

# Rajani FASD Assessment & Diagnostic Clinic Training Services

LINKS: A Newsletter for Alberta FASD Diagnostic Clinics

# Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community.

Anthony J. D'Angelo

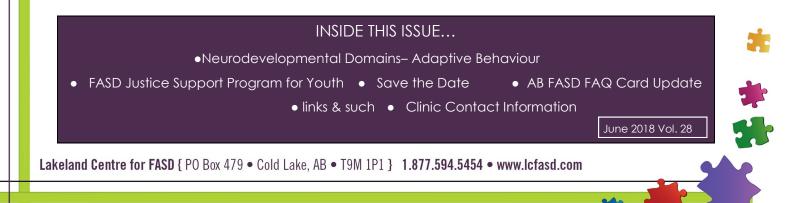
Winter finally has retreated and I know many of us look forward to spending time outdoors, enjoying summer vacations and participating in community events. Whether you live in a large, urban centre or a remote or rural community, there are so many reasons why people come together to celebrate special events, or to show appreciation for issues that affect each community. Many FASD clinics participate in these local events by showcasing their services and to provide FASD education and awareness messages. Hosting mocktails; having a presence at trade shows, early learning, and health and wellness fairs; or presenting at municipal or town council meetings can encourage community awareness and the dialogue around supporting individuals and caregivers impacted by FASD.

Whenever I travel, I have opportunities to ask about alcohol and pregnancy, get a sense of the level of awareness, and people's opinions. Often, I'm encouraged by responses and am struck by the level of engagement. Recently, while travelling in France and Belgium, I had a conversation about what I do in Canada. The B&B owner was interested and pointed me to the image that is on every alcohol bottle sold in France. It is a small image, and one that I hadn't noticed until she pointed it out. France has acknowledged their reality through messaging on liquor bottles. We have yet to reach this messaging in Canada, partly due to many logistical challenges. Each of Canada's 13 provinces and territories has a liquor board or commission that oversees the control, distribution and sale of beverage alcohol in its jurisdiction. Hopefully, in the not too distant future, there will be consensus on labelling with a similar message in Canada.



Please take time to read and forward this Links edition to your other clinic team members. Information on the upcoming Annual Clinic Coordinator Meeting is on the "Save the Date".

## HAPPY SUMMER!



### Neurodevelopmental Domains: Adaptive Behaviour, Social Skills, or Social Communication

Submitted by: Garth Stewart Registered Psychologist, Ph.D., Edmonton

This domain is a blend of related skills. The concept of adaptive behavior refers to the capacity to independently manage the activities of daily life. It includes practical skills such as organizing and managing time, money and a typical home environment; academic and conceptual skills such as memory and judgement; and social skills such as understanding what another person is communicating, thinking or experiencing.

Adaptive behavior is most often measured indirectly using rating scales completed by significant others. When rating scales are used it is important to look for agreement between multiple raters, and it is sometimes difficult to find respondents who have sufficient first-hand knowledge of the client to complete all of the items. There are also some objective tests available for use with adults, and it is possible to infer a deficit in adaptive behavior using interview and historical data, etc. According to the Appendix 1 of the Canadian Guidelines, "The deficits in adaptive function should be consistent with deficits in the other 9 domains. This domain is intended to function as an additional indicator of overall disability related to neurodevelopmental impairment" (page 34). With this in mind, it also possible to infer a deficit in adaptive behavior based on the presence of other deficits. For example, if an older teen or adult client presents with severe impairments in multiple domains such as cognition (intelligence), memory, attention and academic skills (i.e., is completely illiterate with respect to reading, writing and numeracy), it would follow that they would also be deficient in adaptive behavior. In this example, the domain of adaptive behavior would not be needed to support the presence of severe and pervasive brain dysfunction because there are already 4 domains that are significantly impaired. However, such a client would not be expected to manage money, read or sign a lease, or take prescription medication properly. Thus, consideration of adaptive behavior is particularly relevant when it comes to recommending suitable supports and interventions.

Like adaptive behavior, social skills are most often measured indirectly by using rating scales completed by individuals who know the client well. Indeed, social skills are one of the three areas evaluated under the broader category of adaptive behavior. Social communication can be directly assessed by administering objective tests that evaluate a number of skills including accurately interpreting tone of voice, inflection, and other nonverbal information such as facial expressions, hand gestures, and body language.

Making inferences and comprehending irony or sarcasm also represent important aspects of social communication. The phrase "I love shopping for shoes" can have several different meanings depending on the context and how it is stated. Similarly, the phrase "that's just what I needed" can be interpreted in more than one way, and misunderstanding what was intended by the speaker can have significant consequences in interpretations.

"I know you think you understand what you thought I said, but I'm not sure you realize that what you heard is not what I meant."

Alan Greenspan

*Our Vision~ We envision a region with no new FASD births and where currently affected individuals are well supported.* 

### Youth Justice Program

Submitted by: Chris Leptich FASD Initiatives Coordinator, Correctional Services

#### What is the FASD Justice Support Program for Youth?

The FASD Justice Support Program for Youth ("the Program") is a partnership between Alberta Justice and Solicitor General (JSG) and Calgary and Edmonton Youth Criminal Defence Offices. The program organizes case conferences to assist young persons with diagnosed FASD in conflict with the law, which are ordered by Youth Justice Court judges under Section 19 of the Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA).

The program convenes a conference including the young person's personal and professional supports, such as a parent or guardian, probation officer, child welfare representative, FASD Justice Program representative and the FASD assessment and diagnostic team. During the case conference, the young person's FASD assessment is reviewed, current supports and supports to assist the young person to improve his/her life course and to avoid criminal involvement are identified, and recommendations are made to assist the young person to successfully complete their sentence.

This information is summarized in a "Section 19 Report" which is submitted to the sentencing judge, who may choose to draw on the report in making decisions about sentencing.

#### What is Section 19?

The YCJA is federal legislation that governs the justice system for youth who committed an offence between the ages of 12 – 17 years. The YCJA stresses rehabilitation over incarceration, and states that "communities, families, parents and others concerned with the development of young persons should, through multi-disciplinary approaches, take reasonable steps to prevent youth crime by addressing its underlying causes, to respond to the needs of young persons, and to provide guidance and support to those at risk of committing crimes." The Act stipulates that special considerations need to be made for young persons with special needs, including FASD, to prevent or reduce re-offending.

A Section 19 conference provides relevant information to the Youth Justice Court to assist in designing, implementing, and monitoring a support system for a young person who faces serious challenges in life and is at high risk of re-offending. Young people with FASD usually need continual life supports such as structured living environments, income assistance, mental health treatment, and ongoing mentorship and supervision. A comprehensive support plan usually requires the involvement of the non-profit sector, child and family services, mental health, education, and other provincial systems.

#### What role can clinics and networks play in the Program?

Both clinics and networks play a vital role in consulting, supporting and facilitating the development and monitoring of a plan that identifies community resources and connects each young person with supports that may reduce the likelihood of further involvement with the criminal justice system.

#### What is next for the Program?

Research indicates that the Program is effective in preventing crime and reducing recidivism, should be widely replicated and could be identified as a "model" crime prevention initiative in Canada and around the world. As a result, JSG is working to expand the Program throughout the province.

JSG will be looking to engage clinics and networks on the newly develop FASD Justice Support Program for Youth implementation guide to ensure that concerns and aspirations are understood and considered in the guide.

Additionally, JSG will be looking to connect 20 regional probation officers who work with youth with clinics and networks in their regions to act as FASD Champions within the justice system. Ideally, existing committees and networks can be leveraged.

If you would like more information regarding the FASD Justice Support Program for Youth, contact Christeptich, FASD Initiatives Coordinator, at <u>christopher.leptich@gov.ab.ca</u> or at 403-297-8598.

### SAVE THE DATE!



9TH Biennial PRAIRIE CHILD WELFARE CONSORTIUM GATHERING

OCTOBER 23-26, 2018, Calgary, AB Sheraton Cavalier 2620 32 Ave NE

Hosted by: Prairie Child Welfare Consortium (PCWC); Provincial and Territorial Directors of Child Welfare, and; Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary

MORE INFO



Annual FASD Diagnostic Clinic Coordinator Meeting Wed, September 19, 2018 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Best Western Suites Downtown 1330-8 Street SW, Calgary,AB T2R 1B6

\*\*The meeting provides opportunity for coordinators to network, discuss issues that are specific to coordinator roles. We look forward to your attendance!

RSVP no later than September 4, 2017 to <u>clinictraining@lcfasd.com</u>

Hotel Booking @ <u>Best West Suites Downtown</u>

or contact Rohan [email] or call @ 403.209.3433

- $\Rightarrow$  Free complimentary parking for hotel guests
- $\Rightarrow$  Full agenda will be sent out a few weeks prior to the meeting
- Due to limited space, this meeting is intended for clinic coordinators only

### AB FASD FAQ CARD Updates

#### Clinic Coordinators:

It's time to do an update for the 2 sided clinic contact cards, which have been widely distributed over the past 2 years. If your contact information or clinic names are different than what's listed on the Clinic Contact this newsletter, please page in email: <u>clinictraining@lcfasd.com</u> with changes. The new cards will be available for download and printing on the Can FASD research network site over the next few weeks. High resolution 8.5"x5.5" cards PDF can be downloaded here and printed by your preferred printer.



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Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

## links & such

### **COMMENTARY**

#### Response to "A critique for the new Canadian FASD diagnostic Guidelines"

Jocelynn L. Cook PhD, MBA; Courtney R. Green PhD; Christine Lilley PhD, R. Psych ; Sally Anderson PhD ; Mary Ellen Baldwin Dip CS, R. Psych; Albert E. Chudley MD; Julianne Conry, PhD; Nicole LeBlanc MD; Christine A. Loock MD; Bernadene Mallon MSW RSW; Audrey McFarlane BED, MBA (CED); Valerie Temple PhD, C. Psych

This Clinical Commentary is a response to the critique Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: Canadian guidelines for diagnosis, written by McLennan and Braunberger (McLennan & Braunberger, 2017).

### <u>Is FASD 100% Preventable?</u>

Summary article by CanFASD posted by the Prevention Conversation that delves in the subject matter of FASD prevention and the numerous social determinants of health that contribute to alcohol use during pregnancy vs the former 'Baby vs Bottle' awareness and prevention strategy

### <u>Article</u>

Ten-year experience of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder; diagnostic and resource challenges in Indigenous children

Anna Banerji MD, MPH, FRCPC , Chandrakant Shah MBBS, FRCPC, SM(Hyg)

**Background:** Although fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) can have a disproportionate impact in some Indigenous communities, there is a paucity of literature on its epidemiology.

### Working Paper Series

This paper discusses Indigenous children with disabilities in Canada and examines their experiences with federal and provincial jurisdictional and funding disputes. It explores Canada's adversarial legal and policy techniques to delay implementation and funding of Jordan's Principle, the effects of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal decision, and the recommendations of a recent independent Canadian research project.

### Welcome!

Jolene Gramlich, husband, and big sister Sydney announce the arrival of Paige Amelia on February 25. Jolene is Clinic Coordinator for the Onion Lake Clinic.



 When you think about community, collaboration really is part of a community action. FASD Assessment & Diagnostic Clinic Contact List Updated: June 2018

C | Child Clinic A | Adult Clinic

#### Cumulative Risk Diagnostic Clinic [C]

Child Development Centre Alberta Children's Hospital 2888 Shaganappi Trail NW Calgary, AB T3B 6A8 [P] 403.955.5878 Coordinator: Bernadette Jesse Bernadette.Jesse@ahs.ca

#### MediGene Services, FAS Diagnostic Clinic C | A

Foothills Professional Building Suite 110, 1620-29<sup>th</sup> Street NW Calgary, AB T2N 4L7 [P] 403.571.0450 Program Manager: Suzanne Johnson <u>medigen@telus.net</u>

#### Central Alberta FASD Network Adult Clinic [15-adult]

#20633 McKenzie Cres., Red Deer County, AB T4S 2H4 Phone: 403-342-7499, ext. 2 Diagnostic Services Coordinator: Vicki Scott vscott@fasdca.ca

#### Lakeland Centre for FASD C | A

P.O. Box 479 Cold Lake, AB T9M 1P3 [P] 780.594.9905 Diagnostic Services Manager: San Downs sdowns@lcfasd.com

#### Pediatric FASD Clinical Services [C]

Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital 10230-111 Avenue Edmonton, AB T5G 0B7 [P] 780.735.8278 Coordinator: Diane Plouffe <u>Diane.plouffe@ahs.ca</u>

#### Glenrose Adult FASD Assessment Clinic [A]

Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital 10230-111 Avenue Edmonton, AB T5G 0B7 [P] 780.735.6166 Coordinator: Bernie Mallon Bernie.Mallon@ahs.ca

#### Canadian FASD Diagnostic & Training Centre C | A

316 Kingsway Garden Mall NW Edmonton, AB T5G 3A6 [P] 780.471.1860 Coordinator: Ojas Joshi <u>Drdonmassey@dvmassey.com</u>

#### Centrepoint Young Offender Program [C]

Suite 701, 10242-105 Street Edmonton, AB T5J 3L5 [P] 780.428.4524 ext. 227 Social Worker: Roxanne Pereira <u>Roxanne.Pereira@ahs.ca</u>

#### Northwest Primary Care Network [C]

Children and Youth FASD Diagnostic Clinic Northwest Primary Care Network 11202-100 Avenue High Level, AB TOH 1Z0 [P] 780.841.3253 Social Worker/Coordinator: Cheryl Cunningham-Burns <u>Cheryl.Cunningham-Burns@ahs.ca</u>

#### Northwest Regional FASD Society [A]

Mackenzie Network Box 3668 High Level, AB TOH 1Z0 [P] 780.926.3375 Coordinator: April Hooka-Nooza <u>clinic.fasdsociety@telus.net</u>

#### Alberta Health Services/NEAFAN C | A

600 Signal Road Fort McMurray, AB T9H 3Z4 [P] 780.750.6678 Diagnostic Assessment and Clinic Lead: Marguerite Fitzpatrick <u>Marguerite.fitzpatrick@ahs.ca</u>

#### NW Alberta FASD Clinic C | A

P.O. Bag 4000, 10205-98<sup>th</sup> Street Grande Prairie, AB T8V 6V3 NW Alberta [P] 780.357.4996 FASD Clinic Coordinator: Vanessa Norris FASDDiagnostics@cityofgp.com

If there are changes to your clinic contacts (address, ph. number, coordinator changes), please email <u>clinictraining@lcfasd.com</u> This clinic contact list is maintained and updated, and is in each Links newsletter. It is frequently sent to AB government stakeholders, CMC, upon request to research and other projects, such as the common data form project. Having your correct information is important to us Please check your clinic contact information in this issue. Thanks! FASD Assessment & Diagnostic Clinic Contact List Updated: June 2108

C | Child Clinic A | Adult Clinic

#### Northern Association for FASD C | A

P.O. Box 3334 Lower Level, 5001-49<sup>th</sup> Street High Prairie, AB TOG 1E0 [P] 780.523.3699 Coordinator: Charlene McLay <u>nafasd@telus.net</u>

#### North West Central FASD C | A

Assessment & Diagnostic Team Box 5389 Westlock, AB T7P 2P5 [P] 780.284.3415 Coordinator: Sharon Pearcey <u>sharonp@nwcfasd.ca</u>

#### Pediatric Specialty Clinic [C]

Children's Rehabilitation Services-Central Zone #300 Professional Centre 5015-50 Avenue Camrose, AB T4V 3P7 [P] 780.608.8622 Coordinator: Lorraine McPhee Lorraine.McPhee@ahs.ca

#### Siksika FASD Clinic [C]

Box 1130 Siksika, AB TOJ 3W0 [P] 403.734.5687 Coordinator: Vanessa Buckskin vanessab@siksikahealth.com

#### Prairie Central FASD Clinical Services [A]

4838-49<sup>th</sup> Street Camrose, AB T4V 1N2 [P] 587.386.0186 Amanda Lindholm <u>a.lindholm@prairiecentralfasd.ca</u>

#### **Complex Needs Diagnostic Clinic**

Alexander First Nation Wapski Mahikan Society Box 3479 Morinville, AB T8R 1S3 [P] 780.853.7723 Diagnostic Coordinator: Amber Bell amberbelle27@gmail.com

#### FASD Assessment and Support Services C|A

Bridges Family Programs 477 Third Street SE Medicine Hat, AB T1A 0G8 [P] 403.526.7473 Coordinator: Rebecca Robertson <u>rrobertson.bridges@memlane.com</u> Connie Edler <u>cedler.bridges@memlane.com</u>

#### Lethbridge Family Services-DaCapo Services C | A

FASD Assessment & Diagnostic Clinic 1107-2<sup>nd</sup> "A" Ave. N. Lethbridge, AB T1H 0E6 [P] 403.320.9119 Children Coordinators: Jennifer Vanderkooij, <u>ivanderkooij@lfsfamily.ca</u> Adult Coordinator: Krista Tittlemier <u>Ktittlemier@lfsfamily.ca</u>

#### Alberta Hospital Edmonton

Turning Point Program [12-21yrs] 17480 Fort Road, Box 307 Edmonton, AB T5J 2J7 [P] 780.342.5002 Sherry Muscat, Registered Psychologist sherry.muscat@ahs.ca

#### Foothills FASD Assessment & Diagnostic Clinic C | A

Box 5146 101, 520 Macleod Trail High River, AB T1V 1M3 [P] 403.652.4776 Contact: Kathy Lambourn Kathy.lambourn@foothillsfas.com

Thanks to Albertan Government for their support

Our strength will grow through community