

**ADOPTED MINUTES  
OF THE TOWN OF OKOTOKS  
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE  
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024  
IN THE OKOTOKS MUNICIPAL CENTRE  
COUNCIL CHAMBER**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
PRESENT**            Brandon Bailey, Chair  
                          Councillor Heemeryck  
                          Angela Barber  
                          Peter Burrell  
                          Rachel Molcak  
                          Dan Proctor  
                          Dongsheng Song  
                          Dhriti Thiru  
                          Jenna Vervoort

**STAFF PRESENT**            Sian Anderson, Community Wellness Team Leader  
                          Nikki Hamilton, Community Wellness Administrator  
                          Bethany Pizani, Community Wellness Administrator

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**1.     CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Bailey called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. and provided a traditional land acknowledgement.

**2.     ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

MOTION: By D. Proctor that the agenda for the January 17, 2024 Family and Community Support Services Committee be adopted as amended.  
Carried Unanimously

**3.     MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

None

#### 4. PRESENTATIONS

##### 4.1 5:45 p.m. Storify Therapy Services – Teen Skill “Booster Squad”

April Jordan, Storify Therapy Services Co-Clinical Director, and Heather, Storify Therapy Services Program Manager, presented the organization's 2024 funding request of \$47,100.00

Storify Therapy Services offer behavioural activation group therapy (BAGT), a comprehensive program that combines education, training, group sessions and direct clinical care for clients. Collaborating with McMan Youth, Family & Community Services Association, it aims to provide not only mental health skill development but also an activation component allowing participants to apply their learned skills in a supportive community environment providing significant benefits to youth. Skills learnt empower youth to navigate challenges, cope with stressors, and maintain positive well-being. Participation in these groups increases social support. Groups promote prevention and resilience, equip youth with the necessary skills to foster a sense of community. FCSS funding will be used to support staff salaries and programming expenses.

##### 4.2 6:00 p.m. Wild Rose Community Connections - DadConnexx

Marianne Dickson, Wild Rose Community Connections Executive Director, presented the organization's 2024 funding request of \$27,248.00

DadConnexx Program builds capacity for Dads and other positive, influential males in a child's life, by providing education on parenting and connecting families to meaningful community resources. Monthly events bring male caregivers and their children together to build relationships, memories and parenting skills, outreach is provided for individualized supports to promote positive parenting, social events that include the whole family to further strengthen relationships and support networks, and learning opportunities are provided. FCSS funding will be used to support salaries and program expenses.

4.3 6:15 p.m. Wild Rose Community Connections - Volunteer Program

Marianne Dickson, Wild Rose Community Connections (WRCC) Executive Director, presented the organization's 2024 funding request of \$5,505.00

Through the various WRCC programs, volunteers play an important role in serving the community through the Senior Connexx program and the Caring Connexx program. Volunteers connect with people in the community. FCSS funding will be used to support salaries and volunteer program expenses

**5. CLOSED SESSION**

MOTION: By R. Molcak that the meeting go into Closed Session as the matters to be discussed during this portion of the meeting are within one of the exceptions to disclosure in Division 2 of Part I of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act.* at 6:25 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

5.1 Funding Discussion (*FOIP* s. 23(1) and 24(1)(g))

In Attendance

Committee Members Brandon Bailey, Angela Barber, Peter Burrell, Rachel Molcak, Dan Proctor, Dongsheng Song, Dhriti Thiru, Jenna Vervoort  
Community Wellness Team Leader Sian Anderson  
Recording Secretaries Nikki Hamilton and Bethany Pizani

MOTION: By P. Burrell that the meeting come out of Closed Session at 8:18 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

**6. MOTION(S) ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION**

6.1 Christ the Redeemer Catholic School - The Connections Program

MOTION: By A. Barber that Christ the Redeemer Catholic School - The Connections Program be funded \$20,000.00.

Carried Unanimously

6.2 Christ the Redeemer Catholic School - Family School Liaison Program

MOTION: By D. Song that Christ the Redeemer Catholic School - Family School Liaison Program be funded \$25,000.00.

Carried Unanimously

6.3 Eunoia Equine Assisted Learning - Eunoia Equine Assisted Learning Program

MOTION: By J. Vervoort that Eunoia Equine Assisted Learning - Eunoia Equine Assisted Learning Program be funded \$9,180.00.

Carried Unanimously

6.4 Calgary Catholic Immigration Services - Foothills Community Immigrant Services

MOTION: By D. Proctor that Foothills Community Immigration Services be funded \$1,650.00

Carried Unanimously

6.5 Foothills Country Hospice - Volunteer Services Program

MOTION: By P. Burrell that Foothills Country Hospice - Volunteer Services Program be funded \$18,000.00.

Carried Unanimously

6.6 Foothills School Division - Family School Liaison Counsellor Program

MOTION: BY R. Molcak that Foothills School Division - Family School Liaison Counsellor Program be funded \$50,000.00

Carried Unanimously

6.7 Inclusion Foothills - Family Support Program

MOTION: By Councillor Heemeryck that Inclusion Foothills - Family Support Program be funded \$18,000.00

Carried Unanimously

6.8 Nurtured by Nature Mental Health and Wellness Society - Building Resilient Parents / Caregivers for Enhanced Family Wellness

MOTION: BY D. Thiru that Nurtured by Nature Mental Health and Wellness Society - Building Resilient Parents / Caregivers for Enhanced Family Wellness be funded \$5,000.00

Carried Unanimously

6.9 Okotoks & District Seniors Club - Program Facilitator

MOTION: By A. Barber that Okotoks & District Seniors Club - Program Facilitator be funded \$8,000.00.

Carried Unanimously

6.10 Rowan House Society - Preventative Education Program

MOTION: By J. Vervoort that Rowan House Society - Preventative Education Program be funded \$18,000.00

Carried Unanimously

6.11 Okotoks Meals on Wheels Society - Volunteer Appreciation Event

MOTION: By D. Song that Okotoks Meals on Wheels Society - Volunteer Appreciation Event be funded \$1,000.00

Carried Unanimously

6.12 Solace Grief Support Society - Group Grief Counselling

MOTION: By P. Burrell that Solace Grief Support Society - Group Grief Counselling be funded \$1,920.00

Carried Unanimously

6.13 Wild Rose Community Connections - DadConnexx

MOTION: By Councillor Heemeryck that Wild Rose Community Connections - DadConnexx Program be funded \$25,720.00.

Carried Unanimously

6.14 Wild Rose Community Connections - Volunteer Program

MOTION: BY R. Molcak that Wild Rose Community Connections - Volunteer Program not be funded.

Carried Unanimously

6.15 Storify Therapy Services - Teen Skill "Booster Squad"

MOTION: By D. Thiru that Storify Therapy Services - Teen Skill "Booster Squad" be funded \$23,550.00

Carried Unanimously

**7. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Family and Community Support Services Committee is March 6, 2024.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: By R. Molcak that the January 17, 2024 Family and Community Support Services Meeting adjourn at 8:25 p.m.

Carried Unanimously