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**Chairs:** Kim Presser, Karen Dommett

**Present**

Scott Godfrey (AAFSC)

Ermira Kusari (CAN)

Deborah Oloni

Pratibha Singh (ILRCC)

Mezaun Lakha-Evin (CPA/AAN)

Kim Yager (Vecova)

Tony Flores

Karen Dommett (Calgary Adaptive Hub)

Susan Cortes (Children's Link)

Karly Mortimer (National accessArts Center)

Cheryl Wauthier (Vecova)

Ryan McIntyre (We Did It)

Kim Presser (Between Friends)

**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: We Did It**

- The agency and programs came out of the need for programs and care for children with disabilities

- Focus of the agency moved from child care to after school programs.

- Programs:

\* Culinary: 4 week program, children learn valuable entrepreneurial skills. The program was set aside during the pandemic.

\* WE LEAD: building skills within young people including teamwork – no anticipated start date yet.

\* Art Program: 20 kids/sessions. Classes are based on a monthly theme. Tickets are either free or by donation.

- Currently looking for Board Members and groups to collaborate with We Did It as they try to move to in-person programming. Any agency representative is encouraged to contact Ryan.

- Back to School Art Barbeque with We Did It! is scheduled for August 30<sup>th</sup> between 5-7p.m. Partners are urgently needed for this initiative to go forward. Any interest please e-mail us: [info@wedidit.ca](mailto:info@wedidit.ca)

- Currently all volunteer run and working remotely from Calgary.

- Target audience are children ages 5-10 years old.

**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)

### **Agency Updates**

**CPA:** Virtual Gardening Workshops – series of 3 gardening classes for all ages. Gardening kits containing everything what is needed for all 3 classes are provided at no cost. Dates: July 24, August 7 and 14. Limited spots still available.

- Dance Without Limits Virtual Summer Camp – 6 classes for children and teen provided in partnership with Ballet Edmonton, starting July 27. Registration is opening tomorrow.

Both of the programs are at no cost to participants.

### **National accessArts Center**

- Returning to in-person programs this week. 350 artists/week attending classes. 96 spots for in-person programming.

- Focusing on programs to keep artists engaged. Work with adults that are PDD funded and work with them across all disciplines.

QAAC program has been pivoted into a summer camp with storytelling led by the LGBTQ2+ members; have facilitated entry into the program through scholarships and drop-in sessions.

### **Children's Link**

-Transition Fair will be taking place in November.

-Many families are excited for the summer camps and programs. There are still a number of families that are still cautious.

-Coffee Conversation: provides the natural supports for the parents, especially those that do not have those in place. Last week met in-person in the courtyard. A new schedule will follow in September (one in-person in the morning and one in the evening via Zoom) – will follow up with the parents to identify which options are working best for them as they move forward.

-Starting the Grandparents coffee social in partnership with Ogden 50 Plus: for grandparents who are raising and supporting their grandchildren

-Children's Link is a resource center and the website hosts a community calendar for agencies interested in featuring their programs and resources promoted – contact Susan Cortes: <https://childrenslink.ca/events/>

### **Calgary Adapted Hub**

University of Calgary summer camps are filling out really fast and Mount Royal virtual camp still has spaces available: <https://www.calgaryadaptedhub.com/news-and-media/adapted-summer-camps-are-here/>

- Looking for ideas for programs that members from the community would like to see in the major recreational centers. Contact Karen Dommett to share your ideas.

## AAN Recreation Table

July 15, 2021

- Foothills & McMahon project: submit your feedback prior to July 30th to bring forward the need for accessible and inclusive facilities:

[https://engage.calgary.ca/Foothills-McMahon?utm\\_source=Email\\_marketing&utm\\_campaign=Thursday\\_January\\_24\\_2019&cmp=1&utm\\_medium=HTMLEmail&ccCt=cf3f-2f4ytl-a592yb-go3auwv0](https://engage.calgary.ca/Foothills-McMahon?utm_source=Email_marketing&utm_campaign=Thursday_January_24_2019&cmp=1&utm_medium=HTMLEmail&ccCt=cf3f-2f4ytl-a592yb-go3auwv0)

Project details:

Key elements illustrated in the plan reflect the meaningful engagement, feedback, and input on the project to date; (see Executive Summary Public Engagement Report).

The plan features:

Multi-sport fieldhouse to replace the Father David Bauer Arena and Foothills pool, capable of supporting international competition as well as for amateur sport/recreation (including turf fields, indoor track, fitness/training areas, arenas, pools);

A four-season mixed-use recreation and entertainment village with restaurants, hotels and outdoor patios; Pedestrian parade and tailgating area; Central green space; University Drive redevelopment; Improved transit interface; New parking structure.

### **Office of the Disability Advocate in Alberta**

Individual Resolutions: Promote self-advocacy, facilitation and referrals

Education: promoting the importance of inclusion.

Identifying systemic issues from learnings in collaboration with the community.

- Access to recreation is a human right and greatly contributed to the physical and social wellbeing of individuals.

- The Office is grounded on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and recreation (Article 30 – Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport)

- The Office is willing to collaborate with the community to highlight the issues that the community is facing and bring them to the attention of senior officials.

### **Easter Seals**

- Virtual summer camps this summer: 3 sessions of 7-8 hours. Boxes with equipment have been mailed out to registered participants. Registration is still open. Planning for in-person summer camp next summer (2022).

- Carrying renovations in the camp at this time.

- Equipment program is still available.

### **Vecova:**

- Have a warm water pool (34.5 degrees). Typical demographic that visits the center is people with mobility issues or chronic conditions.

## AAN Recreation Table

July 15, 2021

- The mission statement has been change to Vecova being a center for all abilities (a change from all disabilities) and focusing more in inclusion and putting all staff through inclusion training.
- In development for specialized programs. September 13<sup>th</sup> will start the program in partnership with U of C, Alzheimer's Society and a few other partners for people living with dementia. It is a pilot program in response to the need from the community.
- Restating the Empower Abilities: children with mild to moderate delays and disabilities. It provides assistance with both motor and social skills and build the confidence to participate in recreation and sport.
- Focusing on adapted sport and mixed-ability programming. Some of it will take place in September with a big launch in January.
- Reopened the facility and are running some summer camps and a public swim three times a week.

### **Between Friends**

- July 5: started in-person programming.
- Camp Bonaventure is not being operated as it used to be. It is called Rec and Respite so if the restrictions change they can operate as social gatherings. There are four locations around the city with two groups of up to 7 participants and three staff. Opened up the volunteer opportunities and volunteers are required to commit to one week.
- Opened in-person programs for adults, the weekend and evening programs. They are run of what would have been Camp Bonaventure location for sanitation purposes.
- Options via Zoom continue to remain available and open to hearing from other regarding dual platform programs.

### **AAFSC**

- Running 5-6 activities per day and additional activities over the weekend; in small groups and it is currently going well (2 weeks on/1 week off).
- Ball sport team camps which keeps people at a distance in accordance with AHS guidelines.
- Movie project: participants create movies and scripts.
- Planning for the Fall season. Membership has experienced an increase therefore supporting many families.
- National Lacrosse League is doing a CSR initiative (with funding from US Lacrosse) and is seeking the input of AFFSC.

### **Provincial disability recreation contact/resource list update**

- An update will be provided at the next meeting.

## AAN Recreation Table

July 15, 2021

### **Recreation outreach partners and Draft letter for public facility advocacy**

- Planning how we position ourselves and get engagement through the members of the table for projects taking place across the province and how to best be proactive.

### **Draft letter for public facility advocacy**

- The letter is currently in draft form and will be open to the table to provide feedback until Monday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at which time the letter will be finalized and delivered. Link to the letter:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CgSC5hjdJBbWuJlvv1xDYgZschObIBOI/view?usp=sharing>

Wrap-Up/Adjournment

### **Next meeting:**

**Date:** August 19, 2021

**Time:** 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

**Location:** Zoom

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