



Chairs: Kim Presser, Karen Dommett

Present

Scott Godfrey (AAFSC)

Mezaun Lakha-Evin (CPA/AAN)

Elizabeth Kaleta (CPA)

Susan Cortes (Children's Link)

Janice Schneider (Youth Singers)

Pratibha Singh (ILRCC)

Ermira Kusari (AAN)

Tony Flores (Office of the Disability Advocate – ex-officio)

Karen Dommett (Calgary Adaptive Hub)

Jennifer Morton (Youth Singers)

Kim Presser (Between Friends)

Danika Perez (Children's Link)

Megan Emmett (Youth Singers)

Simerta Gill (U of C /AAN)

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

Agency spotlight: STAR Youth Singers

- A coir organization in operation for over 30 years.
- Combines elements of choreography, dance and musical expression
- STAR division has been in operation for 9 years now and covers various age groups. The idea of STAR is to bring the youth singers experience to individuals with various abilities.
- Run three back-to-back sessions on Monday evenings. Session ages range from children between the ages of 8-9 and into adulthood.
- There are performing opportunities and parents can watch the performances. These shows are usually packed and sold-out and a highlight of the season.
- Youth Singers moved to an online platform last year and that has been a challenge however there was a lot of positive response despite the fact that for some people it was not suitable.
- Programs run from September until June.
- The video shown during the meeting was supported by Rotary Heritage.
- The program is strictly recreational as opposed to therapeutic.

[2021 Year End Presentation](#) (Guaranteed to make you smile)

[STAR 60 second information/promotional video](#)

[STAR 30 second promo](#)

AAN Recreation Table

September 16, 2021

- Contact info: megan@youthsingers.org, mortonjen@shaw.ca,
Janice@youthsingers.org
More info: <https://www.youthsingers.org/register/programs/star-program/>

Q&A:

1. Is the program offered in Calgary only and how many students are there?

- The program is available in Calgary only and there are 25 students in the STAR program and 300 overall.

2. What are the fees and are there funding opportunities?

- \$750 for the entire year and there are options to join the second semester. There are funding opportunities available for the families who cannot afford the tuition.

More info at: <https://www.youthsingers.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/N-Fee-One-Page-21-22.pdf>

3. Are you open to providing tours?

- Yes, the staff are vaccinated, and measures are in place to ensure safety.

Member Spotlight Series Sign-up:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KAh5_7ou1uRE2ITDXGHXyf6R_YpGkJs mza8xCNIFY0/edit?usp=sharing

Agency Updates

Calgary Adapted Hub

- University of Calgary study: The purpose of this study is to learn more about which injuries, if any, are experienced by individuals taking part in adapted and/or para sport or recreation programs across Canada (open to anyone who has participated in para-sports, regardless of whether they have an injury or not)

<https://redcap.shredconcussions.ca/surveys/?s=A9TLET9FYT&fbclid=IwAR2Nmnc pP-aj32moC4EYqVPXuKI923nnnUGMu3xFJZWPebVzIWlGHLGplG8>

Calgary Adapted Hub Research and Community Engagement Seminar: "It Feels Good!" Benefits of Therapeutic Horseback Riding from the Children's Perspective | Dr. Laura Brunton & Karen Pratt

https://events.ucalgary.ca/sport-injury-prevention-research-centre/?fbclid=IwAR15wPE0rXI1FDsW-5mCdoVcYQ1ly3U4hm0AKG0CysKdlGgT2eTPcIH6iP4#!view/event/event_id/383211

Children's Link

- Virtual Transition Resource Fair on October 27, 2021.

- Coffee Conversations will be done virtually following the announcement yesterday.

AAN Recreation Table

September 16, 2021

- Have collaborated with Ogden50 Plus with grandparents that are raising their grandchildren with disabilities.
- For agencies that would like to have their information featured in the Calendar, please contact mikaela.johnson@childrenslink.ca.
- Learning Center has great videos with transitioning to adulthood, how to apply for FSCD: <https://learning.childrenslink.ca/en/>

ILRCC:

- Fall programs are running on full capacity. New programs are running on different days however need to navigate all programs considering the new announcement.
- Planning on starting another program, social gathering, for members to go out and have some fun times.

Between Friends

- Received pilot funding to work on skill-based workshops that fit under the Connect, Grow and Belong.
- Adult Adventure trips will now be reconsidered given the announcement.
- The Board of Directors is recruiting an individual with lived experience. If you know of someone that might be interested, please contact Kim Presser.

Cerebral Palsy Alberta

- CPA will be reviewing their programming as they were ready to go back to in-person, given the recent announcement on restrictions from the GoA.
- Hosted a virtual dance camp over the summer and Ballet Edmonton has promised to provide more videos.

Municipal and Federal Elections

- With municipal and federal elections around the corner, it is important for everyone, agencies and people that they serve, to read through the platforms on what is being presented and offered and make an informed decision on voting day to ensure that issues pertaining to persons with disabilities are addressed.
- AAN and VAD have been hosting a number of mayoral candidate discussion forums. More info and to attend the events, check the links below under events.

Barrier-free AB initiative

- The Barrier-free AB initiative originated from the AAN Human Rights table with the aim of seeking a provincial Accessibility Legislation in Alberta, to complement the Federal Accessible Canada Act. The group has already met with a number of elected officials and presented the work that we have done so far. The initiative has its own website and members are encouraged to visit it and pledge their support for the initiative as well as share it with their networks.

www.barrierfreeab.ca

AAN Recreation Table

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Events

Mayoral Panel Discussions – Municipal Elections

Lethbridge: September 21, 2021 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Registration: <https://bit.ly/3xCcSAd>

Calgary: September 23, 2021 from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Registration: <https://bit.ly/3jIX3D3>

Wrap-Up/Adjournment

Next meeting:

Date: October 21, 2021

Time: 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Location: Zoom
