

Camrose Interagency Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 11, 2019
1:15 – 3:15 p.m.
2nd Floor Conference Room – Community Centre (CDSS)

Present: Melodie Stol, The Bethany Group; Diane McLaren, Camrose Adult Learning Council; Nora-Lee Rear, Camrose Women’s Shelter; Del Marlow, Alberta Supports; Suzanne Dumont, Kids Campus Daycare Society; Jo-Anne Tweed, Camrose Neighbour Aid; Joy LeBlanc, Hospice Society, Camrose & District; Shannon Stolee, Camrose Public Library; Robyn Gray, Camrose Public Library; Clarence Hastings, Rural Community Programs, CDSS; Alicia Bell, Children’s Services; Margaret Holliston, Camrose and District Support Services; and Margaret Falk, Recording Secretary, CDSS.

Margaret Holliston in the Chair

1. **Welcome & Introductions** - Margaret called the meeting to order at 1:15 a.m.
2. **Agenda** – Margaret Holliston noted a revision to the agenda.
3. **Conversation: City of Camrose Strategic Plan** – Margaret Holliston highlighted the City’s new Strategic Plan. Trina McCarroll, Corporate Business Planner (Strategy & Corporate Planning) with the City of Camrose, presented the Plan to the Social Development Committee in November 2018, supported by Councillor Max Lindstrand. At that time, several SDC members expressed concern that underlying social issues (addictions/poverty/mental health, etc.) are not referenced in the social wellness/development pillar and not included as one of the four strategic focus areas for change. Several Interagency members identified a growing need for affordable child care, noting that there are wait lists for child care. Kids Campus and Camrose Children’s Centre both participate in the provincial \$25/day project; more \$25/day spaces would be helpful. Some members expressed interest in attending a community gathering to learn more about the Strategic Plan.

Please note important dates for opportunity for your input (sent by Trina McCarroll, Corporate Business Planner, City of Camrose via email)

The City of Camrose is creating a calendar of events for Council for all of 2019 and one of the first important dates is a Public Open House to discuss the Strategic Plan, City Priorities, and the Budget. It will be held on **May 9 from 5:30 - 7:30 pm** (location to be determined - possibly Council Chambers or Rec Centre or Library). Council members and Administration will be in attendance to hear from the public on their thoughts for City priorities and budget implications. Interagency members are welcome to attend.

The City of Camrose has begun strategic planning for the Camrose Police Service early February and there will be opportunity for public engagement for the police specifically (versus the City as a whole). The Open House for Police Priorities will be held on **March 13 from 4-7pm** at the Rec Centre Room #2. Discussion topics will include what policing services are working well and what public safety and policing items need increased attention. Any members of the public as well as Interagency are welcome.

4. **Edmonton Mennonite Centre/Catholic Social Services** - Margaret Holliston received an email from Suzanne Gross, Edmonton Mennonite Centre and Kathryn Friesen, Catholic Social Services, requesting information regarding strengths and gaps in services for immigrants and refugees in the Camrose community. The information required is copied from the email, below. Please email Suzanne Gross at sgross@emch.ab.ca if you are interested in providing input.

As more and more immigrants and refugees move into rural areas of our province, there is a desire on the part of our federal and provincial governments to find out how our rural communities are doing with respect to supporting immigrants as they integrate into your community. We have identified Camrose as a community that has settled over 100 newcomers in the last 5 years and thought we would reach out to FCSS through an exploratory email. We have identified two overarching questions to explore:

- 1) Are there innovative practices that have emerged in rural communities that we can learn from and create a forum for sharing these best practices across the province?
- 2) Are there gaps in services and supports to newcomers that large centre agencies might be able to support through various means, including, but not limited to:
 - Immigrant youth in their adaptation to school through a cultural brokering model that bridges cultural understanding between the family and the school
 - Immigration processes for people involved in these (sponsorship, family reunification, permanent resident card application, citizenship application) so that newcomers have reduced stress when it comes to stability of status, and the hope of family reunification
 - Mental health and the immigrant experience – both to support systems through workshops, and to potentially offer distance counselling for immigrants/refugees themselves so that newcomers feel supported and can come to terms with their pre-migration experiences and learn not only to manage, but to thrive in Canada
 - Employment topics to understand the Canadian labour market tools and approaches as well as the Canadian workplace culture so that newcomers can be successful in their employment tenure and thereby contribute to the economic and labour community of Alberta.

Diane McLaren noted that **Action for Healthy Communities** will be providing a part-time person from the Camrose community to help refugees and immigrants settle in Camrose. They are partnering with Camrose Adult Learning Council and the Camrose Refugee Committee to provide this service. More details to come.

Margaret Holliston will reply to Suzanne Gross, Edmonton Mennonite Centre; Kathryn Friesen, Catholic Social Services and cc Diane McLaren to explain what is happening in Camrose.

Some discussion was held with regards to the potential of Catholic Social Services opening a program in Camrose.

5. Member Reports

Melodie Stol - The Bethany Group

The Bethany Group will be hosting a focused community conversation with the UPC, Alberta Party and NDP candidates on Thursday, March 7th from 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. in the Heritage Building (Rosehaven). This is open to the public. Questions will be focused on seniors, housing and continuing care. Confirmation has been received from the NDP and Alberta Party candidates. Agencies are invited to submit written questions around social service issues. The process to submit questions will be included in the advertisement.

There are currently some vacancies throughout the Bethany Housing.

Dianne McLaren – Camrose Adult Learning Council

CALC has a lot of learning opportunities. Please contact Dianne McLaren at 780-672-8754 or email calc@ for further information regarding the following training opportunities.

- Essential Skills & Career Transition Training Program will be offered April 16 – June, 2019, Tuesday to Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – noon. Participants will learn basic math, reading, document use, and writing skills. All books and materials are covered, just show up for class
- Free Career Transition Workshop – May 6 to 11 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Participants will learn resume and cover letter development, network and interview skills, managing change and job loss, social media and job search, career planning.
- YouTube Video Production Workshop – Saturday, March 23; 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Experienced YouTuber, Tanya Fox, walk you through the steps of creating YouTube videos as a promotion tool.
- Let's Get Out in Nature – Connect with the Great Outdoor – Parents and children will have the chance to engage more fully with their outdoor environments in a variety of weather conditions. Sessions will be offered for 4 weeks on Tuesdays, March 12 – April 2, 2019, from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. and 4 weeks on Tuesdays, April 9 – April 30, 2018 from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Location is Stoney Creek Centre, 5320 – 39 Ave. Pre-registration is required at \$20.00/family. Contact Karen Hills at 780-672-8754 or email familit@camroselearning.com
- Winter 2019 Courses and Services for Adults include:
 - Learning and Career Planning Consultation
 - Practical Writing and Reading Skills for Life and Work Course
 - Trades Entrance Exam Prep, GED Prep or Practical Nurse Math Prep Online Courses
 - Resume Development Workshops
 - ESL Practical Writing and Reading Skills for Life and Work Course
 - Basic Keyboarding and Computer Skills – coming soon.

Jolene Doig – Early Coalition Development and Family Resource Centre A Parent Link Centre
(report Submitted)

Camrose and Area Early Childhood Development Coalition - The coalition is finalizing prep for a strong presence at family day festivities with Camrose Parent Link on Sunday the 17th at the Recreation Centre. We also are continuing on sharing our simple connections stronger families resource with professionals in the community and surrounding rural areas.

We are also getting ready for our year end (March) and the administration work that goes along with that. The Coalition is still waiting to hear about grant extension to see if and when the ECCA grant will be extended.

Camrose Family Resource Centre – A Parent Link Centre - There are many exciting events coming from Camrose FRC

February 17th from 2:00 – 6:00 Camrose FRC and Camrose Kodiaks are joining forces for Family Day. The FRC will be providing family friendly activities, games and crafts around the rink as the Kodiaks play their home game and participate in the skills competition!

March 14th from 3:00 – 6:00 ASQ Fair - The fieldhouse is booked and FRC staff will be present distributing and scoring ASQ's. Activities will be set up for families and children to engage in all of the different developmental domains.

Triple P – The centre is running a variety of discussion, seminar, groups, and one and one meetings for triple p. feel free to contact either centre at any time for referrals.

Nora-Lee Rear – Camrose Women's Shelter

The Camrose Women's Shelter is looking for a part-time person with ECD level one to employ as a Child Care Support worker. Resumes can be emailed to Nora-Lee at admin@camrosewomens.org

Del Marlow – AB Supports

As a result of Bill 26 Alberta Supports (benefits/income support/AISH) rates were increased. Everything has been indexed back to the last Provincial election and will be indexed each and every year. Changes have also been made to overpayment processes.

Suzanne Dumont – Kids Campus Daycare Society

- Beginning April 1st Kids Campus Daycare is entering its 3rd year of receiving the ELCCC \$25.00/day fees. As a result of receiving this grant, Kids Campus was able to extend hours from 6:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. There are 122 childcare centres that receive the \$25.00/day funding. Waitlists at Kid Campus and the Camrose Children Centre (a second ELCC site in Camrose) are high.
- Kid Campus will be celebrating their 10 year anniversary this year!

Joanne Tweed – Neighbour Aid

Food Bank hours are Tues., Wed., Thurs. from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (Bread pick up is every morning). The Office hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. During office hours donations will be received and appointments for immediate financial assistance is a possibility. Food bank drives were lower than normal over the Christmas season, but through monetary donations the Food Bank is doing alright. Donations are always gratefully accepted.

Joy LeBlanc – Hospice Society of Camrose and District

All Hospice Programs are offered without cost to participants. For more information, or to register for any Hospice program call 780-608-0636 or email camrosehospice@gmail.com. Posters are regularly featured in the Interagency newsletter, or visit <https://www.camrosehospice.org/> for a complete listing of all Hospice Society of Camrose and District programming. Upcoming and current programs include:

- Men's Cooking Circle – February 28 – April 15, 2018
- Walking with Sorrow: Exploring Our Grief – an 8 week daytime grief support group; Mondays, February 25 – April 15, 10:00 a.m. – noon
- Volunteer Training Weekend in Sedgewick – March 29 – 31
- Nav-Care – Support During a Chronic Illness. Utilizing trained volunteers, the outcome of NavCare is that navigation services provide individuals with support, education and connection to resources in the community to help improve their quality of life and remain in their communities.
- Support for those Facing Bereavement and Grief in Bashaw, Camrose, and Sedgewick.
- Story Box: An Art Project Child-Grief Support Group – Ages 7 – 12, dates to be announced.
- Daytime Grief Support Group for Adults – February 25 – 15; 10:00 a.m. – noon
- Suicide-Related Grief Support Group – Details to be determined. (mid-March start)
- Drop-In Coffee and Conversation – weekly on Thursday mornings from 7:15 – 8:30 a.m
- Grief-Support Walking Group – 52 weeks/year on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. Winter walking takes place at the Camrose Recreation Centre indoor walking track (2nd. Floor) There is a \$3.00 fee when using the track if you don't already have a walking pass.
- Bereavement and Grief Workshops facilitated by Colette Howery and Donna Lynne Erickson.
- One on One grief support.

Shannon Stolee – Camrose Public Library

- Camrose Public Library, Service Options for Seniors, and Elder Safe are co-hosting a presentation from Carissa Halton on March 8, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 57. Carissa will share stories about relationships and finding community in unlikely places. Carissa is an author, speaker, and facilitator and she will explore with participants how to find connection and hope in our communities.
- Shannon circulated the February Camrose Public Library programming poster. (These were included in the February, 2019 Interagency Newsletter).

Robyn Gray – Camrose Public Library

- Robyn Gray is the new Camrose Public Library Director. Robyn is looking forward to partnering and collaborating with the community and agencies to continue to offer excellent programming.

Clarence Hastings – Rural Community Program Director

- Camrose and District Men's Shed turns 5 this year. Camrose and Area Men's Shed is a group of men who do things shoulder to shoulder to help out the community, support each other emotionally through life's stresses, and celebrate achievements. The Shed is open to men of all ages regardless of skill or ability. This group is always open to hearing presentations from agencies, and willing to help out when needed.
- The Rural Community Program is actively fundraising for a new van.
- Alberta Chapter of Canadian Mental Health Association: A letter of interest has been submitted to hire a Community Animator to provide education, but mostly coordinate a Mental Health Coalition in Camrose and Area. The intent is to bring service providers together to identify gaps and activities of potential partners in the coalition to better address the capacity and provision of mental health services in our area. A select few communities have already been called up for 2019 and a uptake in 2020 could see the Camrose community establishing one of its own.

Helen Samm – Camrose Women's Shelter

- Helen is the Community Outreach Worker. Helen assists with transitioning women who have stayed at the shelter, back into the community of their choosing and/or supporting women and/or men who have not stayed in the Shelter but need assistance in the form of encouragement, advice, referrals, searching for housing, etc. Helen can meet in homes, if safe, or at a public location. Helen locates her program 2 days/week at PCN. For more information about the Outreach Program or to book a family violence awareness presentation, contact Helen at 780-679-4975 ext. 2
- The Women's Shelter is participating in a Zumbathon, a worldwide solidarity to end violence against women, on February 14th from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. at the St. Andrew's Anglican Church.

Margaret Holliston – Camrose and District Support Services (report submitted)

- **2019 CDSS Help Book:** Thank you to all the agencies who have helped CDSS cover the costs for Help Book 2019. CDSS is very pleased with the new production and cost. Help Book 2019 looks great and has been available for agencies for about two weeks. If you haven't picked up your allotment yet, please call us.
- **Community Transportation Advisory Committee:** CDSS has been invited to attend a gathering of agencies that help distribute taxi tokens, hosted by CTAC, on February 21. There will also be an update on the Community Bus and the Camrose Connector. I look forward to a good turn-out and conversation.
- **Family and Community Safety (FCS) Grant (one-year only):** As reported in November, I prepared a proposal on behalf of the Family Violence Response Council focusing on some of the priorities identified at a Community Networking and Capacity-Building workshop hosted by the U of A Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities in June 2017. When I submitted the proposal on November 28 just before rushing off to a conference, I had a mistake in the email address. I did not realize that until it was too late to re-submit. I regret the error because we truly need this type of project. At the same time, if the FCS grant continues after 2019, we will be in a strong position to submit another proposal, triple-checking the address before clicking 'send'. Meanwhile, the Family Violence Response Council is exploring alternatives, including some training and other grant sources.
- **OSCAR after school care:** OSCAR is licensed and accredited, and located within our K-6 schools. Registration is year-round, space permitting; however, OSCAR also has spring registration and encourages parents not to wait until late August/early September if they want their children to attend OSCAR during the first week of school, or at all, given space limitations. Registration for 2019-20 will be held at the Community Centre on June 4 (1 – 4 pm), June 5 (9 – 7 pm) and June 6 (9 am – 1 pm). Look for more details in upcoming Interagency Newsletters.

- **Pre-School:** Camrose and District Pre-School, a licensed Pre-School with an ECD learning-through-play focus, is going strong this year, and preparations are already underway for 2019-2020 registration. Registration Day is March 18 at the Community Centre, with more details provided in the March Interagency Newsletter. Registration will continue over the spring and summer, and into the fall, but early registration is encouraged to ensure families get the space (day and time) that works best for them.
- **Rural Homelessness Estimation Count:** The Alberta Rural Development Network is working with the data submitted by the twenty communities that participated in the project and expects to send us the Camrose report in March. We will share the report when we receive it.
- **Supportive Information and Referral:** CDSS continues to offer this helpful service on an as-requested basis and encourages agencies to refer clients if their particular service is not an applicable fit for people looking for help. Signi Bruner will listen to folks and help them sort out their issues and needs, and also help them prepare for referrals. Up to three in-person sessions, with telephone follow-up as well.

Seniors Coalition

- **Seniors Expo:** Camrose Seniors Coalition is hosting a Seniors Expo (display fair) in the Rosehaven Auditorium and Atrium on Friday June 7, 10 to 2 pm (exact time still to be confirmed). Thanks to The Bethany Group for offering the space. We will have more information and a poster for the April Interagency Newsletter, and will appreciate Interagency assistance helping us get the word out at that time.
- **Supports for the Journey: A Planning Guide to Aging in Place in Camrose:** Another reminder that I can provide an electronic print-ready copy of the Planning Guide upon request (cdss@telus.net), or check the CDSS website www.camrosefcss.ca (click on Elder Care Planning Guide in the left-hand menu on the home page) to download this valuable community resource.

Social Development Committee

- **2019 Planning:** The SDC met earlier this month, and will continue some action planning at its next meeting in March. Until then, the committee hasn't planned any specific agency or public engagement initiatives for 2019. The studies and reports done over the past ten years still apply. One emerging priority, however: the SDC would like the City to host a "committee of committees" gathering once a year so that committees can better understand each other's mandate and, possibly, identify ways we might better communicate or even collaborate on priority areas.

Donna Coombs, Service Options for Seniors (Report Submitted, not present)

SOS continues to be busy. We are once again preparing for start of our income tax program the beginning of March. We have 3 volunteers again this year.

We have launched our coffee cafe the second and fourth Thursday mornings from 1030 am to noon. This weeks topic speaker is Bill Harder of the Hospice Society. Then Feb. 28th will see Jane Cherry from the arts centre to answer any questions and update us on their programs.... keep checking the Morning News for further listing of specialty visitors to our office. Come have a coffee and cookie and join the discussion.

We are having a raffle to help support our operations . We have had a donation of a beautiful table runner and 6 place mats for this spring. Tickets are \$2.00 each.

If you've not seen our new offices yet, what are you waiting for, stop by and see us. 5014B 48 St. 780-672-4131.

6. **Next Meeting – Monday, May 13, 2019, 1:15 p.m.**