

**MINUTES OF THE LEDUC COUNTY FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16,  
2020 IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE COUNTY CENTRE BUILDING, NISKU, ALBERTA.**

**Order and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 by Tina Smith, Warburg Representative, with committee members Ray Scobie (Leduc County) and Giselle Messer, Rural (West) Representative in attendance.

Representatives Rick Smith (Leduc County), Cory Gilbert, Thorsby Representative, Keith Froese, Calmar Representative and Erin Williams (East) Representative were absent.

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**

**04 - 20** Representative Messer -- that the Agenda for the September 16, 2020 FCSS Advisory Committee Regular Meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

**Previous Minutes  
Regular Meeting – February 26, 2020**

**05 - 20** Representative Scobie -- that the February 26, 2020 FCSS Advisory Committee Meeting minutes be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

**5. General Business**

**5.1 Leduc County Family & Community Support Services PowerPoint  
presentation – *Dean, Carol and Sara***

- The FCSS PowerPoint presentation was reviewed with the committee members.
- FCSS Organizational Chart - noted that Family Resource Network (FRN) is a new provincial contract as of April 1, 2020. Parent Link (PL) and Early Childhood

Resources (ECR) programs are no longer. PL and ECR department reorganization (with one less staff) are now under the FRN program.

- Changes to the Contact and Geographical Coverage for programs and services was addressed. It was noted that the City of Leduc has its own FRN contract.
- FCSS Core Programs & Services key areas of support and services were noted.
- FCSS subsidized programs were reviewed.
- Workshops, presentations, groups and events have been adapted to be held online and by telephone (re COVID-19).
- FRN delivers high quality prevention and early intervention services and supports to families with children aged 0 to 18 (it was 0 – 6 under old contracts).
- FRN serves Beaumont, Devon, Leduc County, Calmar, Thorsby and Warburg.
- Bridges FASD Mentor Program (also under the FRN contract) provides one on one support to individuals with a diagnosis or strong indicators of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- Legislative requirements and agreements were noted.
- 2020 Highlights – It has been a unique year with unique challenges. Staff worked from home from April until June, with only some staff returning to work at the office. Assessments with Health and Safety were conducted and new protocols (safe work practice procedures) were put in place that met AHS guidelines.
- Social Services Framework and Value Statements were reviewed.
- 2021 Initiatives
  - Regional collaboration is part of the FCSS Operating Plan. Fostering regional collaboration among stakeholders and partners is a huge priority. Consideration to host an awareness event (partnering with the Chamber of Commerce) is being looked at.
  - Focus on accessibility for residents is a priority due to COVID-19.
  - Adapt annual community awareness events and create a quarterly newsletter (to be distributed by email).
  - Improve community awareness of the programs and services offered by FCSS and FRN (residents and agencies need to be aware of these services).
- Council guidelines for 2021 budget were reviewed.
  - This is a unique year for budget.
  - Projected decreases to tax revenue and increase to expenditures.
  - Proposed measures to balance the 2021 budget.
  - The FCSS department will review all services and service levels to find efficiencies in how services are being offered.

Discussion ensued.

Representative Messer to accept agenda item 5.1 as information.

Carried Unanimously

## **6. Information Items**

### **6.1 Family Resource Network update – Carol**

- Home Visitation and Parent Link staff were identified as change in job their descriptions, which has a wider range of supports.
- Training to support older age range was taken by some staff.
- Brain Story certification is a requirement with 1 year to complete; all FRN staff have completed.
- The environment at FRN sites is to be more inviting to older children.
- The FRN contract is under a different deputy minister (from PL and ECR).
- The FRN program has been well received and new referrals are coming in from new sources such as the Stollery and RCMP.
- The Devon and Thorsby sites will be housing staff to be in the communities.
- A good relationship with Black Gold has been established.
- Staff are trying to stay ahead of issues such as CERB (repayment required), mental health and domestic violence.

Discussion ensued.

### **6.2 FCSS update - Sara**

- Very good success with the transition to online and telephone programming.
- Refocused promotional efforts to direct people to the Leduc County website and calendar.
- Using paid Facebook ads as well as an email subscription list.
- Mileage savings due to support to clients primarily being offered online and by telephone.
- Adjustments required in how income tax return assistance was delivered.
- Modification of the Babysitting Course to online.
- Fall Community Awareness events were cancelled. Advertising campaign and resident mail out. 41 agencies/organizations, churches and schools participated in the 2020 Community Awareness Project from around the County.

Discussion ensued.

Representative Scobie motioned to accept agenda items 6.1 and 6.2 as information.

Carried Unanimously

## **7. Reports**

### **7.1 FCSS Activity Report – September 2020**

A copy of the Leduc County FCSS Department Update for December 2019 – February 2020 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 Scobie to accept agenda item 7.1 as information.

Carried Unanimously

## **8. Adjournment**

**06 - 20** Representative Messer -- that the FCSS Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The FCSS Advisory Committee regular meeting concluded at 6:25 p.m.

The next FCSS Advisory Committee meeting is November 18, 2020.

  
Chairperson

  
Director of Community Services