



Canada
Northwest
FASD
Partnership

Building on our Strengths: Stone by Stone

International Conference on FASD

May 21 - 24, 2008



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Conference Overview

On behalf of the Canada Northwest FASD Partnership, Alberta Children and Youth Services is pleased to host the Building on our Strengths: Stone by Stone International Conference on FASD. The purpose of the conference is to facilitate communication between diverse stakeholder groups including professionals, families and service providers all working or living with individuals with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. The conference will focus on a number of FASD topic areas, including: education and training; prevention and awareness, community capacity and collaboration, diagnosis and assessment, research and evaluation, supports for individuals and caregivers, and innovative practices. Together we will share experiences, enhance partnerships and build on our existing strengths!

CNFASDP Steering Committee

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Northwest Territories

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Holly Gammon
Manitoba

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Minister's Message



On behalf of the Government of Alberta and the Canada Northwest FASD Partnership, welcome to Banff for the 2008 International Conference on FASD –Building on our Strengths: Stone by Stone.

This is a special opportunity to share innovative ideas and best practices with hundreds of fellow dedicated professionals, caregivers and service providers who make a difference in the lives of individuals affected by FASD.

I hope the conference renews your inspiration and passion for the tremendous work you do for others and you find this a valuable opportunity to network with experts in the FASD field.

I would like to thank the conference organizers, partners and sponsors who have helped make this event possible. I would also like to express my gratitude to all of you who help thousands of individuals and families reach their potential. Your tireless dedication and compassion are helping create a brighter future for those impacted by FASD.

Working together, we will continue to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

Janis Tarchuk
Minister

Agenda at a Glance

Wednesday May 21, 2008 (Pre-conference)

12:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Check-in and Registration	Mt. Stephen Hall
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.	CNFASDP Provincial/Territorial Showcase	Alberta/ New Brunswick
5:30 – 8:45 p.m.	Opening Ceremonies, Dinner and Keynote Address by Gordon Paynter	Van Horne

*please note Opening Ceremonies will begin promptly at 5:30 p.m.

Thursday May 22, 2008

7:30 – 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Van Horne
8:00 – 9:30 a.m.	Plenary Session – Sterling Clarren and the Research Network	Van Horne
9:30 – 9:45 a.m.	Move to Sessions	
9:45 – 11:00 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions I	
A.1	Primary Prevention of FASD: Diverse Approaches <i>Stacey McHenry, Robin Thurmeier and Bev Drew</i>	Shaughnessy
A.2	Recognition of Misdiagnosis and Co-occurrence of Mental Health Disorders with FASD: Key to Positive Outcomes (PART A) <i>Dan Dubovsky</i>	Theatre
A.3	Supporting FASD Individuals within our Communities <i>Jill Dockrill and Kristin McCall</i>	Coleman
A.4	One Week at Whitecrow: Effects of a Caregiver Involved Camp Experience on Professionals who Volunteer <i>Blythe Shepard, Jen Kyffin and Jonathan Down</i>	Beatty
A.5	A Model of Educating Children with FASD: the Winnipeg School Division Experience <i>Janet Thompson and Dorothy Schwab</i>	Ivor Petrak
A.6	Art Mentorship Project <i>Trina Macfarlane, Vicki Myers and Yvonne Markotic</i>	Oak
A.7	Mentoring and Circles of Support <i>Megan Wood and Beverly Palibroda</i>	Norquay
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	Coffee Break and Move to Sessions	
11:15 – 12:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions II	

B.1	Preventing FASD: Collaborating on a Health Determinants Approach <i>Amy Salmon and Dorothy Badry</i>	Shaughnessy
B.2	Recognition of Misdiagnosis and Co-occurrence of Mental Health Disorders with FASD: Key to Positive Outcomes (PART B) <i>Dan Dubovsky</i>	Theatre
B.3	Sharing our Experiences: Increasing Favourable Outcomes for Adults With FASD <i>Judy Pakozdy, Lilliam Sequeira Duran and Brenda Bennett</i>	Coleman
B.4	What will it take to get FASD on the Policy Agenda Table in Australia: Dismantling a Stone Wall of Avoidance and Denial (PART A) <i>Vicki Russell</i>	Beatty
B.5	Simon Says... <i>Heather McFarlane and Audrey McFarlane</i>	Ivor Petrak
B.6	Brain Imaging and Executive Functioning in Children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder <i>Carmen Rasmussen, Olivia Lestideau and Martin Mrazik</i>	Oak
B.7	Integrating FASD Interventions Into Organizations: Experience of Funding 35 Subcontractors <i>Patricia Getty and Callie Gass</i>	Norquay
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.	Lunch	Van Horne
2:00 – 3:15 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions III	
C.1	Birth Mothers: Understanding their Journey <i>Pam van Vugt, Sandra Williamson and Linda Kallis</i>	Shaughnessy
C.2	The Diagnoses of FASD: Where we are and Where we Need to be <i>Sterling Clarren</i>	Theatre
C.3	Supporting Families: Specialized Programs for Children, Youth and Their Families <i>Jacqui Deib, Susan Hendrickson and Mary Heraghty-Disley</i>	Coleman
C.4	What will it take to get FASD on the Policy Agenda Table in Australia: Dismantling a Stone Wall of Avoidance and Denial (PART B) <i>Vicki Russell</i>	Beatty
C.5	Introducing "This Is Me", an Animated Teaching Tool: Practical Application and Use in Multiple Settings <i>Deborah Kacki, Susan Opie and Dorothy Schwab</i>	Ivor Petrak
C.6	Children with FASD in Care of Manitoba Child and Family Services Agencies <i>Don Fuchs, Linda Burnside and Shelagh Marchenski</i>	Oak
C.7	Toward Inclusion: Involving People with FASD <i>Leila Wilson, Carolyn Yakel, Matthew Pakozdy and Jen Kyffin</i>	Norquay
3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	Trade Show and Reception	Alberta/ New Brunswick

Friday May 23, 2008

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast	Van Horne
8:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Keynote Speaker – Myles Himmelreich	Van Horne
9:30 – 9:45 a.m.	Move to Sessions	
9:45 – 11:00 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions I	
D.1	The STOP FAS Prevention Program: Working with Pregnant and Postpartum Women in Manitoba <i>Tammy Stuart, Joanne Wyman and Vanessa Collins</i>	Shaughnessy
D.2	Neurocognitive Performance of Individuals with FASD Across the Lifespan: Executive Functions, Memory and Learning <i>Don S. Massey, Valerie J. Massey and Jacque Pei</i>	Theatre
D.3	Walking the Path Together: Journeys with Adolescents and Adults <i>Brenda Bennett and Gwen Kydd</i>	Coleman
D.4	Modifying Counseling Approaches with Clients with FASD <i>Susan Opie</i>	Beatty
D.5	Brain Biology of Attachment for Individuals Affected by FASD and their Caregivers <i>Rod Densmore</i>	Ivor Petrak
D.6	The Development of a Canadian Economic Impact Model for FASD <i>Mary Johnston, Brenda Stade, Patricia MacPherson, Don Fuchs, Linda Burnside and Anne-Marie Bédard</i>	Oak
D.7	Strengthening the Front Line: Training Primary Care Providers About Problematic Substance Use in Pregnancy <i>Deana Midmer, Meldon Kahan and Patricia Mousmanis</i>	Norquay
11:00 – 11:15 a.m.	Coffee Break and Move to Sessions	
11:15 – 12:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions II	
E.1	Moms Mentoring Moms <i>Janet Christie</i>	Shaughnessy
E.2	Strengthening Circles of Support: Before, During and After Diagnosis <i>Dorothy Schwab, Shelley Proven and Brenda Fjeldsted</i>	Coleman
E.3	Emotionally Fragile and Reactive Behavior: Why Some People with Developmental Disabilities Don't "Get Better" (PART A) <i>Nathan Ory</i>	Theatre
E.4	A Child with FASD May Become a Parent with FASD! <i>Danna Ormstrup</i>	Beatty
E.5	FASD Affected Children and the Youth Criminal Justice System <i>Cathy Lane Goodfellow and Patricia Yuzwenko</i>	Ivor Petrak

Friday May 23, 2008 continued

E.6	Early Primary School Outcomes Associated with Children's Prenatal Exposure to Alcohol and Tobacco <i>Mary Johnston</i>	Oak
E.7	Transitioning Youth with FASD to Adulthood <i>Susan Opie</i>	Norquay
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.	Lunch	Van Horne
2:00 – 3:15 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions III	
F.1	Kidsfirst Regina: Prevention Initiatives <i>Heather Sinclair</i>	Shaughnessy
F.2	Addictions Treatment Design <i>Liz Lawryk</i>	Coleman
F.3	Emotionally Fragile and Reactive Behavior: Why Some People with Developmental Disabilities Don't "Get Better" (PART B) <i>Nathan Ory</i>	Theatre
F.4	FASD and the Justice System <i>Mark Waage, David Boulding and Neil Wiberg</i>	Beatty
F.5	What's Worth Fighting for: How to Advocate Effectively for School Success <i>Catherine Walker and Marni Pearce</i>	Ivor Petrak
F.6	Life Experiences of Young Adults with FASD <i>Diane McGregor</i>	Oak
F.7	Tsuu T'ina Gathering Together: Cultural Diversity in FASD Advocacy <i>Richard Amaral and Sue Whitney</i>	Norquay
3:15 – 3:30 p.m.	Return to Van Horne Ballroom	
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.	Closing Ceremonies	Van Horne

Saturday May 24, 2008 (Post-conference)

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Van Horne
10:00 – 12:00 p.m.	Workshop: Embrace your Beliefs - Release our Potential <i>Dwaine Souveny</i>	Van Horne

Building on our Strengths: Stone by Stone

International Conference on FASD (Presentations by Category)

I. Prevention and Awareness

Birth Mothers: Understanding their Journey

Session: C.1

Presenters: Pam van Vugt, Sandra Williamson and Linda Kallis (McMan Youth Family and Community Services)

Summary: This session looks at common traits and backgrounds of birth mothers. It discusses the strategy of Harm Reduction, as well as the Stages of Change, and the effectiveness of using these strategies with addicted birth mothers to reduce the number of children born with FASD. It will emphasize how teaching women to have strong personal relationships can help birth mothers have healthy children and lead more successful lives.

Kidsfirst Regina: Prevention Initiatives

Session: F.1

Presenter: Heather Sinclair (Kidsfirst Regina)

Summary: KidsFirst Regina is a program that provides in-home supports to families in Regina who are experiencing complex socio-economic issues. KidsFirst Regina is designed to support children and families by enhancing parenting knowledge, providing support and building on family strengths. The workshop will mainly focus on the FASD prevention initiatives within the KidsFirst Regina program.

The STOP FAS Prevention Program: Working with Pregnant and Postpartum Women in Manitoba

Session: D.1

Presenters: Tammy Stuart, Joanne Wyman and Vanessa Collins (STOP FAS Program)

Summary: This presentation will provide an overview of the STOP FAS Program including a description of who the program works with, how to talk to women about alcohol and drug use in pregnancy, working with collateral agencies, goal setting, relationship building, and evaluation data.

Primary Prevention of FASD: Diverse Approaches

Session: A.1

Presenters: Stacey McHenry, Robin Thurmeier and Bev Drew (Saskatchewan Prevention Institute)

Summary: This presentation highlights FASD prevention projects of the Saskatchewan Prevention Institute, including Youth Action for Prevention (YAP) and the FASD Primary Prevention Online Library. Key messages include prevention of FASD is best approached using diverse methods of knowledge transfer, target audience inclusion in resource development is empowering and effective, and compiling histories of prevention activities can guide future direction.

Moms Mentoring Moms

Session: E.1

Presenter: Janet Christie (FASD Community Circle Society)

Summary: This session will provide an overview of Moms Mentoring Moms ("Moms"), a program which provides support to women who are pregnant and drinking/using, dealing with childhood apprehension issues, and/or raising children and need parenting strategies. "Moms" believes targeted, specialized support for at-risk birth mothers reduces the number of children born with FASD, and improves outcomes.

Preventing FASD: Collaborating on a Health Determinants Approach

Session: B.1

Presenters: Amy Salmon and Dorothy Badry (Network Action Team on FASD Prevention)

Summary: The goal of the Network Action Team on FASD Prevention is to build the knowledge base in FASD prevention through work with women and their support systems on a range of health and social issues, and to bring this knowledge into research, prevention, treatment, policy and community settings. In this session we will share what we have been working on and learning in four areas of focus.

II. Diagnosis and Assessment

Neurocognitive Performance of Individuals with FASD Across the Lifespan: Executive Functions, Memory and Learning

Session: D.2

Presenters: Don S. Massey, Valerie Massey and Jacque Pei (D-V Massey and Associates)

Summary: This presentation will consist of a panel of 3 professionals discussing the neurocognitive performance of children, adolescents and adults with FASD. Executive functions of the brain will be discussed as well as the functional and behavioral implications of deficits in these areas. Other topics, including memory disorders, neuropsychological performance, intelligence testing, and clinical evaluation, will also be covered.

Recognition of Misdiagnosis and Co-occurrence of Mental Health Disorders with FASD: Key to Positive Outcomes

Session: A.2 (Part A) and B.2 (Part B)

Presenter: Dan Dubovsky (SAMHSA Center for Excellence)

Summary: Individuals with a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) may often either have a co-occurring mental health disorder or symptoms that appear to be those of a mental health diagnosis. This session examines common misdiagnoses and co-occurring disorders in individuals with FASD, including reasons misdiagnoses may be made, and treatment approaches based on accurate diagnosis.

Strengthening Circles of Support: Before, During and After Diagnosis

Session: E.2

Presenters: Dorothy Schwab, Shelley Proven and Brenda Fjeldsted (Clinic for Alcohol and Drug Exposed Children)

Summary: This workshop will profile the multidisciplinary approach used by the Clinic for Alcohol and Drug Exposed Children (CADEC). The diagnostic process will be outlined from readiness and preparation of the individual and their caregivers through to diagnosis and follow-up support. An emphasis will be placed on using a respectful approach in strengthening individuals with FASD, caregivers, other professionals, and their communities as they journey together through the diagnostic process.

The Diagnoses of FASD: Where we are and Where we Need to be

Session: C.2

Presenter: Sterling Clarren

Summary: This session will consider the evolution of FASD diagnosis from a dysmorphic condition to FASD as a neurodevelopmental disorder and the continuing problems with developing a simple set of words or numbers that capture the nature and severity of the condition for systems like education and social services that need to provide appropriate interventions.

III. Supports for Individuals and Caregivers

Addictions Treatment Design

Session: F.2

Presenter: Liz Lawryk

Summary: This session will focus on a review of approximately 1000 FASD evaluations with the goal of assisting therapists in designing patient-specific addictions treatment based on the findings of this recent data collection. This will include identification of physical anomalies, sensory processing issues, executive functioning, cognitive abilities and social-environmental factors that may contribute to addictive behaviours.

A Child with FASD May Become a Parent with FASD!

Session: E.4

Presenter: Danna Ormstrup
(Foothills Fetal Alcohol Society)

Summary: This session will explore some of the basic brain functions that make life difficult for parents who themselves may have been pre-natally exposed to alcohol. The presentation will look at visual memory, auditory memory/auditory processing, classifying and comparing, money skills, time skills, visual discrimination, sequencing, and sporadic learning. The session will include “hands on” experience to support the learning.

Supporting FASD Individuals within our Communities

Session: A.3

Presenters: Jill Dockrill and Kristin McCall (FASTEC Inc)

Summary: This interactive presentation will present the perspective of a person living with FASD and the supports they need to be successful with daily living skills, at home, school, and with employment opportunities. Tools will be provided to assist session members supporting FASD individuals to successfully integrate them into communities.

Sharing our Experiences: Increasing Favourable Outcomes for Adults With FASD

Session: B.3

Presenters: Judy Pakozdy, Lilliam Sequeira Duran (FASSY) and Brenda Bennett (FASD Life’s Journey)

Summary: FASD Advocates from Yukon and Manitoba will discuss the lifelong support needs of adults with FASD, present programming services in both areas, identify gaps and challenges and work with audience members to develop recommendations for increasing opportunities for success for adults with FASD. Audience members will have an opportunity to share what works in their practice and experience as well.

Emotionally Fragile and Reactive Behavior: Why Some People with Developmental Disabilities Don’t “Get Better”

Session: E.3 (Part A) and F.3 (Part B)

Presenter: Nathan Ory (Registered Psychologist)

Summary: Some individuals are unable to tolerate the experience of frustration, failure, non-acceptance, or lack of control. They are extremely reactive to any indication of criticism, correction or rejection and are more handicapped by their emotional over-reactivity than they are by their actual intellectual deficits. They mirror and magnify the emotions of others. They become “stuck” in emotion and escalate out of control.

III. Supports for Individuals and Caregivers continued

Walking the Path Together: Journeys with Adolescents and Adults

Session: D.3

Presenters: Brenda Bennett and Gwen Kydd
(FASD Life's Journey)

Summary: FASD Advocates from Manitoba will be sharing their experiences regarding gender based service provision to adults and late adolescents affected by FASD who struggle with multiple secondary disabilities. Inner city people who are street involved, exploited and chronically in harms way pose unique challenges to support systems. Individualized supports focus on creative efforts and accommodations to maintain housing and to meet the basic fundamental essentials in life.

Supporting Families: Specialized Programs for Children, Youth and Their Families

Session: C.3

Presenters: Jacqui Deib, Susan Hendrickson
(Renfrew Educational Services) and Mary Heraghty-Disley
(Hull Child & Family Services)

Summary: This presentation highlights two programs offered by Renfrew Educational Services for children, youth and families coping with FASD: the "Stepping Out on Saturdays" (SOS) respite day camp, which is respite experience paired with therapeutic intervention, and the FASD MAPS program, which provides mentoring, advocacy, partnership and support. Participants will learn about program set up, strategies, advocacy and intervention.

Brain Biology of Attachment for Individuals Affected by FASD and their Caregivers

Session: D.5

Presenter: Rod Densmore

Summary: This session will look at what recent brain science can tell us about the ways we attach, how brain differences in FASD might make attachment harder, and how caregiver stress, infertility, and depression might affect attachment. Specific examples of how to maintain connection when there is a crisis that must be dealt with will be role-played.

Mentoring and Circles of Support

Session: A.7

Presenters: Megan Wood and Beverly Palibroda
(FASD Support Network of Saskatchewan Inc)

Summary: This presentation will share the importance of reducing isolation as learned from the experiences of a Mentor-Advocate project delivered by the FASD Support Network of Saskatchewan. Participants will gain an in-depth understanding of mentoring through shared stories and experiences, gather ideas to implement mentoring projects in their home communities, and learn creative and innovative ways to promote circles of support.

IV. Community Capacity and Collaboration

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and the Justice System

Session: F.4

Presenters: Mark Waage (Lethbridge Regional Police Service), David Boulding (Retired Criminal/Family Lawyer) and Neil Wiberg (Alberta Justice)

Summary: The Justice Project influences changes in the Criminal Justice System through mentorship and education about FASD. Changes are sought regarding effective case management, diverting youth with FASD from the system, making recommendations to courts, identifying high-risk youth, and providing advocacy for family, school, and community. This session is delivered from the perspective of a lawyer, police officer, and Crown Prosecutor.

What will it take to get FASD on the Policy Agenda Table in Australia: Dismantling a Stone Wall of Avoidance and Denial

Session: B.4 (Part A) and C.4 (Part B)

Presenters: Vicki Russell (Drug Education Network Inc. and National Organization for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Related Disorders)

Summary: For more than a decade, NOFASARD has brought the issue of FASD to the attention of the Australian people and secure its place on the policy agenda of governments. This presentation explores both the expected and unexpected 'stone wall' barriers in bringing the problem of prenatal exposure to alcohol to the attention of policy makers and the Australian public.

One Week at Whitecrow: Effects of a Caregiver Involved Camp Experience on Professionals who Volunteer

Session: A.4

Presenters: Blythe Shepard, Jen Kyffin (University of Victoria) and Jonathan Down (Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health)

Summary: This session will explore the effect that volunteering at a caregiver-involved camp has on the attitudes and behaviours of professionals who work with families of children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). The presentation will include the initial research findings and an interactive panel comprised of professionals who attended the camp.

Art Mentorship Project

Session: A.6

Presenters: Trina Macfarlane (AADAC), Vicki Myers (Melting Pot Gallery) and Yvonne Markotic

Summary: The presentation describes an initiative funded through Alberta Children and Youth Services in spring/summer 2007, where community artists partnered with the South Central FASD Committee to work with youth with FASD through the Art Mentorship Project. Although youth with FASD were a focus of the Art Mentorship Project, disabilities took a backseat to imagination and experiential learning in this venture.

Modifying Counseling Approaches with Clients with FASD

Session: D.4

Presenter: Susan Opie (MacDonald Youth Services)

Summary: This presentation discusses modifications to counseling individuals with FASD including building therapeutic relationships with individuals with trust issues, creating visual and tactile treatment modifications, modifying talk therapy to accommodate neurodevelopmental differences, and utilizing client strengths to provide therapeutic responses to issues. Contraindications to talk therapy, professional boundaries, and examines underlying assumptions of counseling theories and practice are also discussed.

FASD Affected Children and the Youth Criminal Justice System

Session: E.5

Presenters: Cathy Lane Goodfellow (Youth Criminal Defence Office - Calgary) and Patricia Yuzwenko (Youth Criminal Defence Office - Edmonton)

Summary: This presentation gives an overview of practical realities of representing youth with FASD in the criminal justice system. It also discusses the impact of the diagnosis on each major step in the justice process, from investigation and arrest through to trial and sentencing and how the diagnosis of FASD can intersect with the legal definition of "fitness".

V. Training and Education

A Model of Educating Children with FASD: the Winnipeg School Division Experience

Session: A.5

Presenters: Janet Thompson (Winnipeg School Division) and Dorothy Schwab (CADEC)

Summary: The Clinic for Alcohol and Drug Exposed Children (CADEC) and Winnipeg School Division use a model for referral, diagnosis and follow-up in educating students with FASD. Focus is placed on building successful school experiences while utilizing students' strengths. Accommodations used in inclusive and specialized classrooms are shared and challenges faced by children with FASD are understood through a simulation exercise.

What's Worth Fighting for: How to Advocate Effectively for School Success

Session: F.5

Presenters: Catherine Walker and Marni Pearce (Alberta Education)

Summary: This session explores the latest research on effective educational interventions and supports for students with FASD, strategies for building collaborative relationships with school staff, and creative solutions for overcoming common roadblocks preventing students from being successful learners and participants in the school community.

Simon Says...

Session: B.5

Presenters: Heather McFarlane and Audrey McFarlane (Lakeland Centre for FASD)

Summary: Mrs. McFarlane presents a reading of the story book "simon says" and a presentation on how she came to write it, what she learned about teaching students with FASD, and how this book has helped many families who have been diagnosed. This resource helps children better understand their disability and provides a unique opportunity to raise the topic from parents or teachers.

Introducing "This Is Me", an Animated Teaching Tool: Practical Application and Use in Multiple Settings

Session: C.5

Presenters: Deborah Kacki (Interagency FASD Program), Susan Opie (Macdonald Youth Services) and Dorothy Schwab (CADEC)

Summary: This visual learning tool provides individuals with FASD, their families, caregivers, and educators, a better understanding of brain-based behavior. This presentation offers participants an opportunity to understand how to use this learning tool for working with youth with FASD in a one-on-one or classroom setting, working with parents/caregivers of children with FASD, and educating/facilitating groups in a workshop setting.

Strengthening the Front Line: Training Primary Care Providers About Problematic Substance Use in Pregnancy

Session: D.7

Presenters: Deana Midmer, Meldon Kahan (Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto) and Pat Mousmanis (Ontario College of Family Physicians)

Summary: This session discusses "Train-the-Trainer" workshops by the Pregnancy-Related Issues in the Management of Addictions (PRIMA) Group, outlines the development of the PRIMA National Collaboration, and discusses workshop content and implementation strategies. PRIMA Group develops clinical management resources for health care workers and focuses on building capacity through training front line workers to assess and manage problematic substance use during pregnancy.

VI. Research and Evaluation

Children with FASD in Care of Manitoba Child and Family Services Agencies

Session: C.6

Presenters: Don Fuchs, Shelagh Marchenski (University of Manitoba) and Linda Burnside (Manitoba Family Services)

Summary: The findings of a study by the presenters into child welfare trajectories of children with FASD is discussed, and examines legal status and placement histories with Manitoba child welfare agencies and are compared to histories of children in care with other disabilities and no disabilities. Implications for service delivery, foster parents, policy formulation, and service integration and coordination are discussed.

Brain Imaging and Executive Functioning in Children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Session: B.6

Presenters: Carmen Rasmussen, Olivia Lestideau and Martin Mrazik (University of Alberta)

Summary: The purpose of this presentation is to share information from two research studies: Diffusion Tensor Imaging (DTI) in Children with FASD; and Using the NEPSY to Evaluate Attention & Executive Functioning Among Children with FASD

Life Experiences of Young Adults with FASD

Session: F.6

Presenter: Diane McGregor (University of Calgary)

Summary: Preliminary results of a research project at the University of Calgary are discussed. Using qualitative methodology (including personal narrative), it explores life experiences of individuals with disabilities like FASD, and perspectives and experiences of parents and professionals. A model for understanding the experiences of young people with FASD transitioning into adulthood is presented.

Early Primary School Outcomes Associated with Children's Prenatal Exposure to Alcohol and Tobacco

Session: E.6

Presenter: Mary Johnston (Public Health Agency of Canada)

Summary: This research presentation shares the results of a study examining relationships between prenatal exposure to alcohol and nicotine separately and in combination on developmental outcomes in young children from pre-kindergarten (age 4) to Grade 2 (age 8). Measures in five domains of child development outcomes were analyzed: general development, cognitive development/academic performance, social/emotional functioning, physical health, and behaviour problems.

The Development of a Canadian Economic Impact Model for FASD

Session: D.6

Presenters: Mary Johnston, Anne-Marie Bédard (Public Health Agency of Canada), Brenda Stade (St. Michael's Hospital), Patricia MacPherson (Addictions Research Centre, PEI), Don Fuchs (Faculty of Social Work, University of Manitoba) and Linda Burnside (Manitoba Family Services)

Summary: The societal cost of FASD is an important issue which arises throughout consultations in Canada. However, there is limited research focused on assessing the economic impact. This panel discussion focuses on efforts undertaken by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) to develop an economic impact model for FASD, as well as on parallel work contributing to the estimate.

VII. Innovative Practices

Integrating FASD Interventions Into Organizations: Experience of Funding 35 Subcontractors

Session: B.7

Presenters: Patricia Getty and Callie Gass (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)

Summary: This presentation discusses experiences of using subcontractors (states, local community organizations, and juvenile courts) to implement practices to prevent FASD or improve functioning and quality of life for those with FASD. Subcontractors integrate these practices into existing service delivery organizations. Findings from these subcontractors are relevant to those funding projects and those interested in implementing FASD prevention or intervention projects.

Tsuu T'ina Gathering Together: Cultural Diversity in FASD Advocacy

Session: F.7

Presenters: Richard Amaral and Sue Whitney (Dr. Thomas Murray Health Centre)

Summary: This session discusses Tsuu T'ina Gathering Together and its advocacy sub-programs. Areas discussed include: Tsuu T'ina Nation Elders' spiritual and practical guidance in the delivery of services, mentorship services to male guardians of children with FASD, understanding cultural values and history of communities, value of supervision for addressing trauma in the mentor and dual relationships, and creating culturally relevant program and client goals.

Transitioning Youth with FASD to Adulthood

Session: E.7

Presenter: Susan Opie (MacDonald Youth Services)

Summary: This presentation explores critical issues when assessing youth for service eligibility, and ensuring eligible youth receive services efficiently when they become adults. Families and professionals can also assist affected individuals transition to adulthood when they are not eligible for services. Also discussed is how to approach youth in a manner that helps them to accept the supports that are available.

Toward Inclusion: Involving People with FASD

Session: C.7

Presenters: Leila Wilson, Carolyn Yakel, Matthew Pakozdy and Jen Kyffin (Cowichan Valley FAS Action Team Society)

Summary: This presentation will highlight the key components and processes of two projects, Inclusive Communities and Leaders in FASD Prevention, which meaningfully involve people with FASD across all stages. A panel of young people living with FASD will address questions related to their contributions to the projects and with regard to their lived experiences.

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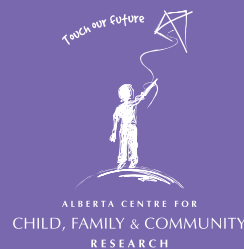
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