

**MINUTES OF THE LEDUC COUNTY FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2018 IN ROOM 530 OF THE COUNTY CENTRE BUILDING, NISKU, ALBERTA.**

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**Order and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 by acting Chairperson, Nathan Raymond, Thorsby Representative, with committee members Lin Rehn, Calmar Representative, Tina Smith, Warburg Representative, Missy Chehayeb, Rural (East) Representative and Giselle Messer, Rural (West) Representative in attendance.

Also present were Mayor Rod Raymond (Thorsby), Laurel Fitzsimonds, Leduc County FCSS Director, Carla Liepert, Leduc County FCSS Seniors Services Coordinator and Corrie Richer, Leduc County FCSS Administrative Assistant.

Rick Smith (Leduc County) and Ray Scobie (Leduc County) were absent from the meeting.

**Introductions**

Roundtable introductions occurred.

**Agenda Adoption**

**01 - 18** Representative Raymond -- that the Agenda for the January 17, 2018 FCSS Advisory Committee Organizational Meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

**Previous Minutes**

**Regular Meeting – November 29, 2017**

Representative Messer advised that the minutes for the November 29, 2017 meeting indicate that she was in attendance, but she was not able to attend.

**02 - 18** Representative Raymond -- that the November 29, 2017 Regular FCSS Advisory Committee meeting minutes be amended to read that Representative Messer was absent from the meeting.

Carried Unanimously

**5. General Business**

**5.1 Organizational Meeting – Election**

There was some discussion among the committee members regarding holding the election without the Leduc County representatives in attendance. It was agreed that the

absent committee members would not be concerned and that the election of Chair and Vice-Chair should proceed.

Representative Raymond requested that Laurel proceed with the election.

Laurel advised the FCSS Advisory Committee members that this is an organization meeting and that a Chair and Vice-Chair would be elected.

#### Election of Chair

Laurel requested nominations for the position of Chair.

Representative Rehn nominated Representative Raymond.

Laurel called three times for more nominations.

Representative Rehn moved that nominations cease.

Representative Raymond accepted the nomination and was acclaimed Chair of the FCSS Advisory Committee.

Representative Raymond continued with the election of Vice-Chair.

#### Election of Vice-Chair

Representative Raymond requested nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.

Representative Rehn nominated Representative Rick Smith.

Representative Raymond called three times for more nominations.

Representative Rehn moved that nominations cease.

Representative Raymond accepted the nomination on behalf of Representative Rick Smith and acclaimed Representative Rick Smith as Vice- Chair of the FCSS Advisory Committee.

### **6. Information Items**

#### **6.1 Guest Speaker – Carla Liepert, Outreach Support Coordinator, Leduc County FCSS**

Carla advised the FCSS Advisory Committee members that she would be providing information about Leduc County FCSS Senior Services programs. Carla said that the main program Senior Services provides is Outreach Home Services (OHS). The OHS program is available to seniors and adults with disabilities and provides service to Calmar, Thorsby, Warburg, New Sarepta and the Graminia area of Parkland County. The program provides preventative programs that assist seniors and persons with disabilities to help keep their independence and enhance their quality of life. There are two subsidized programs are available to assist in supporting clients to remain living in their own homes. OHS is a light housekeeping service and Home Help (HH) is available in the spring and fall to help clients with heavier cleaning.

Carla said that assistance is provided to individuals applying for Seniors Financial Assistance and other government subsidies, as well as to connect seniors and persons with disabilities to the resources available in their communities.

Carla advised that she works closely with the community coordinators to provide assistance to senior and disabled residents.

Carla said that there are currently 85 clients enrolled in the Senior Services programs, with 10 on a waiting list.

Carla said Senior Services hosts workshops that are held throughout the year and had a very successful conference, Just Older Youth, in 2017.

Carla said that the subsidy (federal) is based on line 150 of the client's income tax return.

Mayor Raymond asked if there was an income threshold.

Carla advised that there is not an income threshold for services, but there is for receiving the subsidy.

Representative Raymond asked if the subsidy threshold changes?

Carla advised that the subsidy threshold is set by the federal government and that it changes every year. Carla said each year every client enrolled in the OHS and HH programs are called to obtain their income information (line 150) to see if their subsidy eligibility has changed.

Laurel said that there were some changes to the OHS program last year. Leduc County Council passed a wage increase of \$2.00 an hour for OHS workers and capping of OHS clients to 85. Laurel said that success would be difficult if there had not been a cap on clients because we would not be able to keep up with the demand. Laurel noted that mileage is not paid to the OHS workers.

Mayor Raymond asked if the client decides who (worker) to use?

Laurel advised that Leduc County finds the workers for the service areas and provides training, workshops and ongoing support for the workers. Leduc County requires all workers to produce a criminal check and enroll in our OHS insurance. The workers are hired and fired (if need be) by the clients, not by us. The clients pay the workers directly, and then Leduc County reimburses the subsidized portion (if applicable) to the clients.

Carla said that there is currently no worker for the Warburg, Thorsby and Pigeon Lake areas.

Discussion ensued.

The FCSS Advisory Committee members thanked Carla for her informative presentation.

Carla left the room at 5:45 p.m.

## **7. Director's report**

A copy of the Director's Monthly Report for November and December 2017 were provided in the Agenda package to the FCSS Advisory Committee members.

Representative Raymond said that Sara Russell (Leduc County FCSS Community Support Coordinator) had said something about EDI testing at the last Thorsby Inter-Agency meeting.

Laurel advised committee members that an Early Development Instrument (EDI) is a standardized tool that measures the development and school readiness of five-year-old children. Kindergarten teachers fill out questionnaires that measure the development of each child in their classroom. The questionnaire measures children's social, emotional, physical and intellectual development. The results are grouped together to provide population-based information, much like a census.

Representative Rehn asked when the last EDI was done.

Laurel advised that the last EDI was conducted three years ago and the results were very concerning in some areas of Leduc County.

Representative Tina Smith asked how FCSS deals with that.

Laurel said that further funding was provided for further programing and information for parents to address the issues.

Discussion ensued.

Representative Raymond asked how the Home Alone program held on January 7<sup>th</sup> went.

Laurel advised that there was lots of interest and very good attendance; so much so that there was a waiting list.

Representative Raymond motioned to accept the Director's report as information.

Representative Rehn seconded the motion.

Carried

## **8. Community FCSS Reports**

The Community FCSS Reports for November and December 2017 were provided in the Agenda package to the FCSS Advisory Committee members.

Laurel noted that the Calmar report was in a different format than the other reports. Laurel advised that it is helpful for all the reports to be in the same format, so that they can be rolled together for reporting to the province.

Laurel announced to the FCSS Advisory Committee members, that she will be retiring in late spring/early summer this year.

Representative Tina Smith asked if there was anyone ready to replace her position.

Laurel advised that her position would need to be posted and that Rick (Rick Thomas, Leduc County General Manager of Community Services), felt that this was an opportunity to make changes if we so desire.

Representative Tina Smith asked Laurel how long she had been with FCSS.

Laurel advised that she has been with Leduc County FCSS for 12.5 years.

Representative Raymond asked if Laurel's retirement would have any affect with the Alberta Rural Development Network (ARDN) program (new housing project).

Laurel advised that the program was safe and secure, and that the federal funding should be received as promised. Laurel said that the program is not at risk because of her retirement and that this would provide new blood with new ideas to join the committee.

Discussion ensued.

Representative Raymond motioned to accept the Community FCSS reports as information.

Representative Messer seconded the motion.

Carried

## **9. Adjournment**

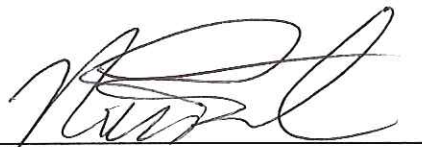
**03 - 18** Representative Raymond -- that the Organizational FCSS Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The Organizational FCSS Advisory Committee meeting concluded at 6:24 p.m.

The next FCSS Advisory Committee meeting will take place on:

Wednesday, February 21, 2018  
5:00 p.m.  
Room 530, County Centre

  
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Chairperson

  
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Director of FCSS