

**Northwest Regional Centre of Responsibility (COR)
FASD/Justice System Working Group Draft Agenda**

Wed, Feb 7 2024

9:00am – 10:00 am CST/10:00am – 11:00 am EST

Present: Laura McCauley (LCC), Jenny Leadbeater (CMHA Thunder Bay), Taylor Sundin (CMHA Kenora), Alexis Trepanier (CCTB), Paola Facca (LCC), Alice Bellavance - Chair (BISNO), Jason Anderson (TBPS), Maureen Parkes (Norwest CHC)

1. Welcome, Introductions and Land Acknowledgement- Alice
 - Alice welcomed the group and provided a land acknowledgement
2. Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes – Alice
 - Change date on the agenda to Feb 7th – Approved
3. First Nations Perspectives on FASD – Jason Indian (Nokiiwin)
 - Deferred to next meeting
4. Supportive Housing Updates – Alice
 - Two streams of supportive housing Alice is involved with. On Dec 22 BISNO was approved for additional 5 supportive space to be retrofitted at McKellar Place. Michelle Davidson from TBRHSC Forensics had confirmed there is funding for 2 more TRHP beds and a relationship with BISNO is being explored. BISNO currently has 3 clients at Forensics. Also have people at St Joe's, Meno Ya Win etc. Have more people with ALC than current beds available.
 - Funding from OHT is for alternative level of care (people in hospital). New beds will have regional allocation.
 - The highly specialized neuro behavior housing project was presented to a Standing Committee on Economics and Finance. It was well received by politicians. There were additional presenters speaking on the twinning of highways in NW Region. 50 % of ABI are from motor vehicle collisions. Current ratio of need: 4 people for every bed (114 spaces total). If BISNO didn't exist, many would live in hospital.
 - Alice will meet with an architect to look at feasibility for design of the project. Consultants working on other operational proposals. Demolition. Property being explored is former Pinewood Court.
5. FASD1 Working Group Development updates – Jenny
 - Claire is interested in joining the FASD1 Working Group. Jenny will connect Claire with Sherry
6. Alcohol and the Legal System Briefing Note – Jenny
 - Jenny provided overview on briefing note
 - Premier of Ontario looking into expanding sales in corner stores/grocery stores. This was discussed at recent Drug Strategy Meeting.
 - Briefing notes could be used for advocacy to ministers

- Alexis – media “war on drugs” but consumption of alcohol has no warning labels, and has easy access. Liquor companies have onus of responsibility for prevention.
- Maureen – TBDHU created a document on alcohol and effects on health. Jenny will send this info to Claire to incorporate into briefing note.
- Jenny will distribute survey from Alcohol Briefing note to this group as well

7. Including FASD in definition of ABI Briefing Note – Jenny

- Brief review of draft briefing note developed by Claire
- Alice suggested looking at Ministry of Education in western provinces, they all include ABI and FASD as exceptionalities for additional supports. (Structure, repetition, consistency). There are service delivery models in some sectors.
- Alexis added it has been getting easier to get some school boards recognizing FASD and student needs. Looking at neuro-psych assessments and associated costs.
- Maureen informed there are partnerships have been created to help with funding assessments. Jordan’s Principle is one. Norwest also has a budget line for neuro-psych. Norwest CHC will do what it can to cover cost of assessments.
- DSO is another barrier after kids turn 18.
- Alice - Design Day last March – suspect many individuals have FASD. 4 individuals with TBRHSJC for assisted living likely all have FASD (undiagnosed). One individual has since passed away. Levels of support couldn’t be provided. Concerned about how many more might be at risk before housing project can be completed. Another individual was evicted and cannot return to home community.
- People with FASD have much higher risk to sustaining an ABI (McMaster U did study 1970- ADHD) due to poor judgement, impulsivity, and risk-taking.

8. Communications, Advocacy and Education Strategies- All

- Maureen will keep group updated on Norwest’s annual FASD education event.
- Maureen will review evaluations from last year to determine a theme for training
- Alexis suggested focusing on caregivers and parents around school capacity. Need to focus on youth strengths. Where do their needs come from?
- LCC staff who attended last year’s Norwest FASD education even provided positive feedback.

9. Next Steps

- Jenny to distribute survey about Alcohol Burden on Justice System Briefing Note

10. Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

- Next meeting scheduled for Apr 18th at 2pm EST