



AAN POVERTY REDUCTION

Date/Time:

April 20th, 2022 /1:30pm –3:30pm

Location: Zoom

Chairs: Allyson Dann, Margot Brunner

In Attendance:

Alan Martino (University of Calgary)
 Allyson Dann (Calgary Fetal Alcohol Network)
 Darryl Janzen (Cerebral Palsy Alberta)
 Keri McEachern (Self-Advocacy Federation)
 Katie Dodd (Children's Link)
 Margot Brunner (Voice of Albertans with Disabilities)
 Meaghan Edwards (University of Calgary)

Meri Topchieva (Alberta Ability Network)
 Mezaun Lakha-Evin (Alberta Ability Network)
 Patti Desjardine (University of Calgary)
 Phillip Ney (Inclusion Alberta)
 Sam Mason (Voice of Albertans with Disabilities)
 Shane Rempel (Southern Alberta Brain Injury Society)
 Vivienne Momoh (Northern Lakes College Slave Lake)

Meeting Minutes

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

Spotlight Agency:

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.
- 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 was on April 3rd with MLA Marie Renaud.
- BFA has created a monthly newsletter that will be sent to all supporters that register above. The next newsletter will be the following Monday.

- A social media blitz is being developed and will be sent out on the 27th or 28th.
- We need to share this information outside the disability sector.
- Accessibility legislation largely helps people with disabilities, but it helps everyone in general. For example, plain language helps people with intellectual disabilities, but it will also help a person whose first language isn't English.
- If you haven't already, please sign up as a supporter at the following link <https://www.barrierfreeab.ca/support> .
- City of Edmonton Accessibility Advisory Committee and other stakeholders have not used the same language that Barrier-Free Alberta is using.

University of Calgary

- Alan Martino and Meaghan Edwards from the University of Calgary have decided to do desire-based research based on poverty reduction.
- In the field of disability, usually damage-centred research is conducted to document pain and loss such as poverty or poor health.
- Desire research focuses on painful elements of social realities, wisdom, and hope.
- Possibly starting this research locally (only Calgary) and moving provincially when appropriate.
- They will include community partners with lived experience. Additionally, they want to create a committee of people with lived experience that can help lead this project.
- Humanizing the experience through digital storytelling and connecting with the Arts community.
- They will be applying to a catalyst grant through the University to launch this project and get some external and internal help.
- Keith is doing work with the Faculty of Social Work in the University of Calgary already and would be interested in joining us for the digital storytelling piece.
- Want to change the narrative of how people with disabilities contribute to society and how poverty is portrayed.
- Society hasn't moved past valuing people for their productivity and their contributions to society.
- If interested in learning more about the right not to work, please look at the following article <https://monthlyreview.org/2004/03/01/the-right-not-to-work-power-and-disability/>
- There is no particular deadline for the project or the community engagement piece. The grant they're applying for is quarterly and the next deadline is May 15th.



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- Please contact Meaghan at Meaghan.edwards@ucalgary.ca and Alan at alan.martino@ucalgary.ca if you have any questions.

Vivienne Momoh – PHD Candidate

- Vivienne is presenting on the inaccessibility of available resources during the transition from Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) to Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) services.
- As a parent to a person with a disability who has gone through the transition from FSCD to PDD, Vivienne wanted to make the process easier and started researching how to improve the process.
- This research is to produce a report that informs future government decision-making on the accessibility of available resources during the transition.
- Participation in this study will require you to attend two sessions within a 12-month investigative period. The first meeting is a 90-minute focus group or individual meeting over zoom and a second follow-up for 30 minutes.
- Results will be compiled into policy briefs and other materials for policymakers.
- Keri manages the following group that answers questions in regards to PDD and FSCD: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/756516068621675>
- To learn more about the study please contact Vivienne Momoh at 403-369-7240 or email at Vivienne.momoh@royalroads.ca.

Action Items:

- Please look out for a media blitz to be shared with you around the 27th or 28th of April. Instructions will be shared within the document.
- Please support BFA if you haven't yet
<https://www.barrierfreeab.ca/support>

Wrap-Up/Adjournment

Next meeting:

Date: May 16th, 2022

Time: 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Location: Zoom