

# Edmonton and Area Fetal Alcohol Network FASD Research Series

## Session 1

Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> 2010

1pm-4pm

Bosco Homes- Main Boardroom (6770 129<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Edmonton)

Cost: free

1:00-4:00 pm

### Advanced Brain Imaging Studies of FASD

Speaker: Christian Beaulieu

**Session Overview:** Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) can image the brain and provide clues as to what brain areas may have developed differently in individuals with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) and how those brain areas may relate to the degree of difficulty or ability in various cognitive domains. The goal of the talk is to present some results on children who have been diagnosed with FASD who have participated in both cognitive testing and brain MRI here in Edmonton. We will first have an overview of MRI and what can be measured, followed by the brain differences that we found in the FASD group versus other children, and then finally what regions of the brain were found to correlate with math ability. We will end with a discussion on our future studies on adolescents and adults with FASD and a proposed multi-site MRI study of FASD with other Centers across Canada.

### Children with FASD and the Youth Justice System

Speaker: Pat Yuzwenko

**Session Overview:** This presentation will address the practical realities of representing FASD affected youth in the criminal justice system, including a discussion of the impact of the diagnosis on each major step in the justice process, from investigation and arrest through to trial and sentencing. Discussion of how the diagnosis of FASD can intersect with the legal definition of 'fitness'. The principles of the Youth Criminal Justice Act will be discussed and how they are supposed to guide every stage of the process. This presentation will highlight the role of counsel and the parent/caregiver, how the diagnosis can be conveyed to participants in the system (i.e. arresting officers), where the issue of 'fitness' arises, and what processes are available under the YCJA that offer an ability to do some case conferencing.

**For more information or to register for the March 31<sup>st</sup> Session, Please Contact:**

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\*Space is limited to 40 Individuals\*

