

**MINUTES OF THE LEDUC COUNTY FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2018 IN  
ROOM 530 OF THE COUNTY CENTRE BUILDING, NISKU, ALBERTA.**

---

**Order and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. on Wednesday, May 16, 2018 by Chairperson, Nathan Raymond, Thorsby Representative, with committee members Ray Scobie (Leduc County), Terry Balaban (alternate for Lin Rehn, Calmar Representative), Tina Smith, Warburg Representative and Missy Chehayeb, Rural (East) Representative in attendance.

Also present were Laurel Fitzsimonds, Leduc County FCSS Director, Dean Ohnysty, Leduc County Parks & Recreation Director, Carol Langner, Leduc County FCSS Early Years and Parent Link Coordinator and Corrie Richer, Leduc County FCSS Administrative Assistant.

Representative Giselle Messer, Rural (West) Representative entered the room at 5:10

Rick Smith (Leduc County) was absent from the meeting.

**Introductions**

Roundtable introductions occurred.

**Agenda Adoption**

Representative Chehayeb requested that Mental Health be added to the Agenda.

**07 - 18** Representative Raymond -- that Mental Health be added to the Agenda under General Business as:

5.5 Mental Health

Carried Unanimously

**Previous Minutes  
Regular Meeting – February 21, 2018**

**08 - 18** Representative Tina Smith -- that the February 21, 2018 FCSS Advisory Committee Regular Meeting minutes be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

**5. General Business**

**5.1 Carol Langner, Leduc County FCSS Early Years and Parent Link Resources**

Carol advised the committee members that she works in both Early Childhood Resources (ECR) and Parent Link (PL), but with the reorganization Carol's role will be with Parent Link. Carol said that ECR provides support through home visits and daycare observation. If a parent has concerns regarding their child's developmental stages/milestones, they are

provided the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) to complete. The ASQ measures the social/emotional development of a child.

Carol said that brain research has shown the importance of positive, nurturing environments to build the right foundational connections for a child's healthy development that will impact their life trajectory. With that research, more funding has been available from the Alberta Government.

Carol said that, Invest in Kids (in Ontario) surveyed parents to see what the general population knew about child development. The results indicated that a typical family did not have accurate information about child development. Parent Link provides free parenting and play programs to meet the unique needs of the families and communities it serves. Parents and caregivers can participate in a wide variety of activities and information. Some of the Parent Link programs are Triple P (Positive Parenting Program), which is parenting program supported by the province. Some of the programs require registration, while others are drop in.

Carol said that there are currently approximately 1600 followers on the Leduc Regional Parent Link Facebook page.

Carol said that a Leduc Regional Parent Link Centre and Early Years program guide is produced four times a year (spring, summer, winter and fall) outlining our services, and is fanned out to the community.

Carol advised that for three years the province provided additional funding through a Parent Link Enhancement Grant, as an outcome of the Early Development Instrument Tool, which was administered as part of the ECMAP project.

Discussion ensued.

Carol left the room at 5:25

## **5.2 Introduction of Dean Ohnysty – New FCSS Director; and**

### **5.3 FCSS Leduc County transition**

Laurel introduced Dean Ohnysty as the soon to be Leduc County FCSS Director, to the committee members.

Dean said that he is familiar with everyone on the committee and has worked with the CAO's, Finance and Council of each of the communities. Dean advised that he has worked as the Leduc County Director of Parks and Recreation (P & R) for the past 12 years. Dean said that the FCSS side is new, but he has been involved for the last couple of months and is learning. Dean said that the FCSS staff know the people of the communities through their programs and services offered. The official date that Dean will be taking over the FCSS Director position is June 1, 2018. Dean will continue to be the Director of P & R and will split his time between P & R and FCSS. Dean confirmed that this is not a merge of the two departments, although there are synergies between the two departments, they have two separate priorities and services.

Dean said that FCSS positions will be reviewed and responsibilities evaluated. Currently all FCSS staff report to Laurel. This will be streamlined with two managers being appointed, being Carol Tabone and Sara Russell. Carol will manage contracted services and Sara will manage FCSS services. Dean said that the managers will be in charge of the day to day business, with Dean providing support and work with the community CAO's.

Representative Raymond asked who questions should be directed. Dean advised that questions should be brought forward to Carol and/or Sara, and that they will be engaging in meetings like the FCSS Advisory.

Dean said that Carol Langner and Loretta Hannah will be Supervisors for Parent Link (PL) and Early Childhood Resources (ECR), and that the ECR and PL staff will report directly to them.

Dean said that he would like to have a conversation with the committee in June to take a look at the purpose of the FCSS Advisory Committee. Dean would like to see if there are any recommendations for changes or tweaks the committee could suggest.

Discussion ensued

#### **5.4 Parkland County Contract**

Dean asked Laurel to provide a brief history of the Leduc County / Parkland contract to the committee members. Laurel advised that Leduc County entered into an agreement many years ago with Parkland County to provide FCSS Services to the southeast corner of Parkland County. An FCSS office was based in Graminia School, providing a portal for residents to receive family support and youth services.

Dean advised that the current FCSS coordinator, Alicia Martell, is going on maternity leave. Dean asked, do we take this as an opportunity to make changes? Training a replacement for the Parkland County position would take six months if a new person was hired. Who would they train and would it take away from the Leduc County office and residents? The Leduc County / Parkland contract requires six month notice of termination. If notification was provided, there would be no change to funding or to services for the remainder of 2018.

Dean said that Parkland County is currently conducting a Social Needs Assessment of to determine what services are required and how to provide those services to their community. Dean advised that Leduc County FCSS is one of five contracted service providers.

Dean said that Leduc County will utilize Alicia here, as part of the strong team that will continue to support Leduc County.

Laurel said that this is a good opportunity to use Alicia's skills.

Dean said that he will soon be advising Parkland County and Graminia School formally.

Discussion ensued.

## **5.5 Mental Health**

Representative Chehayeb discussed her involvement with the Leduc Community Drug Action Committee (LCDAC). Missy said that there are limited services available for youth and a two week waiting list for adults to see an intake worker. The City of Leduc has a School Resource Officer that attends the high school one day a week.

Representative Chehayeb said that addiction is a problem in the City of Leduc and Leduc County, and that we need to figure out how to help. There needs to be a local clean injection site as well as a detox centre available for residents.

Discussion ensued.

## **6. Information Items**

### **6.00 FCSSAA – March 2018 Board Meeting Highlights**

Representative Raymond asked Laurel if there was anything to add.

Laurel said that Leduc County FCSS pioneered the homelessness count in Leduc County, and was third in country to conduct such a count. Alberta Rural Development Network (ARDN) was impressed by the process and applied/received federal funding to publish the Step-by-Step Guide to Estimate Rural Homelessness for Rural Canada.

Discussion ensued.

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

A copy of the Director's Monthly Report for February, March and April 2018 were provided in the Agenda package to the FCSS Advisory Committee members.

Representative Raymond asked Laurel if there was anything to add.

Laurel advised that all Leduc County FCSS staff are very busy. Laurel said that waiting lists for services are unfortunately frequent. Laurel said that the Dr. Debra MacNamara Conference on Thursday had 100+ attendees and Friday had approximately 80.

## **8. Community FCSS Reports**

Copies of the Community FCSS Reports for February, March and April 2018 were provided in the Agenda package to the FCSS Advisory Committee members.

Representative Raymond asked Laurel if there was anything to add.

Laurel said everyone is working very hard.

Discussion ensued.

**9. Adjournment**

**09 - 18** Representative Tina Smith -- that the FCSS Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The Organizational FCSS Advisory Committee regular meeting concluded at 6:30 p.m.

The next FCSS Advisory Committee meeting will take place on:

Wednesday, June 20, 2018  
5:00 p.m.  
Room 530, County Centre



Chairperson



Director of FCSS