



Alberta Ability Network Human Rights Table

Date/Time:

March 27th, 2023 - 1:00 PM – 3:00PM

Location: Zoom

Chairs: Mezaun Lakha-Evin, Sean Crump

In Attendance:

Benjamin Bruce (Centre for Sexuality)
 Cal Schuler (Calgary Alternative Support Services)
 Chris Ryan (Community Advocate)
 Dan Pederson (Community Advocate)
 Desiree Desrochers (Wolverines Adapted Sports Association)
 Haley Weiss (Selections Career Support Services)
 Greg McMeekin (Office of the Advocate for Persons with Disabilities)
 Katie Dodd (Children's Link)
 Keri McEachern (Self-Advocacy Federation)
 Margot Brunner (Voices of Albertans with Disabilities)

Mezaun Lakha-Evin (Alberta Ability Network)
 Meri Topchieva (Alberta Ability Network)
 Meriam Bravante (Action Dignity)
 Rachelle Norris (YWCA Edmonton)
 Sam Mason (Voices of Albertans with Disabilities)
 Sheralee Stelter (Calgary CP)
 Stacey Perlin (Perlin Foundation of Wellness)
 Stella Varvis (Alberta Law Reform Counsel)
 Tessa Turner (Action Coalition of Human Trafficking Alberta)
 Tonia LaRiviere (City of Edmonton)
 Tony Flores (Community Advocate)
 Valeria Palladino (Edmonton Epilepsy Association)

Meeting Minutes

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

On March 16, 2023, Const. Travis Jordan, 35, who had been with the Edmonton Police Service for 8.5 years, and Const. Brett Ryan, 30, who had been with the service for five and a half years, were killed on duty. In recognition and honor of the police force, we take a minute of silence.

Discussion Items:

Barrier Free Alberta Election Campaign 2023

- BFA is targeting all candidates running for the Provincial election parties, and recommending they put accessibility legislation on their platforms.
- We have sent emails to all Chambers of Commerce throughout Alberta and Community Associations in Calgary to spread the word amongst all communities and book meetings with BFA for further clarification.
- We have 2 different types of posters, one for candidates and one for the public. Information is different as the 2 different demographics are focused on different topics.



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- We are currently booking meetings with the Chambers of Commerce throughout Alberta, MLAs and candidates. More updates will be provided once we meet with them.
- Our first presentation is on April 3rd with MLA Marie Renaud.
- Tony is planning on having meetings with MLA David Shephard and Rachel Notley.
- If you haven't already, please sign up as a supporter on the following link <https://www.barrierfreeab.ca/support>.
- BFA has created a monthly newsletter that will be sent to all supporters that register above.
- We can do a social media blitz where we give a stakeholders a media kit and ask them to post BFA on a specific days.
- We need to share this information outside the disability sector.
- BFA will look into creating a media blitz day and make a media kit with information on how to share posts on time.

Perlin Foundation of Wellbeing

- Spring Bliss on April 23 from 10AM to 3PM. Bringing 23 different organizations and 27 topics to our Community Hall brought to life through multiple brain health researchers, activities and games to play, visual art workshops, and a panel conversation on Immigrant, Newcomer, and Refugee Mental Health! Bring the family for a kids' games session in the afternoon to play and have fun as a community! Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-bliss-a-mini-mental-wellness-festival-tickets-572255189677>
- Our next Open Minded Chats series happens in May, which is Mental Health Awareness Month. More details coming soon.
- This will be a great way to get connections outside of the disability sector.

Calgary Alliance for the Common good

- More than 30 institutional membership that represent 35000 Calgarians.
- The organization was founded by progressive churches in Calgary, and they are expanding fast to include other racialized community originations and non-profits.
- Last year they completed a budget campaign at the municipal level.
- This will be a great way to get connections outside of the disability sector.

Action items:

- BFA's first presentation is on April 3rd with MLA Marie Renaud. Updates will be provided after the meeting.
- If your logo isn't on the Barrier Free Alberta website or if you haven't signed up as a supporter, please click here to do that <https://www.barrierfreeab.ca/support>.

Wrap-Up/Adjournment

Next meeting:

Date: April 24th, 2023

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Location: Zoom