



Newcomers With Disabilities - Navigating The System

Date/Time:

May 30th, 2023 / 1:00PM – 3:00PM

Location: Zoom

Chairs: Mezaun Lakha-Evin, Michael Farr

In Attendance:

Ashija Joshi (ASSIST Community Service Centre)
 Ben Patmore (CCIS)
 Emma Kieftenbeld (Edmonton Employment Resource Centre)
 Fiona Lowes Boyd (CIWA)
 Fran L.
 Manisha Dave (Immigrant Services Calgary)
 Melinda Noyes (Autism Edmonton)
 Meri Topchieva (Alberta Ability Network)

Michael Farr (EmployAbilities)
 Phillip Ney (Inclusion Alberta)
 Sarah Brazeau (Easter Seals Alberta)
 Sholeh Mahdavi (CCIS)
 Teagan Catingub (Catholic Social Services)
 Tessa Turner (ACT Alberta)
 Yuki Landry (Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton)

Meeting Minutes

Welcome
 Land Acknowledgement
 Breakout Rooms
 Meeting considerations
 Review of last month's meeting minutes

Spotlight Agency:

CIWA – Resource Guide overview

- CIWA's vision is to empower immigrant women and enrich Canadian society.
- Their core service areas are settlement and integration, language training and childcare, employment, and family and business services.
- Language Training provides language classes to clients to help them achieve English proficiency. Childcare is provided for the student's children.
- They have 2 LINC Special Needs classes for clients with physical and intellectual disabilities.



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- CCIS will be sending 2 of their clients to CIWA for services.
- If you have questions please contact reception@ciwa-online.com

Easter Seals Alberta

- Easter Seals Alberta provides services for people with disabilities and medical conditions.
- Their 3 agency pillars are Accessibility Supports, Camp Horizon, and the McQueen Resistance.
- With their equipment loan program, they provide equipment to people with disabilities. If a client isn't qualified to get something covered through ADL, they might qualify for this program. This is aimed to increase independence and relieve caregiver burden.
- Have 2 scholarships. The Supporting Students Through Accessible Technology and Mentorship program is open to students entering or in high school that have a disability, this provides \$1000 per student. The Phyllis Davidson scholarship is for post-secondary students with physical disabilities that provide up to \$5000 per school year.
- Camp Horizon does have a cost, but it is heavily subsidized up to 100%, it is based on financial need. Registration is currently closed but it opens every February
- Please contact Sarah Brazeau for any questions at sarah@easterseals.ab.ca.

CCIS

- Disability Camp for the 3rd year in a row for July. If anyone has any affordable ideas, please email Ben Patmore at bpatmore@ccisab.ca.

Wrap Up Adjournment

Next Meeting:

Date: June 27th , 2023

Time: 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Location: Zoom