



**Chairs:** Karen Dommet

**Present**

Cydney Yaremko (Bloom Wellness)

Ermira Kusari (AAN)

Alyson Thompson (Recreational Respite)

Simerta Gill (U of C /AAN)

Ryan Popplestone (OAFD)

Jeff Booke (Repsol Sport Center)

Karen Dommett (Calgary Adaptive Hub)

Candice McLellan (CP Kids and Families)

Leonard O'Keefe (DDRC)

Shiri Dirisina (U of C / AAN)

Kevin Kwasny (City of Calgary- Rec)

**Meeting Minutes**

Land Acknowledgement ( [http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls\\_to\\_Action\\_English2.pdf](http://trc.ca/assets/pdf/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf))

Welcome and Introductions

**Member Spotlight Series Sign-up:**

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KAh5\\_7ou1uRE2ITDXGHXyf6R\\_YpGkJs mza8xCNIFY0/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KAh5_7ou1uRE2ITDXGHXyf6R_YpGkJs mza8xCNIFY0/edit?usp=sharing)

**Repsol Sport Centre expansion discussion and Q&A with Jeff Booke**

- Have a management and operation agreement with the City of Calgary
- The center is always looking at improving and advancing
- Have been in pursuit of an expansion for a number of years, particularly a leisure water expansion.

- the big blocks of the project are about a leisure water expansion; expansion of the flat water competition pool (rehab, recovery, swimming lessons); expansion of the locker rooms, meetings room, group gathering spots, parking.

1. With the expansion, will the outdoor park be maintained?

1. The park is owned and maintained by the City of Calgary – the goal is to activate the center and the park as best possible (walk up or drive through food services); community splash pad free to use (operate by Repsol).

2. In past experiences, when trying to access public recreational services, one of the challenges is how to best plan and prepare: what the amenities are, how to plan the day. How can this project support access to facility and what it offers?

2. The design of the facility will be influenced by the stakeholders, including groups like AAN (circulate questionnaires, work with the City of Calgary). Working with the City of Calgary to figure out procedures including barrier-free design, inclusivity.

More information on accessibility at Repsol: <https://repsolsportcentre.com/>

3. As an agency that relies on rented space, accessibility can be sometimes challenging (use of a lift, pool lift). Are there approval processes, features that can be tested in advance and opportunities to remedy and adjust those process if we find that they are not working?

3. Those interested are welcome to tour Repsol Sports Center, request accommodations to see if the needs can be met. Additionally, it is important to hear from groups like AAN during the planning and design process.

### **Recreational Resource List presentation and next steps**

\* **Importance of Recreation**

\* **Power of Collaboration**

- Presentation and Resource Guide prepared by Simerta Gill (practicum student with AAN) attached to the email along with these meeting minutes.

### **Organization Updates**

**Bloom Wellness:** continuing with virtual in-person dance classes and expressive art and movement day program for adults once a week. Will be opening the new year's schedule in a couple of weeks, with a cautious approach. There are members that are still hesitant to return to in-person. Will continue to operate out of Evergreen event spaces.

**DDRC:** the rapid Covid-19 testing station that was set up has not seen many people. Those who cannot provide proof of vaccination or provide proof of medical exemption by December 1, 2021 will no longer be able to work for DDRC. A but of a hiccup in terms of services with Vivo announcing that the majority of their facility will be closed during 2022 for an update project. DDRC was able to find new locations to accommodate the programs.

**City of Calgary – Recreation:** adapted programs are back in-person at Village Square. Continuing to identify and increase access to the programs: swimming, skating, gymnastics. Bringing back the online discovery guide – looking to have a robust guide by connecting with agencies and the community.

**Office of the Disability Advocate:** The CSS Minister and Deputy Minister are continuing to look to identify the next advocate. In the meantime, the office is working to address individual issues, identification of systemic concerns and advising the government. A full team is in the office and is continuing to work on reporting to the Minister and the Government. He Office of the Advocate can also support in connecting with the community and dissemination information.

**Recreational Respite:** continuing with one-on-one in-person supports; continuing to offer a monthly calendar of events for virtual programs for peers to connect via

## AAN Recreation Table

November 18, 2021

programming. There will be programs running for the first two weeks of December and the office will be closed for 2 weeks. Continuing to work with other community organizations to support them in their programs. Topics of interest include: intergenerational programming and programming for caregivers.

**CP Kids and Families:** continuing with online programming and some in-person programs: wellness walks and coffee social, trunk or treat event, Christmas party (virtual and in-person). There are plenty of age specific programming but looking to expand on family programming.

### Calgary Adapted Hub

**Mount Royal:** the first session of CAPA (children's adapted physical activity program) will be wrapping up in a few weeks (ages 4-12, with some flexibility). Looking to launch the second session in February; Vecova also looking to do the same. Running a boccia program on Sunday evening (all ages, all abilities). Attendance has been low so if you know anyone interested, spread the word about it. Installed a wheelchair ramp in the pool – H2Able still running and looking to expand it. Did not run the wheelchair basketball program but looking to relaunch in January (teens and up). Have the adapted climbing certification and tools but no specific program in place; available for private or group booking. Working to develop a para-sport summer camp (in addition to the one at the University of Calgary which runs for two weeks for youth and teens, each). Looking for input on the powerchair summer camp.

**Repsol:** launched registrations for a new inclusive multi-sport program for children ages 5-12 on Saturday, one session in January and one in March (all ages, all abilities). Some sports will be a para-sport specifically; the following week it may be wheelchair fencing specifically. Hoping to gauge the community's interest to develop more adapted specific camp offerings to the point that adapted sport can be for everybody.

**\*\*Ares Pentathlon and Fencing Club** is growing their wheelchair fencing program to offer more spaces for children and youth. Through Repsol Center and in partnership with Calgary Adapted Hub, they are purchasing some equipment for youth.

**\*\*Kronos Triathlon Club** looking to host a national camp so there may be some recreation activities within hosting the camp.

**\*\* Starting to work with Nose Creek Association** to expand their swimming opportunities that are adapted and outside of traditional swimming sessions.

**Vivo** will be closed in 2022 but they are actively outsourcing adapted specific equipment within Calgary Adapted Hub but also with other agencies: adapted bikes for the biking area, to avoid duplicating efforts and increase collaboration (e.g. partnering with CP Kids and Families).

Working on putting together the framework proposal for an outdoor adaptive winter sport festival (for winter of 2022). Looking to bring together groups and do some collective work out of WinSport, with a dual purpose of finding ways to not only make this a place that is accessible, welcoming and available for just the festival

## AAN Recreation Table

November 18, 2021

weekend but rather an integrated system where experts from these groups partner with WinSport staff and creating inclusive models with training opportunities for WinSport staff and for WinSport in general to it being more accessible and inclusive.

**Cerebral Palsy Alberta:** Continue to run programs online only and there is increase of interest as the weather is getting colder. Programs run from Monday – Saturday. Planning to run series of virtual events in December, “Count down to Christmas”, which include: game time, caroling, Christmas card decorating, movies etc. Those events are open for all ages at no cost to join. They can register at: [www.cpalberta.com](http://www.cpalberta.com) and registration opens on November 22. Looking for a Client and Family Counsellor in Edmonton, if any of them has any connections or knows of someone who might be interested, they can send their resumes to Elizabeth Kaleta ([elizabeth@cpalberta.com](mailto:elizabeth@cpalberta.com)).

Wrap-Up/Adjournment

**Next meeting:**

**Date:** TBD

**Time:** 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

**Location:** Zoom

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