Lethbridge Indigenous Sharing Network Interagency Meeting

Wednesday May 4th, 2022

Time: 9:00am | Location: Online Teams

# In Attendance

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Cassandra Chalifoux | Lisa Despas | Miranda Hargreaves |
| Debbie Deak | Shawn Daye-Finley | Kathryn Linder |
| Caitlin Gajdostik | Dana Wells-Durocher | Jill Manning |
| Lenora | Deanna Chambers | Janice Randhile |
| Michael Schroeder | Billi-J Heavy Shields | Jordan |
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# Meeting Opening

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

# Dana Wells-Durocher

* Dana is the Indigenous liaison at the Luna child and youth advocacy center, formerly known as the Sheldon Kennedy advocacy center. She is part of the victim support team. Part of her role is to provide emotional and cultural support to all the indigenous families that come through the center who have experienced severe child abuse in the form of sexual, physical, and neglect.
* Her role is to be the advocate when it comes to their needs and assist them in making connections to resources, to support and guide them moving forward after sharing their story. She walks alongside them through the court process when it comes to telling their truth, assisting them through the court process, so they feel welcome and safe sharing their truth.
* She also provides support to their partners at the Luna centers, such as, The police services, children's services, and they have a perinatal team that she provides support to. She is spread out throughout the agency, but her main support is with the victim support and supporting indigenous families.
* They are hiring an indigenous outreach support coordinator for the post team, the prenatal outreach support team.

# Debbie Deak – FASD Network

* Attended the Blood reserve interagency meeting last week, she explained to that group that she attended the LISN meetings and they were most interested in that. They asked her to put in the chat how to contact Cassandra, which she did.
* They're moving to, in-person starting at the end of May. She was able to offer a presentation to the staff at the YWCA this past Friday and most of the more people were engaged with clients of Harbor house. They were a very young. Interactive group.

# 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 or lisa.despas@servicecanada.gc.ca

# Kathryn Linder-Lethbridge Legal Guidance

* She is the community program manager with Lethbridge legal guidance. They provide free legal advice to people of low income.
* They just started a new program in the middle of April, their lawyers started to assist survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault. It's a grant through the federal government that it's a six year project. They focus on survivors to help them navigate the court system to understand what's happening.
* There's all kinds of legal support for the perpetrators. The accused get lawyers and the lawyer walks them through everything. The survivors are left going, I don't know what's happening and they go to court and it's a whole bunch of language they don't understand.
* They're getting lots of really positive feedback on the new program. For anybody who's interested, Give them a call. They'll do an intake with you and get an appointment booked as quickly as possible. There are no financial qualifications for this particular program, unlike their other programs and the age cap has been dropped, their usual clinic services are for people 18 and older.
* This one they can help younger teens who may need some assistance. Assisting children is a bit more complicated and there's other resources for small children.
* They have a small office and they have to draw a line somewhere. So those teenagers who are starting to date and are experiencing date rape they can help with that as well, to help with reporting to the police and writing a victim's impact statement on and then what happens once it's in the Crown's office and then cause there's a lot of waiting and just knowing that it's not, you it's the system.

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

* They’re continuing to do outreach into their respective communities. Her community is Edmonton down to Lethbridge and area. So she support families within that area.
* They're all gearing up for tomorrow's events that are happening in and around the province. She will be in Lethbridge tomorrow to attend the event that's happening at the library and also in Kainai and then back up to Calgary to participate in their event as well.

# Miranda Hargreaves-Chinook Sexual Assault Center

* They are welcoming to new staff. They're welcoming their EDI specialist. Who's in with them for a year. To, um, help us with EDI policies and staff. They're also excited to welcome a new system navigator to help with client support.
* They want to throw it out there that we are continuing to do public presentations, they would love to meet the needs of anybody's organization that needs any kind of services or needs any kind of presentations on sexual violence. They range from things like bystander intervention, healthy relationships, our services, how to respond to sexual violence disclosures, how to support individuals that are impacted by sexual events, all that sort of stuff. They're happy to do presentations as needed, reach out to Miranda if you want presentation of some kind.
* They love to connect with the community, it's sexual violence awareness month so there is a ton of stuff going on right now within the community.
* Throughout the month of May unite, Y Q L fitness is doing their heart campaign, which is supporting our Chinook child and youth advocacy center, that's helping them to donate toward the bills so that they can get our center built. They are up and running with our center so they are supporting individuals and children that have been impacted by violence, family violence, physical assaults, neglect, similar to what Dana is doing that Luna.
* KFC at the park place mall and legacy bridge locations are doing donation drive to support their youth center or youth advocacy centers.
* May 8th to the 21st Saunders coffee is doing a coffee and conversation with messages of hope and support for survivors of sexual violence, they're also taking donations.
* May 14th you night is doing a charity spin class and all donations are going towards the center.
* May 15th they're doing a run wild, it's a virtual run in which all proceeds are going towards Southwestern Alberta benefits and towards them
* May 18th is a pledge to end sexual violence and the city hall will be lit up in, they encourage everybody to wear teal.
* Tuesday, May 24th they are doing a lunch and learn on sextortion. They will be sending out an email invite at some point to attend that it's going to be over the lunch hour to give an education presentation on what is sextortion and how to respond to sextortion.
* Thursday May 26th is where your teal day, they're hoping people can wear their teal take pictures posted on Instagram, socials showing support to ending sexual violence and of course tagging us and tagging their hashtag #you have the power.
* **SVAM Agenda:**
* **Month of May** –**Unite YQL** – Heart Campaign to support the Chinook Child and youth Advocacy Centre
* **Month of May -** **KFC** (Park Place Mall and Legacy Ridge locations) donation drive to support the Chinook Child and youth Advocacy Centre.
* **Tuesday, May 3** – 12 noon **Bystander Engagement Lunch & Learn** – To register follow the link: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/lunch-and-learn-bystander-engagement-tickets-327541183497>
* **May 8 to May 21** – **Sonders Coffee** and Conversations: Messages of Hope and Support to Survivors of Sexual Violence
* **Saturday, May 14** – **Unite YQL** Charity Spin Class
* **Sunday May 15** – **Run Wild** – a virtual run - register at [www.runwild.ca](http://www.runwild.ca/) All proceeds raised in SW Alberta benefit the Chinook Child and Youth Advocacy Centre
* **Wednesday, May 18** – Pledge to End Sexual Violence, Teal lights on **City Hall**
* **Tuesday, May 24** – 12 noon **Sextortion Lunch & Learn** – the link to register will be available on May 16th – watch our social media
* **Thursday, May 26** – **Wear your Teal Day** – send photos on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook showing you support to end sexual violence. Tag us @csacleth #UHavethe Power #CSAC

# Shawn Daye-Finley-Lethbridge Sport Council

* Just had a few updates from Lethbridge Sport Council. They recently hosted the indigenous long-term participant development pathway coaching module, it's put on by sport for life, they had a great time doing that.
* Shawn had an announcement to make about the Southern Alberta summer games, which were postponed and eventually canceled, but they are going to go ahead and run something similar in a few events. They are going through the process of planning traditional games, like an indigenous traditional games event where they are going to keep score and have awards and medals at the end of the day, but it'll be kind of a five-game process where they accumulate. They're hopefully going to do that down at the Indian battleground, he still has to go through the process of booking the space, but they're in the planning stages now.
* One major announcement he wanted to make is that they have their annual event SportFest coming up where sport organizations in the city set up as an exhibition style event where families can come and check out different sport organizations, what they have to offer and potentially sign up for their programming, which is an event that they haven't been able to have in person for a couple of years. They are going to run it at the service sports center, which is the soccer center, they have both sides rented, there's going to be vendors and activities for kids to do. There's going to be wrestling mat, court floors, synthetic ice, a rock-climbing wall outside, a bike rodeo. They're bringing in cousins skateboarding community, which is an indigenous outreach not-for-profit that has portable skateboarding, ramps and stuff that they traveled to different reserves, cities and towns to promote skateboarding, that'll be on May 28th, and he wants to encourage anybody who wants to get kids involved in sport to check it out because there's no better place to see all those organizations under one roof.
* There is another event that they are still in the planning stages, they ran it last year in August and will probably do the same, it is a lacrosse event and introductory to lacrosse event. Last year they had around 47 kids come out and learn and try to lacrosse for the first time ever. They're all given equipment, if they didn't arrive with equipment from the Calgary flames sport bank. They’re in the planning stages of that and will make that announcement closer to that event. They have two interim dates, it looks like July 13th or 20th, once the date is solidified, he will share a poster.
* <https://lethbridgesportcouncil.ca/events/sportfest>
* <https://cousinsskateboarding.com/>

# Lenora

* Just this past weekend, the reserve had a basketball, big youth basketball tournament, which was a success. and they had the cousins skateboarding right outside the multipurpose building. That's the only major event so far plus they're kind of looking at an Indian days as a goal. They will be having vendors and stuff like that.
* Asked Shawn from Lethbridge Sports Council or dates of the hand games.
* Their communities, we are having community clean up starting just this weekend, I think. And the more volunteers would be good. So let, if you have any people living on the reserve, let them know to go volunteer.
* They just had one member Darcy VL who received a volunteer award with the Lethbridge volunteer association. There were two other young promising volunteers Zoely and another girl, they're both black plumes. So that was really neat, they had their picture taken.
* If you guys want to send her all your information, posters, links, if it's a link to the Facebook and all that kind of stuff, she’'ll make sure the whole network gets them as well. Um, so we can get everything spread out, especially for the cleanup and all that kind of stuff.
* Suggested that Cassandra gets a hold of Justin Bruised Head, economic development with the blood tribe about Indigenous entrepreneurs.

# Caitlin Gajdostik-Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta

* She was joined by a couple of her colleagues Sarah Doris sitting beside her, it's her first day today as well as her colleague Jordan who is also on the other line just to hear a little bit about this meeting.
* They recently wrapped up their spring grant funding, so she'll be going out into the community over the next few weeks to deliver a checks and plaques including a grant to red Crow college that She is very excited about.
* 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.

# Deanna Chambers

* She works for corrections Canada, along with my coworker who is also joining me on the call. I work with offenders applying for a section 84 release plan to different areas in the province, Lethbridge being one of those areas. She is always looking for resources for their clients who are going out into the community to stabilize reintegrate safely. Recidivism for people are very high with community connections and support which will become less. If you have any information or anything that you think that would benefit them she would love to talk to you. She has a few guys who are applying to come on Section 94 is over six months. So they work closely with safe the CRS down there.

# Jill Manning – Lethbridge Public Library – Tech Issues

* She is from the Lethbridge public library. I'm the new manager of information services here. Their indigenous services team now has an official social media presence. They just opened a Facebook page, will send a link to Cassandra for that so that if people would like to check it out, like, follow and share, then you certainly can. It’s a way for them to share both internal information, as well as external information and events and to be a resource for both the indigenous and our non-indigenous community, but particularly with FNMI events, programming and information.
* She wanted to note some events and programming that they have happening there at the library this week in recognition of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls. They had a film showing last night called finding Dawn. It's a documentary style film about when we say murdered indigenous women and girls who follows the highway of tears all the way from BC. To Saskatchewan.
* Today at 11 o'clock they have an indigenous beading class that there'll be making a little pin, they're beautiful artwork.
* Tomorrow they have an event happening, their red dress day presentation, they have a healing dance and guest speakers, that's happening in person at the library as well as they will be streaming that through a webinar as well. That's from 11:00 AM til 1:00 PM.
* They we have a program in works for the summer. So it'll be taking place through June, July. They will have their summer student position in place to help out with that. Marilyn and the summer student we'll be doing a digital storytelling collection, there is a provincial library website that's called voices of the land and it is an indigenous based kind of an opportunity to archive those digital stories from indigenous person's perspectives. They will be doing a major project through those three months where we're collecting people's stories, not exclusively, but with a focus on people who have had the experience with residential schools, either survivors, families but also just a way to archive intergenerational knowledge through the kind of knowledge sharing and storytelling the indigenous people have always done. They will be kind of going live with that platform on September 30th, in recognition of international or national truth and reconciliation day and they'll be having, hopefully fingers crossed they're waiting for some grant money potentially to do a large event on that date in the end of September. That entail around dance and some elder presentations, hey would be doing a recognition of all the folks who had participated in that voices of the land digital storytelling event.
* Jill has a background both professionally and educationally that is very much in harm reduction and addictions. She used to be on the executive management team that operated arches in Lethbridge, the previous supervised consumption facility. She reached out if you need any help or anybody to throw any ideas off in terms of harm, reduction, strategies, feel free to reach out to her. She'd be happy to give any assistance.
* Asked Cassandra to facilitate a connection betweenher and Billie-J.
* Offered to be a drop off point for the food drive for Billie-J’s program, they're nice and central in downtown in Lethbridge so they could act as a collection point for any drives or that sort of thing.

# Michael Schroeder

* Used to attend the in person meetings, not sure when that will happen again. Maybe they can take an early drive and to make it out here for the meetings.
* They try and do some pre-release planning, he had a time for their indigenous offenders. He covers the Southern part of Alberta. So he covers from sunshine, child cheese all the way down to K nine. Lethbridge reindeer in Calgary as well. He is trying to develop a stronger release plan for these individuals. I do work with female offenders as well, that sometimes are coming out of Edmonton institution for women or all Kamachi healing. And some of them are wanting to connect and understand, um, maybe have never been in Lethbridge before, or want to develop a stronger relationship and utilize the resources. And that could be for housing, cultural employment, all, all different areas of parenting drama. All of those types of things that they're going to need to be successful under reintegration back into the community. And they want to come back in a good way and, and share what they've been doing inside the institutions and the healing journey that they've been on inside. So they, as part of their healing, they want to tell her story too, as well to some of these organizations to, to share, you know, what they want to do and what help they need as well when they, to, to help them, you know, just reconnect and be a part of the community. So, uh, thank you for listening and, um, hope to work with, uh, obviously with, you know, with, with all these organizations and the changes happening in Lethbridge.

# Billi-J Heavy Shields- Addictions Mental Health-Blood Reserve/Brocket – Tech Issues

* She works for sweet grass, youth Alliance as an outreach worker. She currently lives just near the us border.
* They just recently applied for more funding for our programs. So they're hoping that they can get back up and started again a week connect used, um, 12 to 32, their culture, um, in and around Lethbridge.
* Um, we're trying to extend to carts then, um, as there's not much. For, um, native youth out here, um, also trying to integrate like harm reduction into our services. If, if that's a possibility we're still working on that.
* She hooked up with aware and she has been trying to work with them, so she'll see what happens. They're just kind of in the beginning stages of it all, but it's, it's a huge need out here. She has people trying to call her in the middle of the night, my work phone for, you know, supply and, you know, the problem is.
* What she is seeing right now is a whole family in one home, and they're all using. It's really hard to see my people going through this, but you know, if we're not doing it, then who's going to do that for them. Or who's gonna at least just kind of make sure that the kids in the home are eating, if there is kids in the home.
* There is not much for food banks and stuff like that out in her area. Like you have to be living basically on the reserve to get help.

# 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 most of you know Cassandra contracted Covid at the end of March so her event was postponed until April 7th, 2022. The soup kitchen came and made dinner for everyone and rerouted all of the homeless patrons that utilize the soup kitchen to the multicultural center to come and have a nice sit down dinner. They had a ton of entertainment there was, indigenous dancing and singing there was also presentations on addictions and that kind of thing. It went really well, they had higher retention than anybody was expecting, more than 50% of the people invited actually stayed for the entertainment. They had security on premise, they were amazing, well trained, and they knew the people. Security was fantastic, we had one almost issue and it was dealt with compassionately, quickly, and very well. She is definitely in love with Paladin right now and they're security guards they sent her so she wrote down their names because she wants those security guards for all of their events. They sent out backpacks with everybody, people were coming back and telling fibs to get extra backpacks, it was fantastic, people saying my cousins, brothers, sisters needs one, so lots of people left with more than one, then the rest were sent down to the shelter for the people who could not attend. The backpacks had some protein bars, Gatorade powder, socks, gloves, touques, oatmeal and whatever else they could figure that would last a long time, but it could come in handy in a pinch. The bags also had the information that was provided from the members of the LISN network. So there was an information packet in there that had information on FASD, the sexual assault center, the library, 2 1 1, then Cassandra just put a little note in there so that people read that first, it just said, you matter, your story matters, your life matters, seek help, seek tradition, seek spirituality, come find us, we'll help you. It also included a little bit of information on where to find food and shelter, and the statement to police, which is one of the most fantastic things that we as a company have. So basically the Statement to Police tells people their rights when a person of the law is interacting with them, what to say or what not to say, gives them the ability to just hand them the card, because I don't know if too many people know it, but if you hand something with writing on it to an officer, they have to read it, so it just gives people a little bit of help, especially the indigenous community, and some of the things they face, am I being arrested? If not, can I go? what am I being arrested for? that kind, basically a list of questions for them to ask, to make sure that they're being treated fairly.
* Cassandra also had the opportunity from the 11th of April to the 15th of April to attend the Empowered Filmmaker Masterclass which was awesome. They need more funding cause they could use some more equipment, the students only have one camera and one computer per group, that throws up a little bit of roadblocks. Six or seven short documentaries came out of that class, one per group. The documentaries usually range from three to 15 minutes and everybody hit some pretty good topics in the class. There was one on the Niitsitapi, there was one on trauma, there was one on missing and murdered indigenous women, one on residential school, and one on healing through hip hop, there was just some really good short documentaries that came out of it. Cassandra doesn’t have a date for them yet, but they will be available on Storyhive, which is amazing because they will be available to be put out for the public, the more we get information out there the better.
* Cassandra is not planning anything for June this year. The reason behind that is because she knows there are a ton of amazing events that are going to be happening in June through the organizations in the network. What she is doing is I'm connecting with everybody to see what they're doing in June, and she going to just be supportive. If you have something that you have going on and you need assistance, please let her know. She is more than willing to get involved and get other people involved and help out with the list of things that everyone needs to get done. One of the things that she is doing is she is making some fry bread and Berry soup for the library for one of their events. There's some other planning for some other stuff, Cassandra wants to get out and interact with people, but she does not want to take away from anybody else's event so she is here in a supporting role.
* Cassandra is planning her next major event, which she is hoping to take place in August. She needs to get in touch with any of the indigenous entrepreneurs that you know, so if you know any indigenous peoples who own their own business or have their own their own side businesses and stuff like that. Cassandra would like get in touch with them, feel free to give out Cassandra’s email address to anybody you feel fit to give out her email address to, she is perfectly okay with that, especially if there's somebody who wants to join the inter-agency meetings. Just give Cassandra’s email address, tell them all she needs for them to be able to join these meetings is their email address and they will be added on to the next meeting. Cassandra wants to do a showcase, kind of like when you see the women in business or the other entrepreneurial markets, She wants to do something similar, but she wants it to be indigenous entrepreneurs. She wants to have a market that people can attend during the day and then have a dinner and presentations afterwards for the entrepreneurs to get connected with people who can get them funding, business advice, and training, giving them a chance to present and, and sell their wares during the day and then also have a dinner afterwards for them to get more information on where to find, funding and, business planning, whatever they need. Cassandra wants this event to showcase the amazing talent in the indigenous community as well as tell the stories of the entrepreneurs. Cassandra would like to have a display behind or beside the tables with their story displayed on it.
* Teams still has not added the phone number to the invites, but Cassandra is looking into it on a regular basis and will follow up with IT again.
* Cassandra has suggested doing a food drive for Billie-J on a regular basis to help the lack of supply within her community.

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

* Red crow college currently working on their upcoming graduation scheduled for June 21, 2022 at the red crow park in stand-off this event will be open to the public.
* They also have many new programs scheduled to start in the fall 2022 that will be run in our new building.
* Their newest program will be Niitsitapi Education Degree program (4 year program)

# Meeting Duration

**Start Time**: 8:52am **Adjourned**: 9:37am **Duration**: 39 Minutes

**Start Time**: 9:48am **Adjourned**: 10:54am **Duration**: 1 Hour 6 Minutes

There was an error in updating so 2 meetings took place. One at 9am and one at 10am. If you have any questions of want to contact someone from an opposite meeting let me know. The minutes are a combination of both meetings.

# Next Meeting

**Date**: June 1st, 2022 **Time**: 9:00am **Location**: Online Teams