Resilient People
Strong Communities
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Message from Honourable Rajan Sawhney
Minister of Community and Social Services

On behalf of the Government of Alberta, I am pleased to welcome you to the Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta’s annual conference. Whether you are a volunteer, board member or staff, thank you for the important work you do to strengthen Alberta’s communities. As Minister of Community and Social Services, I am honoured to work together with people like you who are helping Albertans in need.

This year’s theme, “Resilient People - Strong Communities,” will highlight many of the successful partnerships between individual programs and local partners that have led to positive outcomes for so many children, adults, seniors and families.

As you work in communities across Alberta—urban and rural—I hope you enjoy the opportunity this conference provides to get to know and learn from one another. Best wishes to you all for a successful event.

Rajan Sawhney
Minister of Community and Social Services
President’s Greetings

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta it is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to our 2019 conference “Resilient People-Strong Communities”. We have an exceptional Board this year with very committed and accomplished representatives from around the Province. We welcome your input, so do talk to your regional representative if you have any concerns or suggestions.

As the only province in Canada to have FCSS, we are extremely fortunate. We appreciate the Province of Alberta’s continual support with this Provincial-Municipal partnership. Each FCSS program is slightly different, because each community is uniquely diverse. However, as our theme indicates Resilient People-Strong Communities, this conference will allow delegates to explore, discuss, and then hopefully be able to implement programs and changes in their communities to meet the challenges.

Sessions at this year’s conference will explore topics from existing FCSS programs throughout the Province. We have lined up some very interesting and dynamic speakers. Dr. Roger Epp is our opening keynote speaker, speaking on “The Work of Neighbourhoods: A Community Ethos For Difficult Times”. We close with David Irvine speaking on “Resilient Leadership”.

There have been a few changes since last year. With the Government change we now have a new Minister, Rajan Sawhney. And we continue to work closely with Ken Dropko, Executive Director of the Family and Community Services Branch, and his team.

This conference is a great opportunity to learn from our speakers, attend interactive workshops and meet with other delegates. So take your time to enjoy the presentations, the personal interactions and don’t forget to bid at the auction. Funds raised go towards subsidies to allow more delegates to attend future conferences. I hope you will find tools to help you and your FCSS office build strong communities with resilient people.

On behalf of the FCSSAA Board of Directors I wish you an enjoyable, educational and stimulating three days.

Vicki Van Vliet Vaitkunas
President FCSSAA
The 2019 FCSSAA Resilient People, Strong Communities Conference is being held at the Fantasyland Hotel in West Edmonton Mall. www.fantasylandhotel.com

The address is: 17700 87 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta.

The Fantasyland Hotel will provide complimentary Wi-Fi access on the conference floor and in the guestrooms during the conference.

Guests of the Fantasyland Hotel receive complimentary 24 hour access to the WEM Fit Gym.

Guests of the Fantasyland Hotel staying with the FCSSAA- 2019 Annual Conference Group may purchase attraction passes for the World Waterpark or Galaxyland at a discounted rate during the event dates of November 27th- November 29th, 2019.

PARKING

Overnight self-parking is provided on a complimentary basis. Observance of parking signage and regulations is required. The Fantasyland is not responsible for damage or theft to vehicles, which are parked on West Edmonton Mall property. Valet parking is available at a daily rate of $18.00 per vehicle and charges will be posted to room folios. Parking space for oversized vehicles is limited and may be restricted.

WEST EDMONTON MALL

Information about West Edmonton Mall can be found at: www.wem.ca

REGISTRATION FOR CONFERENCE

To register for the conference, please visit the website at: www.fcssa.org or click the “Register Now” link for our conference brochure and registration details.

Link: https://events.eply.com/FCSSAA

CONTACT

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FANTASYLAND HOTEL BALLROOM AND CONFERENCE CENTRE
Pre-Conference Sessions

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2019
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

FULL-DAY PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION FOR EXPERIENCED FCSS DIRECTORS AND STAFF

Demonstrating the Deeper Impact: Measuring Outcomes Beyond Knowledge.

The FCSS Outcome Measures Team will once again be providing a full-day pre-conference session on outcome measurement as it applies to FCSS.

This pre-conference session will go beyond the basics of Outcome Measurement and will guide participants in how to measure outcomes beyond knowledge to demonstrate a deeper impact.

This advanced outcome measures training opportunity is a hands-on session designed and most appropriate for FCSS Directors and staff who have already received foundational training and already have experience working with outcomes within the FCSS context.

Elected officials and board members wanting to expand their understanding of Outcome Measures are invited to attend the session designed specifically for elected officials and board members, as part of the regular conference offering.

This session will be facilitated by the FCSS Outcome Measures Trainers: Jannette Riedel, Karen Titanich, Kimberly Kueber and Lynn Pack.

Mayor’s Garden Party, Hanna, held yearly during Seniors’ Week
PRESENTERS:

Jannette Riedel
Jannette Riedel is an Outcomes Measures (OM) Trainer and is based in Mannville. Jannette provides support to the East Central, Northeast, and Edmonton Evergreen Regions and has been with the OM Initiative since 2010. Jannette has a passion to explore and experience the benefits of FCSS Outcome Measurement and to help others through the learning process and she is also the Director for the Mannville-Minburn-Innisfree FCSS program, since 1995.

Lynn Pack
Lynn Pack has worked with FCSS since 1990 and is an FCSS Outcome Measures Trainer based out of Grande Prairie. Lynn was involved in the Outcome Measures Initiative from 2010 - 2015 and is now back with the Outcome Measures Initiative, supporting the Métis Settlements.

Karen Titanich
Karen Titanich is the Principal, Vital Connections and lives in Edmonton, Alberta. She has had several roles working with the FCSS Outcome Measurement project since 2009. Currently, Karen is the Outcome Measures Trainer for the Northwest and Yellowhead FCSS Regions. Karen has worked with FCSS in many capacities for many years. In addition, Karen works on social sustainability projects with municipalities in Alberta and also volunteers during pledge drives with the CKUA Radio Network.

Kim Kueber
Kim Kueber is an Outcome Measures Trainer based out of Calgary. She has been with the Outcome Measures Initiative since 2012 and provides outcome measurement support to the South, Calgary-Bow and West Central Regions.

Deadline for Registration
The deadline for registering for this pre-conference session is Friday November 15, 2019.
Alberta Poverty Reduction Network Pre-Conference Session

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2019
10:00 AM – Noon

Alberta Poverty Reduction Network – Provincial Meeting

All FCSSAA delegates are welcome to join the Alberta Poverty Reduction Network (APRN) for the network's third provincial in-person meeting. Many FCSS programs already connect through the regular, bi-monthly teleconference meetings, however, once again, an opportunity is being provided to come face to face with those on the other end of the line. Participants will address the goals of the APRN, with discussion focusing on poverty reduction strategies, successes, challenges, and the development of a common voice, where possible, on poverty reduction strategies across Alberta.

Pre-registration is required, however there is no additional fee for this session.

Session will be chaired by Lisa Brown

Lisa Brown

Lisa Brown is the Manager of Community Social Development Service Area within the Town of Canmore. Her Service Area includes both Family and Community Support Services and Bow Valley Parent Link. The Community Social Development Service Area is responsible for strategically building Social Capital and resilience within the Town of Canmore. This includes strengthening neighbourhood connections and informal supports by creating a family friendly environment and connected neighbourhoods; embracing diversity by strengthening Indigenous relationships, hearing new perspectives and evaluating perceptions; and, aligning support services by removing barriers, measuring outcomes and increasing livability.
Agenda:

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26
Pre-Conference Session
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM FCSS Demonstrating the Deeper Impact: Measuring Outcomes Beyond Knowledge. Kimberly Kueber, Lynn Pack, Jannette Riedel, and Karen Titanich

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27
10:00 AM – Noon Pre-Conference Session: Alberta Poverty Reduction Network- Provincial Meeting
10:30 AM Registration opens
1:00 PM Conference Opens, Welcome and Greetings
1:15 PM The Work of Neighbours: A Community Ethos for Difficult Times – Keynote Speaker Dr. Roger Epp
2:30 PM – 2:45 PM Refreshment Break
2:45 PM – 4:00 PM Regional Meetings
4:00 PM – 4:45 PM Networking time while the FCSSAA Board meets
4:45 PM – 6:30 PM Reception

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28
7:00 AM Breakfast with Your MLA
8:30 AM Welcome and greetings
9:00 AM – 10:15 AM Breakout Sessions A
A1: FCSS 101 - Ken Dropko, Debbie Wood
A2: Human Rights and Employment Standards -Barb Read
A3: Tough Enough to Talk About It – Neil Harris
A4: Prevention and Support in Rural Communities - Stephanie Hadley
A5: Trauma Informed Care-Building a Culture of Strength -Angie Allan
A6: Everyone’s an Asset Builder: The Power of Programs and Individuals in the Lives of Youth - Karen Woodward
10:15 AM – 10:30 AM Refreshment Break
10:30 AM – 11:45 AM Breakout Sessions B
B2: Progressive Discipline and Terminations - Barb Read
B3: Men’s Sheds- Shedding the Armour Through Connection - Clarence Hastings, Michael Hoyt, Amanda Harriman-Gotjan, and Punch Jackson
B4: Prevention and Support in Rural Communities - Stephanie Hadley
B5: Social Connection, Hope and Resiliency - Scott Cameron
B6: SPARKS: Igniting the Passions and Interests of Youth - Karen Woodward
11:45 AM – 1:00 PM Lunch
1:15 PM – 2:30 PM Breakout Sessions C
C2: Social Media in the Workplace An Adaptive Approach to Inclusive Leadership - Matthew Woodley
Room assignments and any changes will be provided in the Agenda at a Glance

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
C3: Introduction to Brain Science: How to Build a Brain - Dr. Nicole Sherren
C4: Housing Panel- Carmen McNabb, Greg Hart, Sandi Price
C5: IAM Project: Kids, Shopping Carts, and Smiles - Marian Priebe
C6: Engaging Families: A Relationship Based Approach - Karen Woodward

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM Refreshment Break

2:45 PM – 4:00 PM Breakout Sessions D

D1: Policy Powered Prevention- Increasing Impact from the Ground Up - Rob Lewis, Sean Ward
D2: Simple Connections, Stronger Families - Lorelee Marin
D3: Reconciliation is Always Local - Dr. Roger Epp, Dr. Diana Steinhauer
D4: Community Solutions to Poverty Reduction - Katie Walker, Wendy Theodore, Stephanie Walsh-Rigby, Jaime Rogers
D5: Daycare Co-ops: A Rural Solution - Marianne Prockiw-Zarusky

EVENING EVENTS

5:30 PM – 6:00 PM Cocktails
6:00 PM – 10:00 PM Banquet, FCSSAA Achievement Awards. Entertainment - Fun Casino
10:00 PM Silent Auction Closes

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

7:30 AM Breakfast
8:00 AM Welcome and Updates on FCSSAA Initiatives
8:30 AM – 9:45 AM Resilient Leadership: Build Accountability, Foster Trust, Embrace Change - Keynote Speaker David Irvine
10:00 AM – Noon FCSS Association of Alberta Annual General Meeting
Noon Farewell and Closing Comments

Displays

PLEASE VISIT OUR DISPLAYERS

They will be available on Wednesday the 27th from noon-4:30 PM and Thursday the 28th from 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM.

Silent Auction

FCSS PROGRAMS ARE ONCE AGAIN INVITED TO DONATE ITEMS FOR A SILENT AUCTION.

FCSS programs are invited to donate items for a Silent Auction. Bidding will open Wednesday, November 27th and close following the evening’s events on Thursday, November 28th. Additional information and details will be provided at a later date.
Master of Ceremonies

Fred Keating

What secrets does this man possess about our Association, Board Members and delegates that seem to ensure his return year after year? The secret of hosting and roasting and toasting Is known by a very few folks. It is partly meticulous (but with our choice “ridiculous”!) And certainly not found in his jokes! Hardly uproarious, more like notorious and yet Asked back as he is each fall. When we figure it out we’ll twist and he’ll shout, “I’m glad to be anywhere at all!” Enjoy your meeting with What’s left of Fred Keating.

Opening ceremony 1:00 - 1:15 PM

Regional Meetings

2:45 – 4:00 PM
For those of you who are first timers to the FCSSAA Conference, the Regional Meeting is a time to meet fellow delegates from your FCSSAA Region. Those of you who are experienced conference attendees will know that during the regional meeting you’ll have the opportunity to review and debate any resolutions being put forward at the Annual General Meeting and to elect your Regional Representative, who will be your region’s FCSSAA Board Member.

Informal Networking Time 4:00 – 4:45 PM
Free time to shop, tour, enjoy the Mall’s attractions, or network with your colleagues from your region or across Alberta. The FCSSAA will hold the final meeting of the 2018-2019 Board during this time.

Reception 4:45 – 6:30 PM
Continue those conversations started at your Regional Meetings, or start new ones; the Welcome Reception is an informal time to network, put some early bids on silent auction items and enjoy an assortment of hors d’oeuvres. A cash bar will be available.
We live at a time when anger has become the dominant tone of public life – when communities divide so deeply over everything from climate change to addiction treatment to refugees to schools and sexual identity; when the hard, urgent work of resetting relations with Indigenous communities is met with indifference; when political rhetoric masks our anxieties and deflects an honest conversation about the long-term future of the oil-and-gas economy, well-paid work, and our public finances; and when much of rural Alberta continues to experience the loss of people and core services. The resulting stresses will shape the work of family and community support agencies for the next generation. In my talk, I want to name those stresses and explore how an old-fashioned ethical subject – the neighbour – might generate the kind of “ordinary virtue” that helps set another course, built around local practices of reciprocity, collaboration, care, and inclusion.

Dr. Roger Epp

Roger Epp is professor of political science at the University of Alberta, where he has served in a number of senior leadership roles, most notably as founding Dean of the Augustana Campus in Camrose, and subsequently as Deputy Provost. Most recently he served as Director of UAlberta North, an office devoted to building research, educational, and community relationships with northern partners. As a writer and speaker, he has explored what it means to live as a multi-generational settler on Treaty 6 land with a sense of memory and care. Those explorations include the books We Are All Treaty People: Prairie Essays and Writing Off the Rural West, as well as a documentary, “The Canadian Clearances,” co-produced for CBC Radio. He has also written for such diverse periodicals as the Western Producer, the Toronto Star, Geist, and Alberta Views. He was an invited honorary witness at hearings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.
Thursday, November 28

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM Breakfast with your MLA

FCSS programs and the FCSSAA have invited their MLAs to join the delegates for breakfast. This will provide an opportunity to showcase the work of FCSS and also to thank the MLAs for their ongoing support of this unique program.

Breakout Sessions A 9:00 - 10:15 AM

A1 – FCSS 101

FCSS 101 is a presentation designed for staff, volunteers and board members to provide information and guidance to participants regarding the operation of FCSS programs in the community. The session provides information on the FCSS Act and Regulation, eligible and ineligible services, understanding the role of FCSSAA as well as the importance of outcome measures and reporting.

Ken Dropko

Ken Dropko is the Executive Director, Family and Community Services in the Ministry of Community and Social Services. After many years in the education system in both urban and rural school jurisdictions serving as principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent of schools, Ken joined the Alberta Public Service in 2005 with Alberta Education. He moved to Children’s Services in 2006. Ken has held a number of Executive Director roles in government, including Research and Innovation in Children and Youth Services and Community Partnerships; and then Family and Community Support Services in the former Human Services. Ken has a Master’s degree in Education from the University of Alberta. Ken’s current portfolio includes: Family and Community Support Services, Family and Community Safety Program, Family Violence Prevention and Healthy Relationships Initiatives and the Family Violence Death Review Committee.

Debbie Wood

Debbie is the Manager of FCSS for Athabasca County. She has spent over twenty-four years working for FCSS in various positions in the communities of Athabasca and Thorhild. She took on her current role as Manager seven years ago, shortly after receiving her Bachelor of Applied Human Service Administration Degree from Grant MacEwan University. Debbie is a strong believer in the value of FCSS and the impact it has on individuals, families and communities. Working in rural communities, Debbie has seen how FCSS can play a key role in providing direct services, as well as collaborating with other agencies, organizations and government departments to create programs to ensure the needs of the communities are met. On a personal note, Debbie and her husband have two adult daughters and were recently blessed with a granddaughter.
A2- HUMAN RIGHTS AND EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

Ensure your organization is in compliance with law (Employment Standards), including hours of work, overtime, pay, terminations and more! We will also discuss provincial Human Rights protected grounds and assess whether an employment contract is complete and compliant.

Barb Read

Barb Read is a Chartered Professional in Human Resources and a Registered Professional Recruiter with a generalist background that spans all functional areas of the human resources practice. She brings expertise in business and operational process, recruitment and selection, new employee orientation, policy and procedure development, compensation, performance management, workplace investigations and employee relations. Barb has experience across private, public and not-for-profit sectors, and has a strong operations background to complement her HR expertise.

Barb is a certified member of the Human Resources Institute of Alberta and a member of the Institute of Professional Management. She has also completed a two-year term as Committee Chair for the Edmonton Chapter and served as Co-Chair for the 2014-2015 year.

A3- TOUGH ENOUGH TO TALK ABOUT IT

Tough Enough to Talk About It is a presentation directed to men and women working in Trades, Industry, Agriculture, and all occupations. This presentation contains information on how to watch for signs of stress and depression. The audience will also learn how to recognize the signs for suicide and what to say and do with a person who is at risk. We will explore how stress and mental health problems can contribute to a worker being unsafe on the job site. This presentation delivers information and ideas for healthy ways of coping with problems and also provides resources for getting help when needed.

Neil Harris

Neil’s background is in Social Work and he is currently employed with Alberta Health Services as a Health Promotion Facilitator in the area of Addiction Prevention and Mental Health Promotion.

Neil is the coordinator of the “Tough Enough To Talk About It” Program in East Central Alberta. He is also an active member of the Lakeland Regional Safety Committee. Neil is passionate about promoting Mental Health in the workplace and supporting Workplace and Community Wellness.
A4—PREVENTION AND SUPPORT IN RURAL COMMUNITIES: THE IMPORTANCE OF COLLABORATION

In order to gain knowledge about needs, to identify strategies and to deliver appropriate community services it is critical to have strong relationships and key partners who are willing to address local needs in a collaborative way. The Association of Communities Against Abuse (ACAA) has successfully delivered services since 1990, and continues to grow and expand using a unique approach. This session will explore how the organization was formed, how key relationships were built and maintained, and how services are offered in such a vast, rural area. For nearly 30 years, ACAA has delivered specialized support and treatment services to hundreds of individuals and families impacted by abuse. Through preventive education programs, ACAA has trained professionals, community members, parents and students in east central Alberta. All services are offered using a unique, rural service model. ACAA is a full member agency of the Association of Alberta Sexual Assault Services (AASAS), governed by a regional board, employs 15 staff and serves the communities of Camrose, Tofield, Viking, Killam, Stettler, Castor, Coronation, Hanna, Drumheller and surrounding areas.

Stephanie Hadley

Stephanie Hadley is the Executive Director at the Association of Communities Against Abuse (ACAA), and has worked with the agency for the past six years. Stephanie previously worked for eighteen years in the non-profit sector, focusing on community development, program management, and education.
A5 – TRAUMA INFORMED CARE—BUILDING A CULTURE OF STRENGTH

Trauma is prevalent in our world and has an impact on many of the people we interact with, including our clients and colleagues. Compassionate and trauma-informed care is essential to providing effective support and building sustainable services. This workshop will introduce the steps to build a trauma-informed culture in a workplace setting that integrates knowledge throughout the organization. Participants will develop an understanding of the pervasive impact of trauma on individual health and relationships. Guiding principles will be explored for increasing emotional and physical safety, culturally sensitive empowerment, and creating greater resilience for all parts of an organization. Becoming trauma-informed creates a sustainable foundation in any work setting to promote strength, engagement, and recovery.

Angie Allan

Angie Allan is a Provisional Psychologist and holds a Master of Education degree in Counselling Psychology. In addition to training with the Canadian Trauma Research Institute (CTRI), Angie works for a not-for-profit agency where she offers therapy to some of Edmonton’s most vulnerable people. She also maintains a busy private practice where she provides therapy, consulting, and coaching to individuals and organizations, and is a group therapist at a return-to-work day program. As a therapist, Angie believes that people seek therapy not for their problems, but because their current solutions are no longer working. This influences her training style, where she partners with her learners by taking a curious, non-judgmental, strengths-based approach to support them as they create meaningful and lasting change.

A6 – EVERYONE’S AN ASSET BUILDER: THE POWER OF PROGRAMS AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE LIVES OF YOUTH

Search Institute’s research for more than 20 years with millions of young people clearly demonstrates the powerful impact of individuals and programs in supporting the healthy growth and development of young people. Participants in this workshop will explore the Institute’s research-based framework of developmental assets and the cumulative power of assets to shape positive youth outcomes. Special emphasis will be placed on the role that individuals play in promoting positive youth development using an asset-based approach.

Karen Woodward

Karen is a Search Institute trainer with a passion for improving outcomes for young people. Karen brings over 25 years of experience leading community-based initiatives, developing curriculum, assessing program quality, creating partnerships, and classroom teaching. She is known for her work to align school-day learning and out-of-school-time programming. Her background includes working in diverse community settings as a trainer and facilitator for teachers, youth workers, program leaders, and parents. Karen earned her Master of Education degree from the College of St. Scholastica, a teaching license from Macalester College, a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Wisconsin and has attained professional certifications from the University of St. Thomas and the University of Missouri-Kansas City.
B1 – DEMYSTIFYING MEASURING OUTCOMES BEYOND KNOWLEDGE: AN INTRODUCTION FOR FCSS STAFF

As an FCSS staff member involved in program planning, implementation, evaluation and reporting, you have an opportunity to move the measurement of the outcomes achieved by your programming beyond knowledge. In this workshop, you’ll learn how to use the categories of change to recognize the mid-term outcomes. You will learn about “outcome chains” and get some hands-on experience putting some together. Join your FCSS Outcome Measures Trainers and learn how to start moving towards measuring the deeper impact of your programs.


Joyce is the Senior Manager of the Family and Community Support Services Program within the Family and Community Services Branch of Community and Social Services. A native Albertan, her career with the Alberta Government has spanned a total of thirty years with four different ministries. Find more information on the presenters on page 5.

B2 – PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE AND TERMINATIONS

Please join us to learn how to apply the steps of progressive discipline and document performance matters appropriately, how to distinguish between termination for cause and without cause and how to terminate an employee effectively.

Barb Read

Find information on page 12.
B3 – Men’s Sheds—Shedding the Armour Through Connection

From the movements beginning in Australia in 2006, the inclusion of Men’s Sheds into rural and urban life have provided an opportunity for men of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities to address isolation, loneliness and depression by providing safe and inclusive spaces where men learn, teach, share, develop, plan, and carry out individual and community projects. Through these connections to each other, organizations, and the larger community “Shedders” work collaboratively, “Shoulder to Shoulder” to find purpose and meaningful connections while supporting other Shedders and their community to build resilient, strong communities.

Clarence Hastings

Clarence is a social worker with Camrose and District Support Services and has supported the development and implementation of the first Men’s Shed in Alberta. Over the past six years he has worked with a dedicated group of men to engage, support, mentor, and advocate for supports that focus on men’s wellness and social health to combat depression, loneliness, and isolation. Through his collaborative approach, the Camrose and Area Men’s Shed has solidified and is an actively contributing group within the social fabric of Camrose and surrounding areas, and has provided mentoring for other communities wanting to establish their own Men’s Sheds. He continues to support the Canadian Men’s Shed Association with its mission to share the benefits of a Men’s Shed in Canadian communities.

Michael Hoyt

Michael is a social worker with the City of Edmonton, where he works to build community capacity to engage men in developing healthy relationships, leading to a provincial 2017 Family and Community Inspiration Award. He is guided by the notion that we must look for solutions that don’t simply call men out for bad behavior, but call men in as agents for positive change. As he moves into the final stage of his professional career he spends time imagining and organizing for the kind of community in which he will feel connected and productive as a retiree.

Amanda Harriman-Gojtan

Amanda is a Community Animator for Sage Seniors’ Association. Using an intentional Community Development approach, she assists seniors in finding a place for their skills and wisdom to be utilized, connecting them with activities, opportunities, and resources in their area. She has a passion for community building and has been involved with the Beverly Historical Society, is a neighbourhood Block Connector for the Abundant Community Edmonton program, and has recently become a member of the North-East Edmonton chapter of Rotary. Amanda became involved with the Men’s Shed initiative in 2017 and continues to contribute to its growing popularity in Edmonton.

Punch Jackson

Punch retired in 2009 after a long career of community and public service. He has been a private consultant and spent thirty years with Alberta’s Public Service where he worked in many areas including Recreation, Sport, Community Development, the Voluntary Sector, the Wild Rose Foundation and Alberta’s Public Libraries. He has had extensive volunteer involvement including the creation of the Men’s Sheds Edmonton Association. He is active in Social Media, editing Recreation Canada daily, and recently started an e-paper on Men’s Sheds; he has been actively advocating for Men’s Sheds in Alberta for many years.
B5 – Social Connection, Hope and Resiliency

Social connection, hope and resiliency - what if we could shift our paradigm and the way we think about social change - at the system level and at the personal level? What if we had the power to shift the way we support people? All of us, not just service providers. Scott is actively researching a concept that ties together the relationship between social connection, hope and resiliency founded on the belief that social connection can be a key to sustaining hope and building the resiliency necessary to emerge from challenging social conditions (i.e. addictions, poverty, homelessness, etc.). Inspired by the voices of people with lived experience, Scott is deepening his understanding of the way in which we can achieve sustainable social change. This will be an interactive learning session.

Scott Cameron

Scott Cameron is the President/CEO of bassa Social Innovations Ltd. and a former recipient of the FCSSAA Lifetime Achievement Award. His work in the fields of community strategic planning, social enterprise and evaluation have been significantly influenced by the FCSS prevention mandate. He is continually seeking out new waters upstream to determine the best ways to influence change and prevent individuals, families and communities from the effects of social trauma. His latest work involves engagement with people experiencing or having experienced trauma, and the role that social connection has on their sense of resilience and hope. Scott has a Master of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies from Royal Roads University where he focused on Sustainable Community Development and Leadership. Supported by a bursary made available through FCSSAA, Scott focused his final research project on FCSS in Alberta and created a video documentary entitled FCSS - Weaving Alberta’s Social Fabric; an exploration of the World Bank’s five dimensions of social capital within the context of FCSS in Alberta. Scott is the father of three grown children and currently resides in Calgary.
B6 – SPARKS: IGNITING THE PASSIONS AND INTERESTS OF YOUTH

Every teenager has a spark – something inside that is good, beautiful, and useful to the world. Grounded in research with thousands of teenagers, Search Institute’s work provides a relational approach to awakening the spark that lives within each and every young person. Workshop participants will be introduced to the concept of Spark within the context of thriving and how the “spark dialogue” can be a gateway to a deeper relational connection. “What is your spark? I’m dying to know.”

Karen Woodward

See A6 on page 14 for more information.

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM Lunch

Hanna Canada Day Celebrations - approximately 900 folks come out for that day
C1 – Demystifying the Outcomes Mindset: An Introduction for FCSS Board Members and Elected Officials

As a board member or elected official, understanding the FCSS outcomes mindset provides you with the opportunity to better understand and meet the social needs of your community.

In this workshop, you will learn what outcomes are, why they are important and how you, in your role as a board member/elected official, can “think” about and use outcomes to better serve your community.

Joyce Mellott, Karen Titanich, Lynn Pack, Jannette Riedel and Kim Kueber

Find more information on the presenters on page 5.

C2 – Social Media in the Workplace

This session looks at the risks of social media in the workplace, and the ways in which social media use can be used for disciplinary matters. This session discusses the importance of social media policies and provides tips for drafting.

Matthew Woodley

Matt provides advice to a wide range of organizations including employers, print and broadcast media organizations, post-secondary institutions, municipalities and professional regulatory bodies. He is admitted to the bar in Alberta, Yukon and the Northwest Territories. Matt focuses on human resource, free expression, constitutional, and administrative law. Matt has appeared at all levels of Court in Alberta on matters ranging from the constitutional right to equality, to free expression in the media and on post-secondary campuses, open courts, and privacy law. He has appeared as counsel before the Yukon Court of Appeal on a matter relating to media law, and before the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal in a case involving defamation. Matt has also appeared as counsel before the Supreme Court of Canada in a matter involving a constitutional challenge to a publication ban. He taught Communications Law at MacEwan University for ten years, and provides pro-bono services to the Edmonton Community Legal Centre and the Civil Claims Duty Counsel Project.
C3 - INTRODUCTION TO BRAIN SCIENCE - HOW TO BUILD A BRAIN

Converging lines of evidence from neuroscience, molecular biology, genetics, and the social sciences tell us that early experiences are literally built into our brains and bodies to affect a lifetime of learning and health, for good or for ill. This has profound implications for policies, programs, and services that support children and families. In this session, you will learn how brains are built: what kind of experiences promote healthy brain architecture, what kind of experiences derail it, and how these experiences get “under our skins” to affect learning, health, and social outcomes across the life span.

Dr. Nicole Sherren

Dr. Nicole Sherren is the Scientific Director and Senior Program Officer with the Palix Foundation. She has a PhD in Neuroscience from Carleton University and moved to Alberta in 2003 to hold an Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research/Neuroscience Canada research fellowship at the University of Lethbridge. Her research focus includes experience-based brain development, neurodevelopmental disorders, and brain plasticity. Nicole joined the Palix Foundation in 2007 to focus on mobilizing scientific knowledge into policy and clinical practice. She lends her expertise to a number of working committees and community projects across Alberta and also serves as a board director for Calgary Alpha House Society.
C4 – Affordable Housing Panel

Join our panel members to explore emerging affordable housing opportunities that could be made available for your community. Additional panel members will be announced as they are added.

Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)

CMHC will be presenting on Social Inclusion and The National Housing Strategy which will create a new generation of housing in Canada by promoting diverse communities and build housing that is sustainable, accessible, and energy efficient.

Carmen McNabb

Carmen McNabb has been actively involved in housing and the mortgage industry for more than twenty-three years. In 2007, she joined CMHC in the homeowner insurance sector. Prior to that, she worked for eleven years at one of Canada’s larger financial institutions where she held a number of different positions related to Mortgages and Financial Planning. Most recently Carmen has taken her client-focused insurance expertise to the CMHC Outreach team. Here she is helping to raise awareness of affordable housing in Canada and promote the National Housing Strategy. In Carmen’s spare time, she loves spending time with her family and volunteering with her Scout group.

Alberta Network of Public Housing Agencies

ANPHA is the provincial membership association for the non-profit housing sector. Our membership includes organizations large and small who serve a diverse cross section of Albertans who share a belief that housing for everyone is a critical part of building healthy, vibrant communities.

We believe all Albertans should have a safe, secure, appropriate and affordable home.

Sandie Price

Sandie Price has over twenty years of expertise in advocacy, policy, organizational culture, leadership development, and government/stakeholder relations within the non-profit sector. She is purpose driven and committed to a best practice approach that encourages innovation, creativity and purposeful action. These qualities are needed in her work as a diversity and inclusion advocate and within the affordable housing sector where she is the Executive Director of ANPHA (Alberta Network of Public Housing Agencies).

Greg Hart

Innovation architect, people-first designer, lifetime entrepreneur, systems thinker, agile master planner with a future-forward intuition. Greg is a partner in the innovation company, Thin Air Labs. Thin Air Labs builds future-fit ventures like a Canadian Hyperloop connection between Edmonton and Calgary, an unschool that helps people blend design mindsets with computational development competency and the one we are going to talk about today. Greg has been working closely with John Brown on the Garden Lofts project for the last couple of years and is pleased to get the opportunity to talk with everyone about it.

Garden Loft Age-in-Place Initiative

Greg Hart presented a session at last year’s FCSSAA Conference entitled “Garden Loft: A New Housing Typology for Rural Seniors”, in which he provided the results of a multi-year research project at the University of Calgary to design a pre-fabricated, portable residential unit that will help frail seniors live independently, and safely, for an extended period of time. He will provide an update on the Garden Loft Age-in-Place Housing Initiative.
C5 – IAM PROJECT: KIDS, SHOPPING CARTS, AND SMILES

The IAM Project is a deliberate, inclusive approach to building positive community. It starts with core building in children and youth helpers. Others indirectly involved in the project, i.e. educators and home caregivers, also receive core building and capacity skills for resiliency to crises that may occur in their lives. This session will focus on the impact that an all-inclusive approach to core building can give the “Power of Prevention” to the community at large. As well, by starting the IAM model with the very young, it may help avoid addiction and mental health concerns in their future. The IAM Project is entering its third year of the pilot in the school system and continues to receive strong support from FCSS and Alberta Health Services coalition partners.

Marian Priebe is an educator at Wainwright Elementary School in Wainwright, Alberta. She has just concluded her 18th year of teaching and during this time completed her Master of Educational Studies at the University of Alberta. Through this educational experience, she developed an interest in research and a desire to make the world a better place through kids. This new found passion led her to develop and implement the IAM Project; a core building tool for kids, youth, parents and staff. Marian loves all things garden and dabbles with old wooden material to design and build signs. Marian is a spouse of one, mother of three grown children and enjoys being with her three grandchildren.

C6 – ENGAGING FAMILIES: A RELATIONSHIP-BASED APPROACH

Too much of today’s conversation about families is about what’s wrong with them: failures and problem, vulnerabilities, and stresses, or whether certain types of families are better than others. While the challenges and chances facing families are real, a strength-based approach to engaging families can have a powerful impact in helping them to not only cope but to thrive. Based on Search Institute research, this workshop will introduce a strength- and relationship-based approach that re-frames family engagement and suggests new strategies for reaching the families we seek to serve.

Karen Woodward

See A6 on page 14 for more information.

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM Break
D1 – POLICY POWERED PREVENTION – INCREASING IMPACT FROM THE GROUND UP

The world of preventive service is rich with intuitive and research supported ideas and practice! One critical element needed to help ensure the successful delivery of these services is the presence of a strong and stable framework. Well thought-out and intentionally implemented Policy can provide a stable and sturdy foundation on which thriving service delivery can be built. Join Rob Lewis (Policy Governance Professional) and Sean Ward (Municipal and Administrative Lawyer) in an investigative conversation around how to use Policy most effectively to provide the foundation you need to focus on powerful preventive programming.

Rob Lewis
Rob has been directly employed in, or providing support to, the human services sector for over twenty years. With experiences ranging from the role of Executive Director of Big Brother/Big Sisters of Medicine Hat and District to that of Western Regional Executive Director of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Canada. He has provided support and direction to the development of a great variety of policy documentation, and has used policy as an effective tool to provide direction to non-profits. More recently, Rob was hired as the Policy Analyst for the City of Red Deer, providing policy and procedure development expertise to both City Administration and City Council. Rob hopes this conversation around developing good, solid policy will help increase efficiency and effectiveness at the local level.

Sean Ward
Sean is a partner at Reynolds, Mirth, Richards and Farmer LLP. He is the co-chair of the firm’s Municipal Law Team, providing advice to municipalities and public bodies across Alberta. This includes work for various municipal and inter-municipal boards and community groups, providing advice both to various stakeholders in those groups as well as in the role of independent counsel to the boards themselves.
D2 – Simple Connections, Stronger Families

We look to our families for love, support and enjoyment and we rely on our families when times are tough. Families shape us as we grow, and families shape our society. So why not make Alberta families as strong and resilient as possible? Resilient families are better able to cope with life’s challenges and provide the best environments for individuals to flourish. Simple Connections, Stronger Families can help families by focussing on protective factors that will help build stronger, more resilient families. In this fun, interactive session you will learn how to apply the research behind Simple Connections, Stronger Families to everyday life. You will understand how to use the concepts, tools, and resources in your community, in your workplace, or with your family and know that the simple things we do every day can make a difference.

Lorelee Marin

Lorelee grew up on a farm north of Regina and was fortunate to know her neighbours, to feel a strong sense of community, to pitch-in when needed, and her whole life she was supported by many trusted adults. She married her high-school sweetheart and they have enjoyed 35 years together, raised three pretty great kids, have two daughters-in-laws and a new grandson, who brings them so much joy! Recently, she was honored to receive the Lloydminster Chamber of Commerce Community Spirit Award and share the vision of creating a community where kids can grow up great. Her work in addiction prevention and mental health promotion reflects her passion to make a positive impact on individuals, families, neighbourhoods and community. Join Lorelee in the mission to create strong, resilient families and communities.

D3 – Reconciliation is Always Local

While the Truth and Reconciliation Commission affirmed that the work of “building a new way of living together” belongs to all Canadians, surveys and high-profile incidents suggest that, on the prairies, they are less willing to acknowledge racism, the residential school legacy, and ongoing systemic barriers for Indigenous people. In many places, the TRC’s Calls to Action have been met with silence; long-standing tensions, fears, and solitudes have not been disrupted. The workshop begins from the premises that the most urgent, most difficult work of reconciliation is necessarily local and that it is dangerous to decide that no other story is possible in communities where it matters most.

Dr. Roger Epp

See more information on page 10.

Dr. Diana Steinhauer

Dr. Diana Steinhauer, Cree, from Saddle Lake Cree Nation in Treaty No. 6 Territory, is an educator with 30 years of experience in teaching, curriculum development, and administration in K-12 schools and post-secondary institutions. Her current role is President with Yellowhead Tribal College, Edmonton. She is particularly grateful to Elders and Knowledge Keepers who have guided and mentored her in Indigenous Knowledge and ways of being as a kise iskwew. Recognizing the value and work of iyiniw pimDtsisìwìniw, Diana’s work as a change agent in language, education, and governance is grounded upon her late father’s adage, pimDtsìtötetàn kimiyikowisiwininaw, Let us live life the way our Creator intended us to live.
D4 – Community Solutions to Poverty Reduction

Join this facilitated panel presentation as four presenters discuss practical poverty reduction strategies that have worked in their communities or organizations. Panel members will include:

**Food Banks Alberta**

Food banks: On the front line of poverty reduction; how rural food banks play a key role in building stronger communities.

**Stephanie Walsh-Rigby**

Stephanie Walsh-Rigby is a graduate of Carleton University’s School of Journalism, worked in Ontario as a newspaper reporter and then managing editor, before returning to her seaside home of St. Andrews, NB to run a desktop publishing business. She gradually moved into positions that cemented her connections with her community – a heritage project, community economic development and then animal welfare. Stephanie was recognized for her work with two national awards. In 2011 she relocated to Edmonton and became the Director of Operations at the Edmonton Humane Society, managing 100 staff and up to 14,000 animals a year. Now in her 6th year with Food Banks Alberta Stephanie sits on several national committees with Food Banks Canada and is an active volunteer in the Edmonton Region Immigrant Employment Council (ERIEC) supporting highly skilled immigrants find work.

**Prosperity Gateways: The Cities for Financial Empowerment Project**

This presentation will be on financial empowerment activities that will help support people who are financially vulnerable, including increasing access to benefits and sharing information about Prosperity Gateways: The Cities for Financial Empowerment Project. This project is focusing on how to integrate financial empowerment activities directly in the City of Edmonton’s Ride Transit Program and Leisure Access Program.

**Katie Walker**

Katie Walker is a community development social worker with the City of Edmonton who supports financial empowerment activities across Edmonton and area and has over twenty five years’ experience working in family violence prevention, community development and financial empowerment.

Katie is part of a team who created the financial empowerment framework in the City of Edmonton and is currently the co-chair of the Edmonton Financial Empowerment Collaborative (EFEC). She is the project lead on You Can Benefit, an innovative web based tool to help those most in need find benefits and subsidies. In addition Katie takes a leadership role in stewarding the City of Edmonton’s exploration of integrating financial empowerment activities into the municipal system and is looking forward to working closely with Prosper Canada on this project.

Katie gives credit to her passion for the work to other trailblazers who inspired her with organizing the first financial literacy conference in 2009, the original ABLE Conference.

**Thrive South Eastern Alberta**

Thrive South Eastern Alberta is focused on ending poverty in all its forms, ensuring wellbeing for all by 2030 in Medicine Hat and Region. The strategy focuses on thirteen key priorities and actions to achieve our outcomes of developing a coordinated community system, ensure
access to basic needs, and build a thriving community. To assist with our community systems planning, THRIVE is using HelpSeeker, as real-time service map to provide community members with information about supports and services, when they need it. Participants will learn how HelpSeeker data is used to inform community systems planning, and coordination of response to community needs.

Jaime Rogers

Jaime Rogers is the Manager of the Homeless and Housing Development Department with the Medicine Hat Community Housing Society. Medicine Hat, Alberta has been recognized nationally and internationally for the significant strides that have been made towards ending homelessness utilizing a housing first and systems planning approach. Her work includes systems planning and coordination, strategic planning, KPI and policy framework development, program evaluation, and community development. She also is the Co-Chair of THRIVE South Eastern Alberta Strategy to End Poverty and Increase Well-being and has been part of the initiative since her transition to Medicine Hat in 2011.

Jaime holds a Master of Social Work from the University of British Columbia and a Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Calgary. She is also a certified Charrette Planner.

Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin’ – By World

Vulcan’s Initiative to Achieve Better Living Environments (VIABLE) conducted three Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin’-By World 16-session workgroups from 2015-2017 as a long-term solution for poverty reduction in Vulcan County. This program is unique because the Getting Ahead curriculum shares Bridges Out of Poverty concepts directly with people in poverty. The curriculum helps individuals to build their resources and strengths, create a plan to reach their goals, and help the community to solve poverty issues.

Wendy Theodore

Wendy Theodore works part-time for Vulcan and Region FCSS as the Community Liaison and Vulcan Regional Food Bank Society as the Project Manager for the VIABLE Homelessness Project. She started working for the Food Bank in 2008 on Wednesdays as the receptionist and distributing food hampers. She moved into the Community Liaison position in 2013, and received a five year grant in 2014 for from Service Canada to establish the Homelessness Project for the Food Bank. She enjoys working in the community and helping Vulcan County’s low-income residents bridge the gap from poverty to self-sufficiency.
D5 – DAYCARE CO-OPS: A RURAL SOLUTION

Share our journey to opening the first co-operative licensed Daycare in Alberta! People are resourceful in small-town Alberta. In Smoky Lake- population 960- there had never been a daycare facility, and parents always had to cobble together childcare plans. They made it work but last year a group from the community decided there must be a better way. In May, 2018, parents packed a local church to hear representatives from Co-operatives First and the Government of Alberta explain how a co-operative daycare could work. They liked what they heard and assembled a steering committee to start building the business. In October, 2018, the Smoky Lake Community Daycare Co-operative opened its doors. The co-operative model is a natural fit for rural daycares. Run on a non-profit basis by boards made up mostly of parents, daycare co-ops can be more flexible and respond more quickly to the needs of the children.

Marianne Prockiw-Zarusky

Marianne has been proudly serving Smoky Lake for the past six years and has been the FCSS Program Manager for the Town of Smoky Lake since September, 2013.

BANQUET AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The 2019 FCSSAA Achievement Awards is a chance to celebrate the exemplary work of those who are being recognized by their peers in two categories: Awards of Excellence and Outstanding Individual Achievement Award, both Volunteer and FCSS Staff. This event is sure to be a highlight of the conference.

FUN CASINO AND SILENT AUCTION

Welcome to High 5’s Fun Casino! You’re in store for a lively evening full of fun, laughs and excitement! It’s fun money so learn a new game risk free with our wide selection of casino games. Don’t worry if you don’t know how to play as our dealers are here to teach you!

You will be provided with $500 in play money when you arrive. Just take it to the tables to trade-in for chips in order to play.

Don’t worry if you run out of money we’ll happily give you more although we may make you sing a song or tell us a joke!

Prior to, and during the Casino, don’t forget to bid on the amazing selection of silent auction items, donated by fellow FCSS programs. Bidding will close at the end of the casino.

Friday, November 29

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM Updates on FCSSAA Initiatives
8:30 AM – 9:45 AM Closing Keynote Speaker. David Irvine.
10:00 AM – Noon FCSSAA Annual General Meeting
Noon Farewell and Closing Comments.
See you in 2020!
Closing Keynote Speaker:

RESILIENT LEADERSHIP: BUILD ACCOUNTABILITY • FOSTER TRUST • EMBRACE CHANGE

Leave this thought-provoking and inspiring keynote presentation with practical insights and strategies for building your leadership capacity in your community by learning better ways to build accountability, foster trust, and embrace change.

Resilient communities start with resilient leaders. As FCSS directors, staff, and Board members, you are the stewards of your organization and the communities you serve. As such, you are entrusted with the well-being of your communities through advocacy, programs, services, and resources.

Take this opportunity to step back and gain a new perspective on resilient leadership. Leave this thought-provoking and inspiring session with practical insights and strategies for leading your community with greater accountability, trust, and the ability to embrace change.

» Learn to build trusting relationships that sustain your energy, inspire action, and build confidence amidst change and chaos.

» Be inspired with a renewed vision of accountability that fosters true citizenship in an age of entitlement and consumerism.

» Discover what it means to work in true, authentic partnerships with those we depend on and upon those we depend.

» Leave with practical tools for building strong and lasting partnerships through the power of authentic leadership.

David Irvine

David Irvine is sought after internationally as a speaker, author, and trusted leadership advisor. As one of Canada’s most respected voices on leadership, organizational culture, and personal development, David has dedicated his life to creating workplaces, communities, and families that foster accountability, authenticity, and caring.

David has published several best-selling books, including the recent *The Other Everest: Navigating the Pathway to Authentic Leadership*, which provides a synthesis of David’s learnings, teachings and wisdom gleaned over a lifetime of connecting and communicating at the cutting edge of entrepreneurial, business and organizational culture. Another highly popular title, *Caring Is Everything: Getting to The Heart of Humanity, Leadership and Life*, is a powerful work on the importance of seeking an authentic life through caring.

In his over thirty-five years’ experience David has worked with CEOs and senior executives, as well as all levels of management, front-line service providers, salespeople, educators, and health care professionals and has impacted the lives of thousands of people. His approach is down-to-earth, simple and powerful.

As a formerly nationally ranked distance runner, David maintains an active lifestyle. He is a father of three and lives with his wife on the Jumping Pound Creek near Cochrane, Alberta.