

**MINUTES OF THE LEDUC COUNTY FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2019 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 4:59 p.m. on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 by Nathan Raymond, Thorsby Representative, with committee members Rick Smith (Leduc County), Ray Scobie (Leduc County), Lin Rehn, Calmar Representative, Giselle Messer, Rural (West) Representative and Missy Chehayeb, Rural (East) Representative in attendance.

Tina Smith, Warburg Representative, was absent from the meeting.

Also present were Dean Ohnysty, Leduc County Director of Community Services, Carol Tabone, Leduc County FCSS Manager of Family Support Services, Sara Russell, Leduc County FCSS Manager of Community Support Services and Corrie Richer, Leduc County FCSS Administrative Assistant.

**Introductions**

N/A

**Agenda Adoption**

**01 - 19** Representative Scobie -- that the Agenda for the February 20, 2019 FCSS Advisory Committee Organizational Meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

**Previous Minutes**

**Regular Meeting – November 6, 2018**

**02 - 19** Representative Scobie -- that the November 6, 2018 FCSS Advisory Committee Regular Meeting minutes be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

**5. General Business**

**5.1 Organizational Meeting – Election**

- Dean led the committee in the election of Chairman.
- Representative Rick Smith nominated Representative Raymond.
- No other nominations were brought forward.
- Representative Raymond accepted the nomination and was acclaimed Chair of the FCSS Advisory Committee.

- Representative Raymond requested nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.
- Representative Rick Smith nominated Representative Scobie.
- No other nominations were brought forward.
- Representative Scobie accepted the nomination and was acclaimed Vice-Chair of the FCSS Advisory Committee.

## **5.2 Multi-Municipal Agreement overview**

- The Multi-Municipal Agreement establishes the four municipalities that work within the agreement.
- Dean and Sara met with the Province to better understand the expectations for funding and funding distribution.
- The staffing of the FCSS offices in each municipality is unique.
- Information is collected from each municipality by Leduc County FCSS. From the information collected, Leduc County FCSS provides reports to the Province.
- There will be a review of the funding and reporting process.

Discussion ensued.

Representative Raymond motioned to accept agenda items 5.1 and 5.2 as information.

Carried Unanimously

## **6. Information Items**

### **6.1 Home Support program changes**

Sara reviewed the changes with the committee members.

- The Outreach Support/Home Help program currently has 80 clients and 14 workers.
- Serving Hands Senior Care (Serving Hands) has signed a one-year contract to provide housekeeping services to eligible seniors and adults with disabilities.
- Most of the providers have chosen to discontinue with the program and have either offered their services privately or not at all.
- Clients who wish to receive services through Serving Hands at a subsidized rate are referred to Serving Hands.
- The transition deadline is March 1, 2019.
- There may possibly be some complaints as change is hard and not much notice was given.
- Having Serving Hands take over the Outreach/Home Help services will allow more time for to assist seniors who need additional support.

Discussion ensued.

## **6.2 Christmas Elves program**

Sara provided an update on the Regional Christmas Elves & Santa's Helpers partnership to the committee.

- The Santa's Helpers board of directors requested a meeting with all of the Christmas Elves programs throughout Leduc County, to identify challenges and new ways of working together.
- There are seven programs in the region.
- There are program inconsistencies between communities.
- The committee meets two times a year.

Discussion ensued.

## **6.3 FCSS Department Annual Report**

Sara provided the annual overview of the following programs:

### **Home Alone**

- There were 10 Home Alone workshop sessions that were held in Calmar, Thorsby, Warburg and Nisku.
- New Sarepta's grade five teacher provides the material to her students.

### **Golden Rules**

- There were two workshop sessions that were held in Thorsby and New Sarepta.
- Seniors are invited to share stories about growing up in their generation, to children in the school or in the community.
- Seniors who participated in the workshop said that they felt a stronger sense of belonging in the community.

### **Community Volunteer Income Tax Program**

- 111 tax returns were completed, netting more that \$393K in refunds and access to government assistance.
- Regionally, 347 returns were completed with over \$1 million in refunds and subsidies.
- Statistics are now being collected differently to showcase the impact this service has for the community.

### **Counselling Subsidy**

- Counselling subsidies of over \$15,000 were provided to support 33 individuals, 4 couples and 6 families using a total of 188 counselling sessions.
- Access to counselling subsidies are down from previous years, but this may be due to the amount of workshops being run.

### **Family Support & Youth Services**

- This program served 30 one-on-one clients.
- There were two Grief Support groups for 15 individuals in partnership with Karunia Counselling.

### **Seniors Services**

- A total of 85 households were provided housekeeping services.
- A total of \$20,000 in subsidies were provided to assist with the cost of the housekeeping services.

Discussion ensued.

Carol Tabone reviewed statistic totals for the entire region for the following programs:

- **Leduc Regional Parent Link Centre**
- **Family Connections Home Visitation**
- **Early Childhood Resource program**
- **Bridges FASD Mentor program**

Discussion ensued.

Sara provided the annual overview for the County Connect program.

- County Connect provided \$17,677.34 in funding to residents who were homeless or living at imminent risk of homelessness.

Discussion ensued.

### **6.4 Home Alone Workshops**

Sara provided information on the upcoming Home Alone Workshops.

- Calmar March 6<sup>th</sup>
- Thorsby April 4<sup>th</sup>
- Warburg April 30<sup>th</sup>
- Nisku May 27<sup>th</sup>
- Online registration for the workshops is now available.
- County residents are given priority for workshop registration.

### **6.5 Letters of Support**

- Leduc County FCSS provided letters of support to Leduc & District Food Bank (2) and Leduc Hub.

Representative Rehn motioned to accept agenda items 6.1 to 6.5 as information.

Carried Unanimously

## **7. Leduc County FCSS Department Update**

A copy of the Leduc County FCSS Department Update for December 2018 – January 2019 was provided in the agenda package to the FCSS Advisory Committee members.

Sara reviewed the Community Partnerships with the committee members.

Dean reviewed the Council Updates and Administration with the committee members.

Sara reviewed the programs under FCSS Contracts with the committee members.

Carol reviewed the programs under Provincial Contracts with the committee members.

Discussion ensued.

Representative Raymond motioned to accept agenda item 7 as information.

Carried Unanimously

## **8. Adjournment**

03 - 19 Representative Scobie -- that the FCSS Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The FCSS Advisory Committee organizational meeting concluded at 6:15 p.m.

The next FCSS Advisory Committee meeting will be held on April 17, 2019.

  
Chairperson  
Director of Community Services