



Chairs: Karen Dommett, Mezaun Lakha-Evin

Present

Cyden Yaremko (Bloom Wellness)

Mezaun Lakha-Evin (CPA/AAN)

Elizabeth Kaleta (CPA)

Ryan MacIntyre (We Did It)

Kim Yager (Vecova)

Karen Dommett (Calgary Adaptive Hub)

Laurie Bourdage (CP Kids and Families)

Susan Cortes (Children's Link)

Leonard O'Keefe (DDRC)

Simerta Gill (U of C /AAN)

Meeting Minutes

Land Acknowledgement (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

- AAN Recreation table will continue to be used as a medium to address the issues that we continue to hear from the community; the frustrations that we share as a collective with various programs and continue our path towards advocacy; staff training and supports for individuals and families.

- The resource list that the table is working on will be helpful not only to support the growth of this table but also provide easier access to available resources and services for agencies and families alike.

- Meeting with the Repsol Center representative (in response to our letter to them regarding the expansion announcement). Questions to be presented during the meeting in November:

1. What programs and services do you offer now and what are you potentially looking at?
2. What are the plans for inclusiveness and shared space?
3. Washroom, changeroom and general building accessibility?
4. How are the various advisory panels that exist in the City being utilized? If they are not, how can we support Repsol in doing so?

The employees at Repsol regardless of their position, are very welcoming and create a wonderful environment for persons with disabilities and those who support them, however we can identify ways to bring forth issues that have been identified there.

<https://repsolsportcentre.com/>

<https://repsolsportcentre.com/facility/accessibility>

If you can think of other questions to bring forth at the November meeting, please contact Karen Dommett (kdommett@calgaryadaptedhub.com)

Agency Updates:

Children's Link: Transition Resource Fair on October 27, 2021, on a virtual platform. A number of vendors will be attending. Last year, it was very successful. Coffee Socials are being offered virtually with the exception of the Grandparents Coffee Social at Ogden 50+. The first session was provided in September and was very well received. On November 18, 2021, a retreat day will be hosted on Zoom, titled "Different Dreams" from 9am – 3pm. Everyone is encouraged to share the information and those interested in sharing their agency info and programs in their calendar, contact Susan or Mikaela. "Love for Littles" is a pilot project for new families with a child with a new diagnosis or a child with a disability (no diagnosis). Putting 20 of them together and reaching out to the hospital, other social workers in the community and other agencies for children up to the age of 3. It is a celebration of the child and to let the parents know that they are not alone and that support and services are available.

CP Kids and Families: working with Children's Link on the "Love for Littles" boxes project. Continuing with the virtual programming: dance, karaoke, bingo, music party, movie nights. Family Ride and Connect meet-up will be held over the weekend (Oct 23-24); getting the families together at Fish Creek Park and East Village so they have the opportunity to use the adapted bikes. Autumn in a Box is another project with craft activities for families with instructions provided over Zoom. October 30th will be the Trunk or Treat event; vehicle decorated and made accessible for the children to come and trick or treat safely (1-3 pm).

<https://www.calgarycp.org/events/trunk-or-treat>

Bloom Wellness: Returned to some in person programming – not everyone is willing to return in-person. For the adults day programs, participants and staff are required to have the vaccine (unless they present a medical or religious exemption). Doing in-person dance and virtual programs for those who cannot attend in person. Have been doing some horse-riding events: families paint the horses and out bells on them and ride in circles.

<https://www.bloomwell.ca/>

<https://www.instagram.com/bloomwellnesscollective/?hl=en>

DDRC: staff have been asked to provide proof of at least one shot of the vaccine by October 25th and fully vaccinated by November 25th (unless they have a medical

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exemption). Started in the office on Mondays and Thursdays a rapid testing station set up and anyone interested in getting tested, are welcome to do so if they are accessing the DDRC facility. Those who are not vaccinated, have to present a negative test (done in a lab) every three days. Capacity in the building has not changes. Going out in the community a little more often. Many of the facilities that are used in the community have removed most or all of the chairs which poses a bit of a challenge during lunch time (such as at the Genesis Center). The HR Department is working on materials to distribute to members and staff.

We Did It: inclusive art programming has been running for a year now and trying to focus on reaching out to network that serve children with disabilities between the ages of 5-10. The project is very inclusive. The next one is taking place on Monday at 5pm as it seems to be a more suitable time for the parents. Every month, there are about 5 regular members and new ones drop by when they can. Struggling with volunteers.

Art class link: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/x/we-made-it-a-spooky-halloween-art-class-tickets-194382241517>

CPA: continuing with virtual programs for adults and children: art, music, computer skills, Zumba, dance. Run two virtual social groups as well with various activities (karaoke, paint night, presentations). All programs have a social component to it which is very useful and beneficial. With virtual programs, reaching more members. The children's programs have been moved to the weekend so as not to take their time during the week after school and also to keep them busy and engaged during the weekend. Children's programs have a few spots remaining. Contact Elizabeth if you are interested.

<https://cpalberta.akaraisin.com/ui/onlineprograms2021>

AAN has been invited to participate in UNESCO's Future Cities Lab – thinking about the futures of the cities around the world. AAN is involved in a disability lens capacity. What would you like to see in the future?

<https://fcl.ethz.ch/>

https://twitter.com/_FCL

AAN, as a collective of persons with disabilities, agencies and those who support them, strives to encourage the active participation of persons with disabilities in the discussions around all tables. All AAN members are encouraged to extend an invitation to someone they know to join the table.

Wrap-Up/Adjournment

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Next meeting:

Date: November 18, 2021

Time: 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Location: Zoom
