



**Chairs:** Kim Presser, Karen Dommett

**Present**

Scott Godfrey (AAFSC)  
Ermira Kusari (CAN)  
Karen Dommett (Calgary Adaptive Hub)  
Chloe McBean (CDSA)  
Gennie Liu (City of Calgary Rec)  
Deborah Olohi (Easter Seals AB)  
Kim Yager (Vecova)  
Grace Hildebrandt (Ups and Downs)

Kim Presser (Between Friends)  
Orest Nbadaneze (CP Kids and Families)  
Elysa Sandron (Calgary Adaptive Hub)  
Karen Hurley (Special O)  
Deanne Rommens (City of Calgary Rec)  
Karly Mortimer (Indefinite Arts)  
Prim Tizora (Ups and Downs)

## Meeting Minutes

1	Land Acknowledgement Welcome and Introductions
2	<p><b><u>Agency Updates</u></b></p> <p><b>- City of Calgary Recreation:</b> - City of Calgary Recreation: started some programs thanks to the partnership with Jumpstart (skating program is full with 12 participants which will be split into two groups). Participants will receive new skates and helmets thanks to Sportchek. Will be running an outdoor adventures program include winter archery, snowshoeing, hiking, cross county skiing. Participation is free and there is a short waitlist as of now.</p> <p>City of Calgary Recreation is working on brining staff back to operate the building. Three sheets of ice are open and can be booked. Pools are slated to open on Monday, February 22. General booking for adults will be available as well. Planning on running a day camp for spring break outdoors (awaiting the approval from the City followed by the registrations).</p> <p><b>Children’s Link:</b> Recreation Resource Fair on March 22, 2021. Reach out to Children’s Link if you are interested in being featured. Pre-school Resources Fair was done through Remo and was very well received. Calendar of activities is available on the website and those interested in addition their information (events, programs, resources) are welcome to add them.</p> <p>Re- Children's Link Recreation Resource Fair, please contact <a href="mailto:tannis.sigfussion@childrenslink.ca">tannis.sigfussion@childrenslink.ca</a>. The event will take place on the Remo platform on March 27, 2021.</p>

- **Vecova:** continuing to offer in-home supports, community walks when the weather permits, virtual programs, drop-in sessions and on-to-one with staff. Waiting for libraries and other recreational facilities to open. The main facility continues to remain closed.
- **Indefinite Arts:** Back to fully online programming (following an opening from August to November). Unsure of the guidelines to follow for reopening. Online programming is full with over 250 participants joining in the art, dance and movement programming. Keeping in touch with Government officials regarding reopening but also taking into consideration the wellbeing of staff and participants.
- **Ups and Downs Calgary Association:** continuing with the online programming and working towards one-time events in-person. Working on an information/awareness campaign with World Down Syndrome Day coming up in March. Working on engaging volunteer staff with program coordination. Collaborated with JB Music Therapy for drumming workshops which was very popular with adults (previously unable to include 18+ members due to funding restrictions). Working on a blended approach to programming as the situation changes.
- **MS Society:** the organization is going national. No plans to offer in-person programming. Running virtual exercise programs for people with various disabilities.
- **Easter Seals Alberta:** No in-person programs yet. Waiting on the Provincial Government regarding summer camps. Providing online programming (movie nights, books, puzzles). Restarted the loan equipment program: <https://easterseals.ab.ca/equipment-application/>
- **Between Friends:** offering over 25 hrs/week of virtual program hours and developed partnerships in the process. Looking into a spring relaunch of some in-person programs as well as the summer camp, pending regulations. Providing inclusion training to other agencies.
- **Calgary Adapted Hub:** First Calgary Adapted Hub powered by Jumpstart Research and Community Engagement Seminar. We have Dr. Cheri Blauwet speaking about "From the Paralympics to Public Health: The Impact of Sport and Physical Activity for People with Disabilities". The seminar will be February 25, 2021 at 5:00pm MST. **Registrations:** <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/calgary-adapted-hub-research-and-knowledge-translation-seminar-tickets-140927202055>. Working with U of C for a virtual spring break camp (a combination of online and offline activities). Also looking into a virtual programming with the Mount Royal University CAPA program. Participating on the Between Friends' Inclusion Training. Mount Royal is looking into an in-person adapted camp as well. Will have more information on some other programming currently in the works.

- **CP Kids and Families:** running virtual programs (music, dance). 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary coming up and the team is working on it. Supporting families through the equipment loan program as well: <https://www.calgarycp.org/equipment-programs> . Wrapped up Winter-in-the-Box where they provided activity kits to the families. Registration for the Bike Program is open and hoping to launch it in a COVID-friendly manner: <https://www.calgarycp.org/about-adapted-bike-program> . Trying to focus on providing supports for all disabilities as opposed to CP only.

- **Special Olympics:** not running any in-person programs; Starting the Home to Home Connect program (connecting with coaches and athletes; strength and conditioning, nutrition and chatting and connecting time). Hosted a Q&A call with Mikael Backlund of Calgary Flames about his training. Spring and summer programming depends on situation but will continue with virtual programming.

- **AAFS:** Stepping Out program will be going virtual. Doing a pilot for an online cooking program that will include curbside delivery of ingredients this Friday. Looking into an in-person cooking program near the end of March that will also be available online as well. Will be running an in-person rugby program towards March/April. Other programs currently running: board games and Dungeons & Dragons. Wrapped up the Movie project (editing, building sets, filming) which will be moved to in-person in April. Looking into day programming for the summer until things are more settled instead of camping. Continuing to offer programming through a dual platform. Working with community partners regarding use of spaces for programs.

### **Vaccination:**

- What have you been hearing from families (e.g. are they waiting for staff to be vaccinated before they participate in programs)

\* For the time being, families lean towards a vaccine first approach however they are opening up to the idea of summer programming as they are getting tired.

### **Provincial Recreation Strategy**

- At the last meeting it was proposed that we work collectively towards a Recreation Strategy.

\* Connected with the chairs of the CAN Human Rights table to discuss their current involvement with this. CAN Human Rights table is currently working towards pursuing an accessibility legislation in collaboration with the Government of Alberta. Will continue to work with the chairs of the other CAN table to determine the best route to pursue this. Discussing the potential for a partnership with Universal Access towards a one-stop-shop for activities and programs in the area.

### **Joining CAN Recreation**

- Many of the current table members were asked to be agency representatives around the table. Appreciate the peer support opportunities, sharing ideas and experiences, avoiding duplication of efforts, staying current with what is happening with other agencies and the resources and programming that they offer so that we can keep the families we serve informed, connecting and partnering with other agencies around the table, the impact that

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we can have as a group in policy change, work together towards a database of programs and services that makes access to information for families easier.

Wrap-Up/Adjournment

**Next meeting:**

**Date:** March 18, 2021

**Time:** 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

**Location:** Zoom

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