

**UNADOPTED MINUTES  
OF THE TOWN OF OKOTOKS  
FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018  
IN THE OKOTOKS MUNICIPAL CENTRE  
COUNCIL CHAMBER**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
PRESENT**

Ashley Dreger, Chair  
Councillor Matt Rockley  
Reilly Carlson  
Gabby Gibbs  
Jana Giger  
Sharon Hudspeth  
Lynnea Knight  
John Lowe  
Melissa Whitney

**STAFF PRESENT**

Debbie Posey, Community Wellness Manager  
Sian Anderson, Recording Secretary

**A AGENDA**

A.1 Call to Order

Chair Dreger called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

A.2 Additions / Deletions / Changes

A.3 Adoption

MOTION: By S. Hudspeth that January 16, 2018 agenda for the Family and Community Support Services Advisory Committee be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

**B MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)**

B.1 Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Advisory Committee Meeting  
Minutes held November 29, 2017

MOTION: By M. Whitney that the minutes of the FCSS Advisory Committee Meeting held November 29, 2017 be adopted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

## **C PRESENTATION**

### **C.1 Rating Matrix for Family and Community Support Services 2018 Funding Applications**

The ranking matrix was included in the agenda package.

### **C.2 FCSS Funding Requests Spreadsheet**

The spreadsheet was included in the agenda package.

### **C.3 Christ the Redeemer Catholic Schools - The Connections Program Terri Dauter, Stewardship Liaison**

The Connections Program is designed to enhance the academic and social experiences, functioning, and outcomes of Christ the Redeemer School Divisions most marginalized and vulnerable youth, including those most at risk of becoming involved in the school discipline cycle, of engaging in behaviors that harm themselves and others, and of becoming disconnected and disengaged from school, positive adult mentors, and a healthy peer group. The program has had success in reducing behavioral recidivism and increasing graduation rates, by addressing the root causes of concerning behaviors, and by influencing the formation of a positive culture framework that supports all students. FCSS funding will be used to support the existing Okotoks-based Connections Program.

### **C.4 Foothills School Division - Success Connector Program Loriann Salmon, Director of Inclusive Learning**

The Success Connector works to strengthen the student's connection to the school, build consistency and structures into the student's day, provide modification of the environment and support their learning, wellness and social-emotional health in a holistic manner. The Connections Program relies on strong, mutually respectful, personal relationships to engage cooperation in the classroom, school community and the community of Okotoks. FCSS funding will be used for staff salaries.

### **C.5 Literacy for Life Foundation - Community Family Literacy Projects Sue Stegmeier, Executive Director Nicole Levesque, Program Coordinator**

Literacy for Life programs develop literacy and learning skills, while parents build positive relationships and create an effective learning environment. Programming is free to families and is available for babies through to adults. FCSS funding will be used to purchase resources and materials for the Books for Babies program and wages for facilitators to provide the Building Blocks, Dog Tales and preschool group programs.

C.6 Foothills School Division - Family School Liaison Counsellor Program  
Ryley Hatchard, Counselling Coordinator

The Family School Liaison Counsellor (FSLC) Program provides counselling to children and their families to address psycho-social, emotional, and behavioural concerns. FSLC staff work collaboratively with schools and agencies in the community to help students and families develop and strengthen positive coping skills to deal with disruptive, stressful or challenging events. FCSS funding will be used to support FSLC staff.

C.7 Foothills Special Needs Association for Parents & Siblings (SNAPS) - Family Support  
Orvella Small, Executive Director  
Kathy Thornhill, President

Foothills Special Needs Association for Parents and Siblings (SNAPS) serves barriered individuals, of all ages, with all diagnoses and their families in Okotoks and surrounding area. SNAPS works with the community, individuals and families to support special needs individuals to become fully included in all areas of the community. FCSS funding will be used for staff wages to run Okotoks programs.

C.8 Citizens on Patrol Okotoks - Volunteer Program  
Denyse Geiger, President

Citizens on Patrol Okotoks provides an important service to the Town, RCMP and Okotoks Municipal Enforcement by supporting their efforts to keep Okotoks a safe, healthy and friendly place for all residents. By engaging local citizens to support their community they feel connected and get great satisfaction from doing something positive and proactive for their community. The Citizens on Patrol organization is 100% volunteer based. FCSS funding will be used for volunteer appreciation and training.

Break at 6:55 p.m. Reconvene at 7:30 p.m.

C.9 Wild Rose Community Connections - Dad's Central  
Marianne Dickson, Executive Director  
Rhonda Longson, Program Supervisor  
Travis Sandor, Program Facilitator

Wild Rose Community Connections mission is "Creating positive life opportunities for children by working with parents and caregivers to strengthen the family unit and their connection to their community." Early intervention and preventative programs are provided for families. The Dad's Central Program builds capacity for Dads and other positive, influential males in a child's life by provide parenting education and connecting families to meaningful community resources. FCSS funding will be used for the Dad's Central program.

**C.10 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Calgary and Area - Mentoring in Okotoks**  
Cynthia Wild, Director of Service Delivery  
Laura Padget, Team Lead

Big Brothers Big Sisters offer mentoring programs in Okotoks. Through these programs, children and youth receive high quality mentoring services both site and community based. Mentoring is effective as a preventative tool, helping youth navigate through a host of risk factors, increasing resiliency, opening new worlds and opportunities to those involved, promoting success in school, and easing the transition from social or cultural isolation into mainstream Canadian society. Volunteers who mentor also gain new insights into the issues facing children and youth. FCSS funding will be used to support the capacity of Big Brothers Big Sisters district office in Okotoks to operate mentoring programs and services in the community.

**C.11 Foothills Country Hospice Society - Volunteer Services Program**  
Stephanie Barnes, Fund Development Officer

The Foothills Country Hospice utilizes volunteers to support clinical staff, patients and their families. Grief support services are provided, including telephone support that is offered to families by volunteers for up to a year following the death of a loved one. FCSS funding will be used to help cover the Volunteer Coordinator wages, volunteer training and appreciation.

**C.12 Foothills Fetal Alcohol Society - FASD Prevention and Awareness Project**  
Danna Ormstrup, Executive Director  
Christy Kneiss, Program Developer & Prevention Facilitator

The Foothills Fetal Alcohol Society's (FFAS) mission is "To enhance capacity for the prevention of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) and for the provision of care and support to rural communities". Supports are provided to caregivers, professionals and individuals with FASD. Education, prevention and awareness initiatives are also facilitated in the community. FCSS funding will be used to provide or offset of preventative programming to youth, adults and general public awareness.

**D CORRESPONDENCE**

**D.1 Family and Community Support Services Association of Alberta (FCSSAA)**  
December 2017 News

MOTION: By J. Giger that item D.1 be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

**E NEXT MEETING DATES**

- January 17, 2017 - 5:15 p.m. (funding presentations, supper provided)
- February 7, 2018
- March 7, 2018

**F ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: By R. Carlson that the January 16, 2018 Family and Community Support Services Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

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Ashley Dreger, Chair

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Sian Anderson, Recording Secretary