



# FCSS Advisory Committee Organizational Meeting

## Minutes

*Community & Operations Centre boardroom, Nisku, AB*

***Wednesday, November 20, 2024***

### 1) Order and roll call

The meeting was called to order at 4:55 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, by Kelly-Lynn Lewis (Leduc County) with committee members Jaime McKeag-Reber (Calmar), Ray Scobie (Leduc County), Darryl Hostyn (Thorsby), Rick Hart (Warburg), and Ledise Mason (West) present.

Absent from the meeting was committee member Jolene Doig (East).

#### Other attendees

- Dean Ohnysty, Director of Community Services
- Sara Russell, Manager of Community Support Services
- Carla Huculak, Senior Services Coordinator
- Bradi Reusser, FCSS Practicum Student
- Corrie Richer, Administrative Assistant FCSS

### 2) Introductions

Round table introductions occurred.

### 3) Nominations for CHAIR and VICE CHAIR

#### Nomination of Chair

Dean led the committee in the election of Chair.

Dean called for nominations for the position of Chair.

Representative Scobie nominated Representative Lewis to stand as Chair.

No other nominations were brought forward.

Motion            Representative Lewis– that nominations for Chair cease.

Carried unanimously

Representative Lewis was acclaimed Chair of the FCSS Advisory Committee.

Representative Lewis took over the meeting as Chair.

#### Nomination for Vice Chair

Representative Lewis called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair.

Representative Lewis nominated Representative Hart.

No other nominations were brought forward.

Motion            Representative McKeag-Reber – that nominations for Vice Chair cease.

Carried unanimously

Representative Hart was acclaimed Vice Chair of the FCSS Advisory Committee.

#### 4) Agenda adoption

Motion Representative Hostyn – that the agenda for the November 20, 2024, FCSS Advisory Committee organizational meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried unanimously

#### 5) Adoption of previous minutes

Motion Representative Scobie – that the minutes from the September 18, 2024, FCSS Advisory Committee regular meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried unanimously

#### 6) General business

##### a) Leduc County Aging Well Toolkit

Carla reviewed the Leduc County Aging Well Toolkit with committee members and provided the following information:

- The Aging Well in Leduc County Workbook is the first piece of the full Aging Well in Leduc County Toolkit.
- The workbook was created to support Leduc County residents to age in place with appropriate resources for as long as possible.
- While there are other guidebooks and similar tools that exist, this is the first tool specifically geared towards Leduc County.
- Time was spent capturing the unique stories and experiences of older adult residents, caregivers, and even service providers within the County to determine the specific needs of the residents and the areas that the workbook should address.
- There is a direct link on the Leduc County website to the workbook and a friendly URL as well to access the tool.
- This workbook is the first component of the more largescale toolkit, which will be continued in 2025. The next pieces will be a resource guide for older adults as well as storyboards.
- The Aging Well in Leduc County workbook is a step-by-step planning guide that can be used by:
  - Anyone ready to preplan their aging.
  - Older adults at any stage, who needs to adjust their plans or supports.
  - Family members or caregivers of older adults who are wanting to support their loved ones.
  - Professionals supporting older adults to create an aging well plan.
- The workbook is broken into seven different main sections.

- The workbook is designed to inspire the user to consider and explore areas of their life that they may not have previously considered and then make a plan to address any gaps or challenges as they age.

Sara commented that the workbook is a good example of the work that Carla does with seniors. It is so important to have something written down and to consider other aspects of aging. Everything is on the Leduc County website and will continue to be updated and adapted to the needs of residents.

Discussion ensued.

Motion            Representative Mason – that the FCSS Advisory Committee receives agenda item 6. a) Leduc County Aging Well Toolkit as information.

Carried unanimously

**b) Leduc Regional Elder Abuse Coordinated Community Response Team**

Sara reviewed the report with committee members, noting the following:

- In early 2024, Leduc County supported Riseup Society apply for a grant from the Alberta Elder Abuse Awareness Council (AEAAC). Unfortunately, the application was unsuccessful.
- The AEAAC was contacted to get guidance for future applications, and it was recommended that a Coordinated Community Response (CCR) Team be established for the region.
- A team was established in October with the following partners:
  - Riseup Society Alberta
  - Leduc County FCSS
  - City of Leduc FCSS
  - Beaumont FCSS
  - Devon FCSS
  - RCMP (Leduc, Thorsby, Beaumont)
  - Central Alberta Regional Victim Services Society (CARVSS)
- The team will contribute to a coordinated and collaborative approach by sharing expertise, discussing cases facilitating problem solving, expediting the referral process, identifying gaps in service and developing strategies to address elder abuse.

Sara commented that with the work that FCSS provides to Leduc County seniors, FCSS regularly comes across situations of elder abuse and that there is currently a lack of support, services and resources for these seniors, especially in rural areas.

Discussion ensued.

Motion            Representative McKeag-Reber – that the FCSS Advisory Committee receives agenda item 6. b) Leduc Regional Elder Abuse Coordinated Community Response Team as information.

Carried unanimously

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**c) Family Violence Awareness month**

Sara reviewed the report with committee members, highlighting the following:

- FCSS promoted awareness through the month of November through advertising and the distribution of coasters. The coasters are designed to encourage healthy relationships with thought provoking messages to open conversations for residents.
- Sara noted the locations of where the coasters were distributed.
- FCSS hosted a successful event called Creating Change on November 1<sup>st</sup> with 48 participants. The Alberta Council of Women's Shelters presented Domestic Violence and Your Workplace, where participant explored recognizing the signs of domestic violence and how it shows up at work. The Centre for Sexuality presented on Masculinities and Healthy Relationships.

Discussion ensued.

Motion            Representative Hart – that the FCSS Advisory Committee receives agenda item 6. c) Family Violence Awareness month as information.

Carried unanimously

**7) Reports**

**a) FCSS Advisory Committee Report – September to November 2024**

Sara reviewed the report with committee members.

Discussion ensued.

**b) FRN Advisory Committee Report – September to November 2024**

Dean reviewed the report with committee members.

Discussion ensued.

Motion            Representative Scobie – that the FCSS Advisory Committee receives agenda items 7. a) FCSS Advisory Committee Report and 7. b) FRN Advisory Committee Report as information.

Carried unanimously

**8) Information items**

**a) FCSSAA – Challenges facing FCSS – September 2024**

Sara reviewed the report with committee members providing the following information:

- The FCSSAA asked what are the most significant challenges for your FCSS program?



- Out of the fifty responses received, the key themes and most significant challenges identified for the FCSS program revolved around funding limitations, increased demand for services, staffing shortages, complex client needs and gaps in available supports.
- Summary of key themes:
  - Funding constraints
  - Government program gaps
  - Staffing shortages
  - Increasing demand and complexity of needs
  - Homelessness and housing
  - Transportation
  - Supporting newcomers
  - Volunteer shortages

Discussion ensued.

Motion          Representative Hostyn – that the FCSS Advisory Committee receives agenda item 8. a)  
FCSSAA – Challenges facing FCSS – September 2024 as information.

Carried unanimously

## 9) Adjournment

Motion          Representative Lewis – that the FCSS Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

Carried unanimously

  
Chairperson

  
Director of Community Services