

# NORTHWEST CENTRAL FASD NETWORK

2nd Quarter April, May, June 2021

Welcome to the second edition of the NWC FASD Network newsletter for 2021. We have begun a new fiscal year as of April 1, 2021. Some changes have taken place. We welcome the new FASD service providers to our West Zone, Hinton Adult Learning Centre. We have also expanded services in our Central Zone through Healthy Families Healthy Futures to include two full time positions for FASD/PCAP/Prevention Conversation with full services to Barrhead, Swan Hills, Lac St Anne County, Westlock and area. Also within our Central Zone we have expanded services to the First Nation's community of Calling Lake. This last position will be working closely with the school and recreation facility to ensure FASD supports to children and youth residing in the community.

The logo for HIV EDMONTON features the letters 'HIV' in a large, bold, black font. The letter 'I' is replaced by a vertical red bar. Below 'HIV' is the word 'EDMONTON' in a smaller, bold, black font. The logo is set against a background of overlapping geometric shapes in shades of purple, blue, and orange.

It is with deepest sympathy that we say goodbye to a loving and highly respected Leadership Team member, Gloria Hamelin of Swan Hills, who passed away this year. You will be immensely missed.

We held our Annual General Meeting via Zoom on June 3, 2021. We have experienced some changes within our Leadership Team. This year we say goodbye to Anna Skinner, West Zone Director, who will be replaced by Matricia Brown from Jasper. Erica Jagodzinsky is stepping down from North Zone Director to Director as she is moving to the city. Her position will now be held by Trudy L'Hironodelle. Welcome and thank you for joining our team Matricia and Trudy.

We are planning a retreat for October 2021 for the LT Team and Network staff. We are the proud recipients of a Leadership Bursary from ALIGN that will allow us to have a Team Building and Leadership workshop with Barbara May out of St Albert.



Okimaw Ohci Healing Centre in Maple Creek, Saskatchewan

# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND PRAYERS

As discussed and voted on at our AGM the NWC FASD Network will be honoring Treaty 6 and Treaty 8 Indigenous lands where our region resides as well as opening and closing each Leadership Team meeting with a prayer.



Hinton  
Employment &  
Learning  
Place

New partnerships have been created this quarter with two well known Edmonton agencies. HIV Edmonton and the NWC FASD Network are partnering to bring a stronger focus on sexual health to our Parent and Child Assistance Program, PCAP, which serves women of childbearing years who may have or be at risk of having issues with substance abuse. A further aim of this partnership is to bring Sexual Health education and sexually transmitted infection testing to the First Nation's communities within our region. We are very excited about assisting to bring this valuable knowledge and service to these remote communities to better serve our clients there and increase the health and well being of the community.

We have entered into a partnership with The Mustard Seed aligning our In Reach Program, serving residents of Edmonton's justice facilities, with their Re-Integration program that provide assistance to residents upon release from federal institutes. We are in talks to discuss the potential of replicating some of The Mustard Seed's excellent supports and services to our rural towns. Possibly more to come on this issue next quarter!

NWC FASD Network has updated their Facebook and website. We are also considering expanding our Social Media to include Instagram.

Please feel free to check us out and drop us a line at

<https://www.facebook.com/nwcfasd> and [www.nwcfasd.ca](http://www.nwcfasd.ca)

Restorative Justice Training has taken place for two of our Network staff, Donna Kristiansen and Yvette Kraychy. They will receive further training in partnership from Central FASD Network. This will hopefully enable the Network to provide Restorative Justice Circles for our clients and offer this service to other agencies within our region.

After a terrific presentation from the Office of Public Guardian and Trustee the Network is embarking on a journey to have both of our Registered Social Workers, Donna Kristiansen and Sharon Pearcey, trained as Designated Capacity Assessors to not only assist our clients but those of other agencies.

## OUR IN REACH PROGRAM HAS EXPANDED YET AGAIN.

As part of our service to the Edmonton Institute for Women we are reaching out to the women's healing lodges across the prairies as many residents are transferred there when they reach a certain standing in their incarceration. We wanted to ensure the FASD informed supports and services available to these transferred women to not cease once they leave Alberta. We are happy to announce we have successfully partnered with Eagle Woman's Lodge in Winnipeg, Manitoba and Okimaw Ohci in Maple Creek, Saskatchewan. We are in the process of bringing FASD training to staff, doing a train the trainer to facility staff to provide FASD focused sharing circles with their Elders and Knowledge Keepers,, and are working on how to either bring FASD Assessments to these women or at the very least FASD informed Psychological Assessments enabling women to receive financial and other supports upon release. We have connected with both FASD Hubs in those provinces, Manitoba FASD and Saskatchewan FASD Network along with Life's Journey in Winnipeg and are learning all of the potential supports available for these women as well as pursuing active partnerships..

Our annual financial audit has been completed and we are financially in good standing to provide excellent FASD supports and services in the coming 2021-2022 year. Of course we will continue to pursue grants and are hoping that Covid restrictions allow us to do a casino this year. We have been fortunate to already be recipients of two grants

1. ALIGN Leadership Bursary , \$3500, to be used for Leadership Team and Network development workshop in October
2. Edmonton Community Foundation has provided the In Reach Program with \$5000 to support the purchasing of Transitional Care Packages for individuals being released from justice facilities. These packages will include phone cards, phones (if needed), clothes, food and travel vouchers, hygiene items and resource information to set them up on a path for success.

\*We will be actively pursuing provincial and federal grants in partnership with healing lodges in Manitoba and Saskatchewan facilities and the FASD Hubs in those provinces. to support potential FASD Assessments and/or FASD informed Psychological Assessments for women transitioning out of those justice facilities.

### Client Success Story

I have a young lady who's been coming in and out of the community over the years. She struggled with meth addictions, justice system, homelessness and mental health. Between her addictions councillor and me we've tried keeping a tab on her whereabouts. Last I heard she was running from the cops who had a warrant for her arrest. Then unfortunately she fell off my radar... Last month I got a message on Facebook at 11:24 pm saying "Hey! I know it's late but I got a new number if you wanna give me a call". Today May 18 2021 she is 100 days clean!!!! Living at Her House in Edmonton and working through step1 with her sponsor every Sunday.



**ALIGN**

Association of Community Services  
Together for Children and Families

**EDMONTON  
COMMUNITY**  
FOUNDATION