reach out

to Caitlin.

* Click here to learn about the Community Foundation Grants Programs: <https://cflsa.ca/grants/>.
* (403) 328-5297
* grants@cflsa.ca

# Eric Cid – Team Lead – Citizen Services and Delivery Branch – Service Canada

* Eric is a Team Lead for the Citizen Service Specialists in the Calgary and Lethbridge region. This is his first meeting and he is leaving the update to Raymond this time around.
* (403) 387-1008
* Eric.cid@servicecanada.gc.ca

# Raymond Ivanus – Citizen Services Specialist – Citizen Services and Delivery Branch – Service Canada

* Ray is a Citizen Services Specialist with Service Canada at the branches community outreach and these liaison services. Uh, right now we are focusing on programs and services for First Nations. His colleague Lisa was down not too far from the Lethbridge area yesterday at Siksika and now today ay Kainai presenting the Service Canada overview as well as Canada Pension and Disability. If you have any questions about any of the programs and services for First Nations, they will be putting out another general invite where they will do an information session, uh, through teams. The one they had yesterday as well as the one they had the week before had a really high intake rate of older people. Yesterday was about 36. People are learning something new every time they do a presentation so they will probably put out another invitation at the end of this week or, or early next week.
* (800) 622-6232
* Raymond.ivanus@servicecanada.gc.ca

# Janine Jackson – Indigenous Program Coordinator - Family Centre

* Janine is the Indigenous Program Coordinator with Family Center. They have a program that's starting on March 22nd, their family program, they originally started it back in February, but they ended up pushing it back because they're trying to get more people recruited. If you know any families who want to take the program, it's an 11-week program open to all First Nations, Inuit, and Metis people, self-identifying. The only thing is they have to have kids in their care or have their own kids, but they're very flexible with that, It could be grandparents who are taking care of kids as well. If you have any questions, just email Janine or Cassandra.
* (403) 320-4232 ex 215
* Janine.jackson@famcentre.ca

# Jennifer Moar- Employment Specialist – Ability Employment

* Jennifer Moore is with Ability Employment. What they do is help people with either mental health and addiction barriers or persons with developmental disabilities. They are still Closed to the public, so if people are needing assistance or wanting to use their services, they'll need to call and book an appointment or come down and pick up some intake paperwork, but other than that they just have their PDD contract and their AHS contract for mental health and addictions. If anyone else is needing other referrals outside of that, then you know, we can refer them to other agencies and services. They do have a wait list for the mental health contract. So it would take some time for people to get in, but again, if they are able they can still come down and pick up a package, Then they could do the intake and then they would be put on the wait list.
* (403) 317-4550
* jennifer@abilityresource.ca

# Miranda Hargreaves-Sexual Assault System Navigation & Education Specialist - Chinook Sexual Assault Centre

* Miranda is the Sexual Assault System Navigation & Education specialist with the Chinook Sexual Assault Center. They have a couple of things going on this month. They have two new staff that have been hired and trained and they'll be working with the public right away, so that's super exciting.
* They're really busy planning for May, which is sexual violence awareness month, so there's a lot of different events that'll be coming up around that time.
* This month they have two events that are happening. The first one is Heating up the Prairies, which is happening at the Exhibition Centre on March 11th. From 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM. The event is a hot sauce tasting event. Some of the proceeds raised there is going towards their Child Advocacy Center, so that's really exciting. You get to go taste hot sauce from around the region and win prises.
* The other thing that's happening the following day on March 12th at the casino is an Oscar's night. It is a dress up event and all the proceeds go towards a Child Advocacy Center as well. The cost is $20 a ticket, it's a full dress up event with lots of food and drinks. Anyone interested can come and watch the Oscars. There will be lots of prizes and games as well.
* They are starting to contract and look at building. So that should be coming up in the next couple of months as well.
* (403) 694-1094
* miranda@csacleth.ca

# Nisa Lambrecht MPH BEd – Health Promotion Facilitator – School Health and Wellness Program – Alberta Health Services

* Nisa is the Health Promotion Facilitator with the School Health and Wellness Program through AHS and supports six to eight different school boards. There was a big call for a mental health and schools grant that a lot of our schools and school boards received, so there will be a lot of job postings coming up for coordinators and people to specifically help indigenous students and families remove barriers and access to care and any services they may need.
* Right now they are attending surrounding teachers conventions and then just kind of moving forward and making connections at different school boards.
* (587) 779-4404
* Nisa.lambrecht@albertahealthservices.ca

# Shawn Daye-Finley - Program and Event Coordinator - Lethbridge Sport Council

* Shawn is with the Lethbridge Sport Council. They represent over a hundred sport organizations in the city that provide sport programming to the community. Shawn is working on what they've been doing annually. The first year we had 42 participants. The next year was 54 and then this year they're partnering with Spirit North which is quite a big program that has just branched out to the south and they're trying to take part in the Sport Council annual camp and kind of handing it off from the council to them now. Shawn is really excited to see what happens with that and will provide more information when it comes out in the form of posters and stuff to share.
* It's award season, so there's a lot of awards happening here in the city for achievements.
* <https://www.spiritnorthxc.ca>

Home - Spirit North

* <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sikoohkotokisportconnection>
* (403) 320-9371
* Shawn@lethbridgesportcouncil.ca if anyone would like to collaborate in any sport or traditional game events in the coming months.

# Treena Tallow – Aboriginal Addiction and Mental Health Advisor – Indigenous Health Core – Alberta Health Services

* Trina is an advisor with Alberta Health Services Aboriginal Addiction and Mental Health. Trina has been working with the NCSA on a gathering which will be held in November 6th, 7th, and 8th in Edmonton.
* They also have the Women's Wellness walk that will be coming up, so they'll be working on that. So we'll have a date coming for, for that as well.
* Trina wanted everyone to know there is a cultural competency training this afternoon and they can find that event on Eventbrite, search cultural competency training. That'll be an interesting training that's happening, it's for indigenous women. It's from indigenous Women's Consulting and it's focused around women's entrepreneurship, so if you're interested, you could onto Eventbright and register for that as well.
* Mentioned Empowered Film Makers Master Class that will be happening May 23-27 from 9am to 5pm.
* (403) 892-6556
* Treena.tallow@ahs.ca

# Cassandra Chalifoux - Community Engagement Partnerships Coordinator – Native Counselling Services of Alberta

* Cassandra is the Community Engagement & Partnerships Coordinator for Native Counseling Services of Alberta. She hosts the Lethbridge Indigenous Sharing Network as well as the website so that they can connect the organizations of Lethbridge together to tackle the issues that the Urban Indigenous people as well as others face daily.
* Their fiscal year ends on March 31st and the new year starts April 1st. There is some funding left in the program so if you have something that Cassandra can get involved in please let her know.
* There will be some strategic planning coming up in the new year to evaluate what the LISN has accomplished and what needs to be addressed in the future.
* They have court workers that help individuals navigate the court system as well as a peacemaker that conducts circles to come to an understanding between a willing victim and perpetrator in a more traditional way. They currently have a family, criminal, youth, and traffic court worker. She is in talks with the Peacemaker to offer circles to individuals outside the court system.
* Cassandra is also looking at offering blanket exercises to the community as well.
* Please share Cassandra’s email address with anyone you think would benefit from attending the meetings and being part of the network. All that is needed to join the communications and meetings is their email address.
* Please check out the LISN website [www.sisn.ca](http://www.sisn.ca) and sign up as a network partner. Instructions in email.
* Main Line: (403) 329-1968
* Cell: (403) 317-0827
* Main Office: (403) 329-6140
* Cassandra-chalifoux@ncsa.ca

# Meeting Duration

**Start Time**: 8:48am **Adjourned**: 9:33amam **Duration**: 45 Minutes

# Next Meeting

**Date**: April 5th, 2023 **Time**: 9:00am **Location**: Online Teams