Lethbridge Indigenous Sharing Network Interagency Meeting

Wednesday February1st, 2023

Time: 9:00am | Location: Online Teams and In-person at Lethbridge Public Library 830 5th Street South Lethbridge, Alberta

# In Attendance

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Cassandra Chalifoux | Gerald Wright | John Little Bear |
| Adrian Poffley | Patricia Bruised Head | Treena Tallow |
| Kerby Elfring | Janine Jackson | Shawn Daye-Finley |
| Raymond Ivanus | Billy Ogunyemi | Remko Hess |
| Crystal Neufeld | Paula Boora | Tenaya Benson |
| Katie Jo Rabbit | Bruce Pickett | Debbie Deak |
| Elizabeth Hegerat | Cassandra Ostlund | Marni Hope |
| Lisa Despas | Danny Ng | Mary Plume |
| Andrea Taylor | Dianne Jones | Barb Barclay |
| Robyn Scott | Bonnie Sawatzky | Verona Tailfeathers |
| Caitlin Gajdostik | Mike Schoenthal |  |

# Meeting Opening

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

# Danny Ng – Owner Operator - Ng Enterprises Inc

* Danny Ng is from Ng Enterprises Inc. Danny came here today to do a presentation on the new website for the Alberta Coalitions.
* While Danny and some other individuals were at an event having a break outside they were approached by an elder. She informed them that she was looking for a way to be able to see what is going on in the city when she travels there. that is where the idea for the website [www.sisn.ca](http://www.sisn.ca) came from.
* He walked everyone through the layout of the website and the different focus groups.
* Katie Jo volunteered to add her organization to the website in real time so Danny walked her through that process live as well as how Cassandra sees and approves it.
* Danny then showed everyone how to connect their organization to a focus group.
* You should log in and become a network partner because as we grow this thing and more partners get together, we will be able to, you know, share information that's related to many services. That could be used for a lot of communities and Sharing all this information is all public and it's reaches across Alberta. You know, there can be a lot of help or information.
* If you have any questions feel free to contact Cassandra or Danny.
* (403) 607-1414
* [danny@ngei.ca](mailto:danny@ngei.ca)

Instructions for signing up as a network partner:

How to sign up as a Network Partner:

1. Go to [www.sisn.ca/lethbridge](http://www.sisn.ca/lethbridge)
2. Click on Directory at the top of the screen near the middle
3. Scroll down until you see “**What is a SISN.CA Partner?”**
4. Click on the large gray button at the bottom labeled Become a Network Partner
5. Fill in all of the information that you can
6. Click the button at the bottom labelled **Submit Profile for Approval**
7. That’s it you’re all done 😊

Please sign up to be a network partner so we can get things running smoothly and have our information shared in real time!

# Adrian Poffley – GECOS Program – McMan Youth Family & Community Services Association

* Adrian works with McMahon Youth, family and Community Services here in town. Adrian is part of the Gang Exit and Community Outreach Program.
* They’ve got something called Smart Recovery. It's at their office downtown every Wednesday from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. The doors open at 6:30pm and it is for anyone who is in recovery and wanting to heal. Anyone attending will definitely benefit in one way or another. Adrian is unsure if there are any stipulations, the fellow in charge of that is Christian, he would be able to let you know more about that.
* The GECOS program unfortunately going to be ending March 30th. That is their last day. Right now we're working on transitioning individuals to other services so that once they leave someone is there to help them out. All the individuals have all sorts of different needs so it has been taking a while and they have been transitioning them for almost two months now. They essentially worked with individuals who were wanting to leave gang life, individuals were leaving the correctional system and wanted a little help reintegrating into the community, or some just wanted to get right into the employment fields. Some wanted to deal with some pretty serious trauma.
* They’re grateful for the opportunity to work with the folks in this community. There is a level of strength and resilience they've never seen before.
* The next program is the FASD Lifespan program. They work with individuals who are either diagnosed or suspected of having a disorder from the fetal alcohol spectrum and they're not PDD eligible. they're filling in the gap there. The supervisor in charge of that program is Lindsey, her phone number is (403) 328-2488. That program is where they have the most referrals.
* (403) 328-2488
* [Adrian.poffley@mcmansouth.ca](mailto:Adrian.poffley@mcmansouth.ca)

# Gerald Wright – Upgrading – Red Crow College

* Gerald works for Red Crow College with the students who want to go into their upgrading program. They run across individuals that need a lot of extra support so they wanted to join this group and see how they can help and what supports it can be offered towards the students that they are working with to help them along their journeys.
* (403) 737-2400 ex 1767
* [geraldw@mikaisto.com](mailto:geraldw@mikaisto.com)

# John Little Bear – Counselor – Red Crow College

* John Little Bear is part of Red Crew Community College. John Little Bear’s role with Red Crow College is counselor, so that entails both academic counseling for their students as well as wellness counseling. They let their students have an outlet for students that need to speak to get stuff off their chest. He also does a little bit of recruitment to help out in that area, and they put on a little bit of workshops. He is out of the main campus right now in Stand-off but will also will be attending their satellite campus in Lethbridge as well.
* (403) 737-2400
* [mail@redcrowcollege.com](mailto:mail@redcrowcollege.com)

# Kerby Elfring – Reconciliation Liaison & Conference Coordinator

* Kerby is from Chinook Regional Library System. They are a behind the scenes organization that supports public libraries throughout southwestern Alberta. So essentially they have connections to all of the rural libraries as well as to with Lethbridge Public Library. If anyone has programs or anything that they would like to advertise or even use space to present at the library in the rural communities around southwestern Alberta, they would love to partner with you.
* They have a digital services librarian hired on a grant position and she will be doing some digital literacy training at their member libraries. There'll be some dates for that coming up in the rural areas and they'll be sure to share that with Cassandra as well as on the SISN website there too.
* (403) 915-0479
* [kelfring@chinookarch.ca](mailto:kelfring@chinookarch.ca)

# Cassandra Ostlund – Program Intake Coordinator - Lethbridge Legal Guidance

* Cassandra is from Lethbridge Legal Guidance. They’ve been working on some really exciting things coming up.
* They've got the Know Before You Go program starting up again, and it's going to be held via Zoom on February the 22nd. There are no financial qualifications. Anybody that wants to know anything about family law, their staff lawyer will be doing a presentation on that during the lunch hour. Anybody can join for free through the Eventbrite link on our website, which is www.lethbridgelegalguidance.ca. You can just click on the link in the calendar and sign up for that.
* Their Ask a lawyer event is also coming up, and that is going to be at the end of March on the 31st. That's kind of like a major legal clinic where they will have several volunteer lawyers available to meet with people to address their legal issues. This can be ranging from a state law, criminal law, family, commercial law, landlord & tenant, all of the different fields of law. It's one of the biggest events of the year, and they hold it in conjunction with law week.
* They've also began taking names for a legal clinic, featuring a criminal lawyer. They don't have a lot of clients that call regarding their criminal matters, so what they do when they are lucky enough to secure a criminal lawyer volunteer is we just start taking names and do the intakes, once they have enough people on the waiting list they will let the lawyer know and then they will book the clinic. So were always open for that.
* They have been really busy updating their website, um, so that everybody can stay better informed.
* Cassandra just started and has finally got her feet under her and is just looking forward to now having the space in her head to really start networking and enjoying this opportunity to network with colleagues and other people that are working to make a difference and help people that are marginalized.
* (403) 380-6338
* [Info@lethbridgelegalguidance.ca](mailto:Info@lethbridgelegalguidance.ca)

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

* Trish Bruised Head is with Red Crow Community College’s Post-Secondary Student Support Services Program.
* They are starting their new semester of adult upgrading, Monday was the first day of classes, this week all students will be in tutorials with regular classes starting next week. If you know anybody who is looking to upgrade, send them their way right away for either satellite campus in Lethbridge or the main campus in Stand-off.
* They are also currently taking applications now for fall 2023 for funding. They are also taking applications for fall 2023 for Red Crow college, program intake, that's all programs starting in the fall. You can find Applications to attend Red Crow College on their website as well. The funding application may be a little tricky they're currently working on it, however, if you email any one of them at Red Crow College in the post-secondary department, they can send you a PDF funding application to fill out and send back.
* If anyone is looking to book meeting space, there are places available at Red Crow at the new building, they are taking bookings for those spaces. For the bookings for rental, space, meeting space, you would need to contact Fee Mclean Marule, she does all the bookings and will be able to give you costs that are associated with those bookings.
* If you're looking to do a tour of our new building, please also contact Fee or Trish and they can arrange that.
* (403) 737-2400
* [Th.bruisedhead@alumni.uleth.ca](mailto:Th.bruisedhead@alumni.uleth.ca)

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

* Treena is an Addiction and Mental Health Advisor with the indigenous Health Board with Alberta Health Services. She works in collaboration with the Liaisons at the hospital and they have Roxy Vail and Susan Heavy Shields, you can get through to them at (403) 388-4111, that's the switchboard.
* Her position is changed a bit. She has kind of gone provincial, so her attention is focused provincially for in within indigenous addictions and mental health. So she'll be doing different various things with that as well.
* Asked about Help Seeker Website, Cassandra is in the process of adding them to the network and website.
* (403) 892-6566
* [Treena.tallow@ahs.ca](mailto:Treena.tallow@ahs.ca)

# Raymond Ivanus – Citizen Services Specialist – Service Canada

* Raymond is a Citizen’s Services specialist for Outreach and Liaison Services. They go out and we try and spread the information about Service Canada programs such as the IE, CPP, passports, SIN numbers and so on.
* They also do Outreach on reserve and off reserve indigenous communities throughout Southern Alberta.
* (800) 622-6232
* [Raymond.ivanus@servicecanada.gc.ca](mailto:Raymond.ivanus@servicecanada.gc.ca)

# Janine Jackson – Indigenous Program Coordinator - Family Centre

* Janine is the Indigenous Program Coordinator with the Family Centre. They do have a few programs in the works right now. They have their Indigenous Family Program, which used to be called the Traditional Parenting Program, which is co-facilitated by Blackfoot Elders that actually starts tonight. Tonight is kind of just, like, doing the paperwork and all that. So Janine is still willing to take registrations up until next Wednesday. It's, every Wednesday from 5:00pm to 8:00pm and they provide dinner. All their programs that are provided with the All My Relations are all free, so they provide dinner and childcare and basically the parents or guardians come in and they learn about traditional parenting from a Blackfoot perspective. They all eat together then the kids go going to the playroom with childcare workers, so parents don't have to worry about that. It is always a little bit challenging to find people for that program, so if you know anyone who would be interested contact Janine. Her contact information is (403) 320-4232 extension 215 , or you can get a hold of her through Cassandra.
* They also have a Spirituality and Wellness program that's going on right now again facilitated by a Blackfoot Elder. That one is only five sessions, same kind of thing, they have food and childcare that one has already started and it goes up until February 14th, but they are looking at doing it again, right after. So, if she can get participants, who are interested in that, they are recruiting for that one again as well.
* They have the Indigenous Youth Cooking Program in partnership with an interfaith foodbank. That one currently starts February but it's full. They're only allowed to take about 6 youth because their kitchen is so small over there. So they are full on that one. But she has already started a waitlist and already has 5 registered for the next time. That one seems to be pretty successful, It's seven sessions and it's every Thursday from 4:00pm to 6:15pm, last time she did ages 10 to 15 and this time she is doing 9 to 14. It kind of just depends who registers and they come in they teach them some kitchen skills, they cook up a recipe and they can take it home for their families for dinner. There are some indigenous learnings in that program as well, with bringing in Elders learning about traditional foods.
* The Family Centre is always looking to partner with people and do any kind of other kind of programs, they have a couple partnerships in the works right now like with the friendship center.
* Family centre offers Taxi vouchers and fuel cards for people who would like to come from the reserve to attend any of their programs.
* If you have any questions or have an idea for a fun program that they can do with youth or families, give Janine a call and let her know then they can get that in the works.
* (403) 320-4232 ex 215
* [Janine.jackson@famcentre.ca](mailto:Janine.jackson@famcentre.ca)

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

* Shawn is with Lethbridge Sport Council. They try to be the voice for sport in Lethbridge. They represent over 100 sport organizations in the city. They are looking for more participants as well as more Indigenous participants. A lot of what They do is connecting sport with youth of the community. Shawn was recently assigned as the North American Indigenous wrestling coach for team Alberta.
* They had a grant and they were spending it on getting indigenous youth involved with sport, so they had quite a few events they announced over the last couple of years at the LISN meetings, but their grant has run out, so they're finding some more grants and we're trying to connect the community with these sport organizations for all the health benefits both mentally and physically for that sport provides people
* They're planning a camp in April for lacrosse, that is something that you might want to put your calendars if interested or know anybody who is. They are working with some different Youth Services to try to bring kids there to break down the barriers of transportation.
* At the end of their recent grant which just finished before the new year, they spent the last bit on equipment. One of the barriers that they were finding is that a lot of kids don’t have the gear to play certain sports, so they spent the rest of their money and donations from the Calgary sport bank, which is an organization that provides gently used equipment to kids, they shipped the Sport Council a whole pallet the stuff and they put it into the backpacks and gave it out through the school district counselors. The main goal of that was to connect those children and their families with the community supports that already exist. They were given a little bit of gear with information inside on how they can get more from other support programs.
* If you are interested in partnering with or getting involved with Lethbridge Sport Council, feel free to contact Shawn directly.
* <https://www.spiritnorthxc.ca>

Home - Spirit North

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

# Crystal Neufeld- Owner/Operator – Ever Prescence Haven

* Crystal is from Ever Prescence Haven. They are an organization that work with youth with disabilities as well as building learning and other programs.
* (403) 849-0143
* [Crystal.neufeld@everpresencehaven.ca](mailto:Crystal.neufeld@everpresencehaven.ca)

# Billy Ogunyemi - Owner/Operator – Ever Presence Haven

* Billy is from Ever Prescence Haven. Crystal told him about this network, which he finds is a very rich network and he is learning every time he comes here.
* They are building pretty much the framework of transitioning into their programs and there's a lot of barriers that they have observed, you know during back to school and stuff like that. The barriers are centered around a correctional trauma treatment model, which they are trying to introduce to the traditional transition into an adulthood program. They noticed that it's broken into a full spectrum which is employment, education, stability, and support. So their program is called Future Flex, whereby they use a trauma informed care standpoint to try and see how they can help them remove the barriers of how they can transition from childhood to adulthood.
* Part of what they realize is it’s not just the programming, the support and the stabilize are important too because it is affected by the social environment, the social culture that they live in, and the kind of home that they go to after such program. Repairing relationships with families help reduce crime or help reduce the potential of just continue doing bad, making bad decisions and stuff. So they will be reaching out just to make sure that the program that we are building is able to reach out to all.
* (403) 849-0163
* [info@everpresencehaven.ca](mailto:info@everpresencehaven.ca)

# Remko Hess – Destination Exploration - University of Lethbridge

* Remko works with the University of Lethbridge at destination exploration, which is a program for very is one of the youth outreach programs at the U of L. Run under the Faculty of Arts & Science, Destination Exploration provides a variety of hands-on and engaging science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs for youth and their families.
* Destination Exploration's goal is to provide participants with experiences that create self-awareness of their abilities and the enjoyment they find in STEM as a base for life-long learning. They offer STEM workshops and summer camps and other Early Learning opportunities for youth in Lethbridge and surrounding areas. Something to look forward to this year is they are having a land camp at the end of May, trying to incorporate indigenous ways of life with STEM as much as they can.
* (403) 382-7121
* [Destination.exploration@uleth.ca](mailto:Destination.exploration@uleth.ca)

# Katie jo Rabbit – Outreach Coordinator – New West Theatre

* Katie jo is the outreach coordinator from New West Theatre. They are just entering phase two of their fundraising Campaign which is Nightlife New West after dark. February 23rd to the 25th at the Sterndale Bennett Theatre they will be doing some Cabaret shows for your entertainment. On the Friday which is the 25th there will be a VIP gala event. At that event they are looking for donations, so if organizations can provide silent auction items for that, become a sponsor, purchase a ticket, or just tell a friend about the event, they would really appreciate it.
* Katie Jo is working on diversifying the audience and with the program sponsorship and funding that they have received Katie Jo is going to host an evening of theater for marginalized communities underserved. She is also giving a lot of tickets to people that wouldn’t normally be able to attend the theaters, so they a really appreciate their donations and sponsors which they can provide tax receipts for.
* They also run camps at the YMCA on the westside. That is a pay what you can and subsidy is available. On February 20th to the 24th is their PD day camps, they usually follow the calendar for School Division 51. So you can go and leave you kids off with them and the will teach them theatre, they'll send them back to you singing and dancing.
* (403) 929-2544
* [outreach@newwesttheater.com](mailto:outreach@newwesttheater.com)

# Paula Boora – Read-On – Lethbridge Public Library

* Paula work with the Read-On Program at the Library. What they do is mostly offer tutoring to a small group, with classes in Math, English, Language Arts ect.
* They do have their technical drop-in class, which can be accessed without attending the full term. If anyone could use help with their computers, wants to learn more computers skills, or needs help with iPad, iPhone, other phones, or any other kind of technology help, they have that on Thursday afternoons.
* (403) 320-4977
* [Paula.boora@lethlib.ca](mailto:Paula.boora@lethlib.ca)

# Tenaya Benson – Indigenous Services – Lethbridge Public Library

* Tenaya works at the library as part of Indigenous Services. Tenaya is currently the volunteer coordinator for their patron program. Tenaya is getting some volunteers as well as patrons who want to be part of that program that is for anybody who cannot physically make it to their library branches and still want to receive their resources and materials. Volunteers will be partnered up with a patron which gives them someone in the community to have a new relationship with. If you know anybody who wants to be an adult Volunteer, which is once a month for about 2 hours or someone who's not able to physically connect to their branches. You can reach out to Tenaya or Cassandra
* (403) 380-7310
* [Tenaya.benson@lethlib.ca](mailto:Tenaya.benson@lethlib.ca)

# Elizabeth Hegerat - Manager – Lethbridge Public Library

* Elizabeth is one of the managers at the library. Elizabeth works with some of their grants and fundraising and run their big Word on the street festival in the fall.
* Elizabeth also manages the Lethbridge Presents program where you can borrow tickets and passes and put your names in for draws, for tickets for local attractions in the city. They're just gearing up again, but you can put your name on the whole list or just certain passes. All that is required is a library membership.
* In February they are celebrating Library Card Sign up Month. They just announced that library cards are free again for 2023. They're hoping they're going be able to continue that, but it's year by year. They are luxury cards and if you come in any time during February and either get anything started or even if you've already just renewed your card, go in again and you will be entered in a draw for some prizes. They have some small prizes for everybody who go in and sign up for a card. They've got some posters too if you would be willing to spread the word to your organization.
* Indigenous services will have a position coming up, watch for the posting in the next few weeks for indigenous services Library Technician. If you or anybody you know has experience and is interested in working with the library, it is a full-time permanent position and you can apply on the City of Lethbridge website.
* (403) 320-4187
* [Elizabeth.hegerat@lethlib.ca](mailto:Elizabeth.hegerat@lethlib.ca)

# Bruce Pickett – Regional Program Development Team Leader - Indigenous Services Canada

* Bruce is the Regional Program Development Coordinator with Indigenous Services Canada put of Edmonton. They provide a bit, not lot, but a bit of funding to the three Alberta coalitions. Bruce over sees the COVID funding and the Indigenous Community Support Funding, which they've done for the last three years, and also the on reserve with the Women's Emergency Shelter program
* (780) 495-4890
* [Bruce.pickett@sac-isc.gc.ca](mailto:Bruce.pickett@sac-isc.gc.ca)

# Debbie Deak ED.d – Co-Coordinator/Prevention Conversation Facilitator – South Alberta FASD Network

* Debbie is the Co-coordinator/Preservation Conversation Facilitator with South Alberta FASD Network. They provide a range of supports and services for individuals suspected of having or diagnosed with FASD. They do not have a lot to report today other than if you ever wish to have some professional learning opportunities for yourselves or staff or clients, Debbie is happy to offer those.
* (403) 330-8897
* [Deborah.deak@shaw.ca](mailto:Deborah.deak@shaw.ca)

# Andrea Taylor – Recruitment Lead – Women Building Futures

* Andrea is the lead recruiter for Women Building Futures, they are located in Edmonton, but they offer their programming around the province, and in Saskatchewan as well. Andrea is exited to be here as it is her first time in person.
* They did run a program in Lethbridge that is now almost ready to go live. For now it is the last program that they will have done here, but they do have programming they're looking quite heavily into in the Calgary area. Andrea will keep Cassandra updated on that.
* They a couple of things happening up in Edmonton. They have Women in Business committed to posting a series of their dances, and their final one is this Saturday February 4th. It's going to be an amazing day and a really great event that we're really excited about.
* They have an in-person information session on February 11th at their head office in Edmonton. They are certainly open to talking to organizations to collaborate and there's opportunities to do an onsite specific group of training. They've had conversations on a couple reserves where a couple of different ideas, equipment operating was one the ones that they came up with some construction that was happening in and around Calgary and how they could get some women or gender diverse into a program where they could become skilled and then go work at the job opportunities on the reserve. If anyone, you know hears of anything like that it's something that we can certainly get up and running. They're trying to find as many women and gender diverse folks to come over and join the dark side of non-traditional work opportunities.
* They focus mostly on trades and construction, class one and driving renewables obviously down here with with Vestus, and really looking at sustainable renewable energy as they go forward.
* (587) 412-5541
* [ataylor@womenbuildingfutures.com](mailto:ataylor@womenbuildingfutures.com)

# Dianne Jones – Administration – Native Counseling Services of Alberta

* Dianne is the office administrator Native Counseling Services of Alberta Lethbridge office.
* (403) 329-6140
* [Dianne-jones@ncsa.ca](mailto:Dianne-jones@ncsa.ca)

# Barb Barclay – Regional Manager – Native Counseling Services of Alberta

* Barb is the Southern Alberta Regional Manager for Native Counseling Services of Alberta. Barb over sees the offices in Lethbridge, Red Deer, and Calgary. Barb is happy to be here and looking forward to the meetings going back to monthly.
* (403) 237-7850
* [Barb-barclay@ncsa.ca](mailto:Barb-barclay@ncsa.ca)

# Robyn Scott – Director of Operations – Native Counseling Services of Alberta

* Robyn is the Director of Operations at Native Counseling Services head office in Edmonton. Robyn is down here because they have heard so many big things about this Coalition. Robyn is very excited because there's such a rich and diverse group of people here who are willing to work together and partner and thinks you are a really good example for the coalition in Edmonton and the position in Calgary when it is filled.
* There's so much going on, so many things that they would like to get involved with. They have a women's institution for Section eight, women come out of the institutions where it would be wonderful to do presentation on the programs at Women Building Futures. So there's so much opportunity for partnering with them.
* The original focus groups that were set up based on conversations with Indigenous Services Canada and lethbridge is a great opportunity. Might see if those are still applicable. They think that they would be some really good working groups for NCSA their program here in Lethbridge.
* They don't have a lot of funding, but they do have some, and they would be willing to, to come up with some ideas on partnering for activities over the coming year.
* (780) 429-9322
* [Robyn-scott@ncsa.ca](mailto:Robyn-scott@ncsa.ca)

# Bonnie Sawatzky – Citizen Services Specialist – Service Canada

* Bonnie is a Citizen Services Specialist with Service Canada. Bonnie moved over there from 5th on 5th youth services and was part of the network then as well.
* Their office is open 8:30am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday.
* They do employment program, maintain social insurance numbers, and biometric passports.
* They were selected as one of the sites, which are few and far between in Canada that offere the 10 day service for passports. They introduced that right after the long weekend in September and it has just been very busy. So that means that when you apply for passports it will be available after 10 business days either by mail or pickup. A lot of people are still under the impression that they have to go to Calgary.
* Another thing that has just opened up is the Citizen Access Workstation Systems which is on the computers. When you walk in there are now eight computers that are set up for citizens that want to come in and do applications, look up their pensions, set up through my Service Canada's account, and then access any other information available. Those just opened up December and They've been really busy staffing that as well. They are very grateful to be here as well because when they get people that walk in, and there's a program that they can't offer in the realm of what they do in the federal office they can direct them to the SISN website or certain or agencies that They’re learning about today.
* (800) 622-6232
* [Bonnie.sawatzky@servicecanada.gc.ca](mailto:Bonnie.sawatzky@servicecanada.gc.ca)

# Verona Tail Feathers – Wellness Program Interagency Coordinator – Blood Tribe

* Verona Tell Feathers is the Interagency coordinator at the Blood Tribe and she works for the Wellness program. Their wellness program covers mental health services, NNADAP, prevention of family violence, honoring life, day treatment programs, crisis intervention, the Indian Residential School Programs, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. They also do the Brighter Futures Program.
* They have a day treatment program every Thursday, and people that have to sign up there. (403) 737-3883.
* Verona does the Interagency meetings at the Blood Tribe in standoff under the Blood Tribe Department of Health. They recently won the Premier’s award for their day treatment program. Verona brought a stress ball for everyone.
* (403) 737-3800
* [verona.tf@btdh.ca](mailto:verona.tf@btdh.ca)

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

* Caitlin is the Grants Coordinator for Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta. They are a funding bodies for non-profit and charitable organizations. They currently have board grant programs open for applications right now, so the things are quite busy. They have two that have deadlines this month.
* They have their Youth in Action Grant Program. This program gives $2,000 for youth that want to do something to improve their community, improve the quality of life of where they belong. So if you know of any youth that are interested and want to learn a little bit more about philanthropy and possibly get awarded for a grant, for an idea, encourage them to apply, Caitlin can help them through it.
* There is the Community Services Recovery Fund. It's actually a grant program that they are facilitating on behalf of the government of Canada. It's a 400 million investment into the charitable sector, it's focus is on the internal sort of structure of your charity or your organization and what you need moving forward post pandemic to help strengthen yourself internally so you can run your programs better. There are some different categories that they're funding through the Community Service Recovery Fund. The first category is investing in people. Second is investing in systems and processes. And the third is investing in service innovation and program redesign. So pretty much everyone in here can apply to this grants program. It's a pretty unique type of funding we don't speak about too often. You can apply for up to a hundred thousand dollars as well. So if you have any questions about it, please reach out, Caitlin will share the information with Cassandra as well so she can email it out.
* (403) 328-5297
* [grants@cflsa.ca](mailto:grants@cflsa.ca)

# Mike Schoenthal – Coordinator – Community Engagement and Partnerships Edmonton – Native Counseling Services of Alberta

* Mike is the Community Engagement Partnership Coordinator in Edmonton for Native Counseling Services of Alberta. Basically doing the same thing as Cassandra. Mike Chair’s the Edmonton Indigenous Support Network. Uh, too bad. Mike really enjoyed how diverse the agencies that are in this network are, and it's giving him some ideas. Mike thinks that it's great that Cassandra has a spot in the library and you guys seem to be treating her well. Mike is here to observe and really appreciates the trust and the partnership within this group. Mike also works with the indigenous courts to basically help the participants get assigned a Gladue worker and they build a wellness plan for them to keep them out of the system.
* (780) 220-0965
* [Mike-schoenthal@ncsa.ca](mailto:Mike-schoenthal@ncsa.ca)

# Mary Plume – Blackfoot Resource Hub – Red Crow College

* Mary is from the Blackfoot Resource Hub. They are a new organization here in the city, so they are actually from Blood Tribe Administration, but we are located here in the city. Their program is aimed at helping their members navigate the system here in the city. Unfortunately, a lot of times their members might get a little overwhelmed with what different services are here in the city or maybe they don't know about certain services that are here in the city that are able to help them move forward. Another aim of their program is to connect individuals to cultural support, with elders. They've teamed up with a few people already, one being, um, Alberta Health Services. So we help facilitate some elder support at the library actually,that took place on January 19th, they had one of our elders go in and facilitate face painting. They're wanting to move forward with that monthly so that they're able to connect a lot of their urban population to have that cultural support.
* What they are also wanting to do with their program is to connect a lot of people that are living on that path of sobriety or they're trying to work towards sobriety. How are we able to facilitate that grounding work with that comes from the culture. Helping them find that identity within themselves so that it helps them to be able to move forward in a good way, to be able to feel supported. They haven't quite opened our doors, it's been a lot of work trying to get their doors open, so right now they're in the process of hiring two cultural specialists. So they’re hoping that they're able to get some amazing people that are passionate about this work and so that we're able to support, you know the indigenous population here in the city.
* They're also open to teaming up with a lot of different agencies here in the city. If you have cultural programming that you think would benefit them and you think that we could be a partner, they would love to hear from you.
* (587) 787-4486
* [maryp@bloodtribe.org](mailto:maryp@bloodtribe.org)

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

* Cassandra is the Community Engagement Partnerships Coordinator for Native Counseling Services of Alberta here in Lethbridge. Cassandra is so glad that they were able to show how diverse the network is in this meeting. The next in-person meeting is going be on May the third. They're kind of jumping a month or two in between just to smooth back into in-person all the time. They really like the numbers for the hybrid meeting, so hopefully they'll stick to that so that even if people can't be here in person, they can still join online and get the information. There will be a couple of presentations at the May 3rd meeting.
* The first presentation will be by Mathew Patron. Mathew Paton is the Indigenous and Isolated Communities Liaison with victim services, community Justice and integrated services, public Safety and emergency Services with the government of Canada. Mathew will be doing a presentation on Cultural Safety. The Cultural Safety Presentation will give people the skills needed to act with a shared respect, meaning, and knowledge when dealing with the indigenous community. This is for absolutely everybody. It will be a hybrid meeting for sure. If you know other organizations that could benefit from the cultural safety presentation, other people within your organizations who could benefit from the presentation, please let them know about the meeting. As soon as Mathew confirms the date, Cassandra will inform everyone. Even if they're not on the LISN network or they don't plan on staying on the network, the training is super helpful, people accidentally do things when interacting with the community all the time, and if we can do presentations, we can help them to not do that.
* The second presentation will be by Colin Luma. Colin Luma is from the Luma group of companies. They currently have a program which is running in Calgary. It's called the Community Voicemail Program. The community voicemail program provides voicemail numbers for individuals in the community who don’t have access to phone service. If an employer, a renter or somebody calls and someone answers “Lethbridge Shelter”, most of them are hanging up that phone. So what the program does is provide voicemails for those individuals where they can reroute employment calls, doctor’s calls, landlord calls, legal calls, or other organizations to a voicemail that they can check when they are able to. Currently provide 1700 free phone numbers to over 120 service providers in housing, employment, healthcare, and social services. There is initial funding that would need to happen, but after that, all organizations are free to join.
* Right now with LISN Cassandra is trying to bring in more people to connect with, sharing what we have going on, connecting people with resources they need, letting everybody know what's going on in the city. She can't count how many times she talks to people who have no idea what goes on in the city and it's not a huge city. She can't even imagine how many people are in the dark in cities like Calgary, Edmonton, which are much bigger cities.
* Please give out Cassandra’s email address, just throw it out there, give it to everybody, somebody's got a question on anything direct them to her. If she doesn't have the answer right away, she will find the answer for them and we will get them to the right place.
* If anybody wants to connect to the LISN meetings, give them Cassandra’s email address, have them email her, and she can get them connected and keep growing the network. Currently they're sitting at 108 members from 47 or 48 organizations that get their communications at the moment. They don't have to feel obligated to come to every meeting. If they miss a meeting they can come to the next one, they just decline the invite. They'll still get the minutes, They'll still get the posters, the events, the information that's going on, and the next invite, because we want you to know what's going on and to be able to just open your email and find that information really quickly and then connect with Cassandra on that.
* Direct Line: (403) 329-1968
* Cell: (403) 317-0827
* Main Office: (403) 329-6140
* [Cassandra-chalifoux@ncsa.ca](mailto:Cassandra-chalifoux@ncsa.ca)

# Marni Hope – Indigenous Student Support/Events Coordinator – Lethbridge College

* Marni Hope is from the Lethbridge College. She is the indigenous student support and events coordinator. They do program planning for students and then, along with that, they do student support.
* Is in planning mode for the LISN information convention.
* (403) 320-3202 ex 5896
* [marni.hope@lethbridgecollege.ca](mailto:marni.hope@lethbridgecollege.ca)

# Meeting Duration

**Start Time**: 9:50am **Adjourned**: 12:07pm **Duration**: 2 Hours 17 Minutes

# Next Meeting

**Date**: March 1st, 2023 **Time**: 9:00am **Location**: Online Teams