

Meeting: Open Meeting
Location: Culver City Room, City Hall, Lethbridge
Date: December 17, 2009
Recorder: Leah Bruder

In Attendance:

PDD Board: Bob Bartlett; Fred Nowicki; Henry Heinen; Joy Lawson; Leo VandenHeuvel;
Lorne Abells; Sandy Moritz; Tom Hopkins;
PDD Staff: Leigh Bremner; Pam Williams; Heather Ries;
Community Partners: Sue Manery, Keelaee Blackwood, Anna Olson, Judy Brown, Chris Rowley, Sean Wensmann, Ben Rowley, Dave Lawson, Barbara Nish, Leonard Newton, Colette Acheson, Peter Portlock, Brandon Theilen, Ashley Anderson, Darren Bennett,
Regrets: Sandy Annis

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:14 am.

MOTION 09-53:that the meeting move In Camera

MSC Henry Heinen, Leo VandenHeuvel

MOTION 09-54: that the meeting move out of In Camera

MSC Leo VandenHeuvel, Fred Nowicki

2. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair called the meeting back to order at 2:08 pm and welcomed everyone to the Christmas Board meeting. The Chair thanked everyone for participating, contribution and collaborating with the Board and for their loyalty in coming to the PDD South Board meetings. While everyone in attendance is an honoured guest of our Board, today we are lucky to have a very special guest in attendance. Leonard Newton is the co-winner of the provincial Individual Leadership Award. The Chair congratulated Leonard on winning the award. Leonard has made some outstanding contribution around putting people first.

3. Review and Approval of the Minutes of November 26, 2009

MOTION 09-55: that the agenda be approved as presented

MSC Leo VandenHeuvel, Sandy Moritz

MOTION 09-56:that the minutes of November 26, 2009 be approved

MSC Bob Bartlett, Sandy Moritz

4. What is PDD doing in the South Region and across the Province?

4.1. Chairperson's Report:

SACLA hosted an event/workshop with Jim Deirs, and it was an absolute delight to hear about the depth of knowledge this speaker has in terms of building the capacity of our communities and the ability to mobilize communities to bring about change. Sandy Moritz, Bob Bartlett and Lorne Abells donated their time to attend the session. The discussion regarding the community treasure maps and identifying assets within your neighborhood and community was especially motivating. The Eastern Liaison committee is considering rewriting the asset map for persons with developmental disabilities for the downtown core in Medicine Hat. This has a lot to offer in the development of community and

particularly neighbourhoods. The session was very fun and reminded Board members that the work we do needs to be fun and that the committees we work with need to see an end result or the accomplishment of a task as a result of the work we do.

One of PDDs core businesses is promoting community inclusion and having these types of experts to provide ideas and thoughts on how to promote community is very beneficial. It was very encouraging that there were 5 representatives from the City of Lethbridge and it is hoped that the City staff recognize the importance of putting the responsibility back to community to achieve the goals the community has established in the City Circles.

Shortly after the Minister announced her 6 priority actions, the Chair established a Chairs advisory committee and while he would like input from everyone, logistics don't allow for it. As such the Chair has asked a group of 6 who represent the stakeholders to meet with him on a monthly basis to gain their feedback on the implementation of the strategic priorities. In January, Board members will be meeting with SADAT, SRSAN, Service Provider Council, East Liaison, West Liaison, and Family Voices to discuss the priority actions.

Many of you may have received a press release from AACL regarding budget reductions. PDD South would like to respond to some misinformation in the release. PDD South is managing within our budget, albeit is very tight right now but as it stands right now PDD South will balance. PDD South is relying on prior year surpluses and under utilization to balance, this can change and as such at this point PDD South is not planning any cuts. However, should things change PDD South will look at reducing administration as it will have the least impact on individuals, if a reduction is to occur it will happen early in January. PDD South has not received our targets for 2010-2011. PDD South is hopeful we will have information on next year's budget in January. The Chair congratulated Leigh and the PDD South Staff for managing the budget in a very fiscally responsible way resulting in the position PDD South is in which is we are managing within our budget.

5. What are our Partners doing?

5.1. Family Voices

Southeast

Families from Medicine Hat, Irvine, Brooks, and Bow Island are all represented and involved in Family Voices in the East. Family Voices east is also working with the Autism Group in Brooks. Both of the workshops held in Medicine Hat were very successful and the value added benefit of the workshop was the connecting of families and creating a resource or network base. Brooks has requested a workshop of the RDSP.

Southwest

The family voices staff person continues to make contact with families and other support groups. The staff participated in the International Day of Persons with Disability (IDPD) activities and has connected with families and other interested groups. LACL has approached Family Voices to look at hosting joint workshops. Family Voices is hoping to have Laurie Adamchik with AACL to speak to the Board in the New Year to provide addition information on Family Voices. The Family Conference for 2010 is at the Fantasy Land Hotel March 19 & 20, 2010 and will feature John and Connie Lyly O'Brien, Michael Kendrick and Darcy Elks. Additional information is available at www.aacl.org

5.2. Lethbridge Association for Community Living

LACL participated in the 35th annual parent to parent Christmas potluck. Chris Rowley and Dave Lawson participated in a Leadership Development in a Not-for-Profit organization course and learned how to cultivate and nurture leadership in the not-for-profit sector. LACL is a member of the planning committee for IPDP and had a very successful event. The Meeting with the Chinook Autism Society was a Christmas meeting and is primarily comprised of families with younger children.

5.3. South Region Self Advocacy Network (SRSAN)

The latest edition of the Ripple was distributed. Next meeting is scheduled for Jan 13th Royal Canadian Legion where elections will take place. Membership costs are \$5 per year (Sept 2009-2010). There are 82 paid members 20 supporting 62 voting members. The Teaching Community Committee reviewed the evaluations from the Sept and Oct presentations and a few suggestions have been incorporated in to the presentation. The committee brainstormed the following location for giving the presentations, City and Town Councils, Chamber of Commerce, U of L, Lethbridge College, and Community Service Clubs.

The 2009 Self Advocacy Summit was a success. There were 26 people in attendance. The Teaching Community Committee gave their presentation "Our History, Our Community". There were three other presenters from the South. The group is looking at developing a provincial self advocacy group and there is a competition for coming up with a name for the provincial group.

5.4. Southern Alberta Individualized Planning Association

Working on People Centred planning and have contracted with Tom Cain and Ann Kish to assist with the process. SAIPA has scheduled the first Map and Path session and are moving ahead with the planning. In the planning process that goal is to look at where community, as well as service providers can play a part.

5.5. Service Provider Council

Met this morning and provided committee updates. The Provincial Workforce Council has developed bookmarks to be distributed out to community there are designed at lifting the level of professionalism of the disability sector and promoting communities.

The Council discussed the January 21st meeting and the Board presentation of the Priority Actions and are looking at a larger venue to allow Service Providers to invite staff and Board members. The ACDS Conference is April 12-14th at the Delta Edmonton South there will be a HR preconference session on the 12th.

6. Next Board Meeting:

Next Meeting January 29, 2010. The Board wished everyone the best of the holiday season and asked everyone to join them directly following the meeting for some Christmas Cheer sponsored by the PDD South Board members.

MOTION: **that the meeting be adjourned.**

MC Henry Heinen

Date of Approval

Lorne Abells, Board Chair

Leah Bruder, Recorder