

**MINUTES OF THE LEDUC COUNTY FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 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 5:05 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 by Rick Smith, Leduc County Representative, with committee members Ray Scobie (Leduc County), Tina Smith, Warburg Representative, Cory Gilbert, Thorsby Representative, and Giselle Messer, Rural (West) Representative in attendance.

Also present were Brandee Fossen, Leduc County Family Support & Youth Services Coordinator (as presenter), 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.

Missy Chehayeb, Rural (East) Representative entered the room at 5:10 p.m.

**Introductions**

Roundtable introductions occurred.

**Agenda Adoption**

**10 - 19** Representative Scobie -- that the Agenda for the November 20, FCSS Advisory Committee Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

**Previous Minutes  
Regular Meeting – September 18, 2019**

**11 - 19** Representative Messer -- that the September 18, 2019 FCSS Advisory Committee Meeting minutes be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

**5. General Business**

**5.1 Rural Mental Health Project - Brandee Fossen**

The Government of Alberta's Valuing Mental Health report highlighted the need for attention in rural and remote areas. The Rural Mental Health Project aims to build the capacity of rural communities to consider their communities wellness, mental health and mental illness.

Brandee advertised on the New Sarepta Facebook New Group inviting residents of New Sarepta to different events (Coffee and conversation and Pizza and conversation).

Brandee also went to the Transfer Station to speak to residents. Brandee asked residents:

- What makes your community great?
- How would you make your community better?
- What are your gifts?
- What are you passionate about?

The project created a space to have people reconnect and talk about what's working in their community.

Discussion ensued.

Representative Scobie motioned to accept agenda item 5.1 as information.

Carried Unanimously

## **5.2 Social Framework - Dean**

- The Social Framework document provides a check box to work from.
- The data and research contained in the document can be used for funding applications.
- A Vision Statement was created.
- Summarized data and research (Stats Can 2016 was used as it is the most recent data available).
- Value Statements (puts us all on the same philosophy etc.).

Discussion ensued.

Representative Messer motioned to accept agenda item 5.2 as information.

Carried Unanimously

## **5.3 Provincial budget implications overview - Dean**

- FCSS will continue to monitor changes to the Provincial budget.
- This review provides a snapshot in time.
- More information will be provided as it comes available.
- It is important to know and track.

### Business Plan

- Work in partnership with community based organizations and municipalities to combat child exploitation and domestic violence.
- Support child safety and enhance parenting skills and knowledge by supporting families and caregivers in their home environment.
- Partner with civil society organizations and municipalities to provide emergency shelter for vulnerable Albertans.
- Partner with civil society organizations, municipalities and other ministries to improve housing stability through programs such as Housing First and provide appropriate supports for Albertans affected by homelessness.
- Implement a mental health and addiction strategy to move toward a quality, coordinated, connected and easily accessible mental health and addiction system.

- Expand access to a continuum of mental health and addiction services to provide a range of appropriate supports for individuals, families and communities. Develop and implement opioid response strategies that support increased access to opioid treatment and recovery services for individuals and their families.

Discussion ensued.

#### Rent Supplement Program

Budget 2019 proposes a \$0.5 million reduction to rent supplement funding for 2019-2020 working towards reductions of \$11 million in 2020-21 and \$16 million in 2021-22. This represents a 24% reduction in the Provincial Rent Supplement Budget.

Effective, Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Leduc Regional Housing Foundation (LRHF) will not be accepting new applications for Rent Supplements. LRHF Tenant Services staff will work with those clients currently in receipt of a Rent Supplement while the Provincial review process takes place. New Applications will be accepted after the new Rent Supplement Program parameters are approved (anticipated to be by February 2020).

Discussion ensued.

#### Alberta Child and Family Benefit

The Alberta Child Benefit and the Alberta Family Employment Tax Credit will be consolidated into a new Alberta Child and Family Benefit to help protect the most vulnerable by giving more to those with the lowest income.

Sara advised that the Kin Care subsidy program is being cut.

Carol estimated that the one (combined) cheque will be about \$100 higher.

The Social Framework document will help to identify where to provide services.

Discussion ensued.

#### Stay at Home Parent Subsidy (Sara)

This funding, which covers up to \$1200 per year in playschool/preschool fees will be cancelled on December 31, 2019. The funds for this program are moving over to the Alberta Child & Family Benefit.

Discussion ensued.

Representative Chehayeb motioned to accept agenda item 5.3 as information.

Carried Unanimously

#### **5.4 Provincial Early Childhood contracts – Dean**

- In early November a notice was received that as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 existing funding for Parent Link, Family Connections and Early Childhood Resources would be discontinued. A notice that an expression of interest for new contracts would be posted on November 7<sup>th</sup> for implementation April 1, 2020. Leduc County receives \$850K annually to offer these services to all communities in this region including Leduc, Beaumont and Devon. A total of 8 staff are employed in these programs through direct parent programs, in home family support and

resources, education and advocacy in the community to support family and child development.

- Programs will have same philosophy but not the same type of services.
- There are approximately 400,000 contracts in question.
- There will be no areas left without services.

Discussion ensued.

Representative Tina Smith motioned to accept agenda item 5.4 as information.

Carried Unanimously

## **6. Information Items**

### **6.1 Cloverleaf Manor Intensive Supports Program**

The George Spady Society Cloverleaf Manor Intensive Supports Program (CL-ISP) is an innovative partnership with the Leduc Regional Housing Foundation and Alberta Health Services.

With 13 residential suites, a lounge area and office space, CL-ISP services individuals in an inclusive communal living setting with a focus on wellness recovery. Cloverleaf Manor provides residents with daily meals, weekly light housekeeping and linen exchange.

#### Making a Referral

Service providers complete and forward assessments to an Alberta Health Services Intake Coordinator.

Referrals can come from different areas (not just Leduc County).

Discussion ensued.

### **6.2 211 Alberta – Q3 Report 2019**

Sara reviewed the report with committee members.

- Searches on the site have improved, but it is an ongoing process.
- Leduc County FCSS is no longer paying for the 211 services.
- It is best to connect by word of mouth and by promoting services and resources.
- The 211 website address is [www.ab.211.ca](http://www.ab.211.ca) – give it a try.
- Call in service is good but it depends on who answers and their level of training.

### **6.3 Gov. of Alberta news release – Mental Health and Addiction Council Appointed**

Dean reviewed the news release with committee members and asked that the news release be accepted as information.

Representative Scobie motioned to accept agenda items 6.1 through to 6.3 as information.

Carried Unanimously

## **7. Reports**

### **Department update for September, October & November 2019 (Dean, Carol and Sara)**

A copy of the Leduc County FCSS Department Update for September, October & November 2019 was provided in the agenda package to the FCSS Advisory Committee members.

Dean, Carol and Sara reviewed the department update with the committee members.

Representative Chehayeb motioned to accept agenda item 7 as information.

Carried Unanimously

## **8. Adjournment**

**12 - 19** Representative Scobie -- that the FCSS Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The FCSS Advisory Committee regular meeting concluded at 6:53 p.m.

The next FCSS Advisory Committee meeting date will be advised as soon as available.

  
Chairperson  
Director of Community Services