

**TOWN OF BLACKFALDS**  
**BLACKFALDS & DISTRICT FAMILY & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES BOARD**  
Tayles Room, Lower Level, Civic Cultural Center – 5018 Waghorn Street  
Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

**AGENDA**

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1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1 Welcome & Introductions
  - 1.2 Call to Order
  - 1.3 Approval of Agenda
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2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

- 2.1 Treaty Six Land Acknowledgement – The Blackfalds FCSS Board acknowledges that we are on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting ground, gathering place, and travelling route to the Cree, Saulteaux (So-toe), Blackfoot, Métis, Dene (De-nay) and Nakota Sioux (Sue). We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.
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4. **PRESENTATIONS**

None

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5. **BUSINESS**

- 5.1 Approval of Minutes
  - 5.2 Leader of Tomorrow Awards Adjudicator
  - 5.3 FCSS Manager Update
  - 5.4 Volunteer Programmer Report
  - 5.5 Community Engagement Programmer Report
  - 5.6 Youth Programmer Report
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6. **CONFIDENTIAL**

- 6.1 Gloria House Mentor of the Year Award Adjudication
    - Information sent confidentially
  - 6.2 Group of the Year Award Adjudication
    - Information sent confidentially
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7. **ADJOURNMENT**

- 7.1 Next meeting scheduled for April 11, 2024 at 7 pm

**TOWN OF BLACKFALDS  
REGULAR FCSS MEETING**

Civic Cultural Centre –5018 Waghorn Street  
Tayles Meeting Room – Lower Level  
Thursday, March 09<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 pm

**AGENDA**

**6.2 BUSINESS**

**MEMO TO: FCSS BOARD**

**FROM: Rick Kreklewich  
Director of Community Services**

**ISSUE: VOLUNTEER FOR LEADERS OF TOMORROW AWARDS ADJUDICATOR**

**BACKGROUND:**

Our current process is that the Mayor, FCSS Youth Programmer and one FCSS Board Representative will review and adjudicate the Leaders of Tomorrow Youth Awards categories.

**DISCUSSION:**

This year there are 52 nominations in the Leaders of Tomorrow recognition program:

- Elementary – 9 nominees
- Junior High – 33 nominees
- High School – 10 nominees

Cara Kroetsch, FCSS Volunteer Programmer, will email the adjudication committee the packages by March 11<sup>th</sup> asking for judging matrix forms to be returned by March 18<sup>th</sup>. The expectation is that all the nominations have been read through and the judging matrixes have been returned by the deadline to ensure plaques can be ordered in time for the events.

As there will be a tremendous number of attachments sent via email paper copies can be provided if requested.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION:**

That the FCSS Board appoint a Board member volunteer to the Youth Awards Adjudication committee.

**ALTERNATIVES**

- A) That the FCSS Board refer this item back to Administration.

## Volunteer Programmer:

- **Seniors Active Programming:**
  - **Drop-In 50+ Walking Club:** FCSS staff facilitates the 50+ Walking Club on Tuesday and Thursdays at the Abbey Centre. During the month of February 67 people participated (including: 22% were Lacombe County residents), 9 dates offered, 241 track admissions were purchased = \$482, and the Seniors Plus (75+) admission was utilized 50 times. Participants tracked their distance walked and as a group they walked 9774 laps in February.
  - **Spring/Summer Programming:** Volunteer Programmer continues to work with the Fitness and Aquatics Coordinator/Recreation and Culture Programmer as we plan for spring and summer programming.
- **Blackfalds Seniors Club Engagement:** The Volunteer Programmer continues to serve as a liaison between the Blackfalds Seniors Club (formerly the Cheemo Club) and the municipality, helping with their booking requirements and addressing any concerns they may have.
- **It's More Than Just a Movie** (monthly event) – The February event showcasing 'Sweet Home Alabama' was attended by 24 individuals.
- **Volunteer Recognition Planning:**
  - National Volunteer Week April 16-22, 2024
  - Best of Blackfalds (April 18) 18+ event with the evening to include local businesses supplying a variety of appetizers, live music, beer tasting, cash bar and the presentation of the Carol Simpson Volunteer of the Year Award, Gloria House Mentor Award, and the Outstanding Group (adult) Award. Nominations received:
    - **Carol Simpson Volunteer of the Year Award - 5 nominees**
    - **Gloria House Mentor Award - 1 nominee**
    - **Outstanding Group Award (Adult category) - 4 nominees**
  - Youth Recognition Night (May 2) Red-carpet youth event to include appetizers, performances and the presentation of the Dylan Stork Youth Ambassador Award, Leaders of Tomorrow Awards, and the Outstanding Group (youth) Award. Nominations received:
    - **Outstanding Group Award (Youth category) - 0 nominee**
    - **Dylan Stork Youth Ambassador Award - 3 nominees**
    - **Leaders of Tomorrow Award (Elementary category) - 9 nominees**
    - **Leaders of Tomorrow Award (Junior High category) - 33 nominees**
    - **Leaders of Tomorrow Award (High School category) - 10 nominees**
  - Sponsorship/Grants: Volunteer Programmer has secured sponsorship from MEGlobal, recently applied for the National Volunteer Week Grant and is working on securing food vendors for the Best of Blackfalds event as well as door prizes to be used at both events.
- **Town of Blackfalds volunteers were utilized at the following programs and events:**
  - Feb 19: Winterfest (7 volunteers, totaling 23.5 volunteer hours)
  - Snow Angel Program
    - 34 volunteers are supporting 23 locations
    - 5 locations on the waitlist
    - 6 volunteers are hoping to be paired with a resident close to their home

## ONGOING INITIATIVES:

1. The monthly FCSS **Volunteer Newsletter**
  - a. In February, the newsletter was emailed to 279 contacts with the 'Open Rate' of 49%
2. **Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:**
  - a. Jim Hurley Free Skate – Sunday's

- b. Snow Angel Program – Winter months
- c. Blackfalds Health Professional Attraction & Retention Committee
- d. Family Easter Event – March 23

## **Community Engagement Programmer:**

### **Community Volunteer Income Tax Program**

- All volunteers, and community clinic registration has been approved
- Approval of Efile numbers and passwords.
- Approval of 2024 COIN number.
- 2024 Ufile installation keys have been downloaded on the designated "tax volunteer" computer
- Updates Volunteer binders
- Updated 2024 CVITP tax intake form and all supporting documents
- Volunteer meeting to refresh the process and discuss changes to the 2023 tax package (Federal covid 19 benefit repayments, advanced Canada workers benefit, First home saving account, Multigenerational home renovation tax credit, proof of birth required for CCB, Climate action incentive payments, Balance owing payment changes)
- Webinar training: What's new this filing season, CVITP & Ufile learning guide

### **Family Easter Event:**

- Confirmed partnership with Kids Konnection, UBAKA, BB/BS, FRN, Bulldogs
- Donation secured from Blackfalds ATB
- In kind donation secured from Boston Pizza, DQ & MacMunchies
- Confirmed BBQ

### **Blackfalds FCSS Facebook Page:**

- 679 followers at the close of February

### **Blackfalds Instagram Page:**

- 57 followers at the close of February

### **Outer duties:**

- Tuesday 50+ Walking Club
- More than a Movie event
- Spring/Summer guide submissions
- Completed the Mental Health First Aid course
- Attended the National Advisory Council on housing, poverty, and food security.
- Liaison with FCSS Volunteer programmer and The Soroptimist club for the Woman's Day celebration, March 9<sup>th</sup>
- Working with Colleagues to manage the lack of an FCSS Manager

## Client Statistics for February 2024

Referrals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
FCSS SueB	7		0									
FCSS Cara	3		13									
FCSS Jan	3		5									
FCSS Sierra	16		3									
Income Tax Return												
Inquiries	1		13									
Employment Support	1		2									
FCSS Event Movie	4		10									
FCSS Subsidized Programs	0		0									
Tools for Schools	0		0									
Winter Wear	0		0									
Christmas Bureau	0		0									
Food Bank	4		6									
Low Income Inquiries	5		8									
Housing	0		7									
Fax	13		12									
Printing/Photocopying	13		18									
Seniors Assistance Programs	7		2									
Telephone	0		0									
BBBS	0		0									
BOLT	2		0									
Golden Circle	3		2									
General Inquiries	52		46									
Reaching Home												
Mental Health Therapist												
Affordability Grant Help												
<b>Number of Clients</b>	<b>134</b>		<b>147</b>									

Job posting updated weekly. Lunchbox emails sent weekly.

Vibrant Living 50+ Monthly Newsletter for February - 204 sends with an open rate of 70%

## **Youth Programmer:**

### **Blackfalds Youth Crew**

Offered Mondays from 3:45 - 5:45pm for youth grades 4 -6, Tuesdays from 5:00 - 7:00pm for youth grades 7 – 12, and now Thursdays from 1 – 2:30pm for homeschooled youth grades 4 - 9.

- February 1 saw 9 youth in attendance,
- February 5 saw 18 youth in attendance, February 6 saw 13, and February 8 saw 10,
- February 12 saw 22 youth in attendance, February 13 saw 16, and February 15 saw 10,
- February 19, 20, and 22 there was no program due to Family Day STAT,
- February 26 saw 18 youth in attendance, February 27 saw 10, and February 29 saw 12.

Youth participated in a variety of scheduled activities, including hot chocolate & tobogganing, perler beads and molding clay, Valentine's Day brownie pops, and string art. Unscheduled activities, such as plasma cars and board games, are available to youth once the scheduled activity has been completed.

**Child Safe Canada Home Alone Safety** was scheduled for February 20<sup>th</sup>. The class was full and continues to be offered on a nearly monthly basis throughout the school year for youth grades 4 – 6. The next regular course is scheduled for March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Youth Cooking Club** is an Alberta Health Services program geared towards teaching youth about healthy eating, according to the Canada's Food Guide. Youth learn how to cook/bake while staying safe in the kitchen. This 8-week program started January 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Mission Impossible** is an obstacle course developed by FCSS Youth Programmer to advance youth physical coordination and social skills. Obstacle courses will get progressively harder to allow for youth skill development. The program has 15 registered youth, with full attendance and engagement.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring:** FCSS Youth Programmer is mentoring a young student at one of the Blackfalds community schools. Mentoring takes place once a week for one hour. Mentee and youth programmer are engaged throughout the whole meet time and have developed a solid relationship. FCSS Youth Programmer has seen positive change in the mentee regarding school.

**Blackfalds Youth Crew Winterfest Family Bingo** is a Town of Blackfalds event facilitated by FCSS Youth Programmer and BYC youth volunteers. This drop-in style bingo game was offered on Family Day to create and maintain a sense of community. 3 BYC participants volunteered their time while working alongside FCSS Youth Programmer to ensure a smooth bingo game. The bingo event received positive feedback from participants.

### **FCSS Youth Programmer initiatives during the month of February:**

Lacombe FCSS shadowed Blackfalds FCSS Youth Programmer during Home Alone course

Youth Resource Guide creation for the Youth Action Coalition

Connected The Robb Nash Project (TRNP) with interested schools- IRJC has been put on a wait list to attend the concert.

Pink Shirt Day Campaign- anti-bullying promotion & Pink Shirt order