



Date: Tuesday, November 5, 2024 9:00 am – 11:00 am

Agenda

- 1. In Attendance & Welcome:** Lisa, Brittany, Denise, Leona, Sophia, Giz, Amanda, Bernie, Tracey, Nola, Kathleen.

Motion to approve the October 2024 minutes, Denise, carried.

2. Action Follow Up – October 2024

- \$500 approval for FASD Frontline Collective. Please use expenditure policy and form to submit to Lisa for reimbursement (page 59/60
<https://edmontonfetalalcoholnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/EFAN-Operational-Policies-2024-2027.pdf>)
- Pediatric FASD Clinic at the Glenrose evolving into Pediatric Interdisciplinary Neurodevelopmental Clinic (school-aged neurodevelopmental assessments), FUNDING: The discussion for EFAN members was focused on how the changes from the pediatric FASD clinic to PINC have provided EFAN an opportunity to review its assessment funding and explore how best to address capacity concerns in the community, which includes vulnerable youth and other identified groups.
 - Expect spring 2025 rollout for PINC clinic.
- Update from the Adult FASD Clinic Coordinator:
 - Working on subcontracting testing as a means to address scarce professional resources.
 - The Adult FASD clinic at the Glenrose is within a rehabilitation centre/hospital, would a community location offer different opportunities and be preferred?
 - Potential hybrid model for upcoming fiscal year with potential transition plan
 - Draft Letter of Agreement being developed by AHS for the April 1, 2025 fiscal year.

3. Reporting

- Quarter 3: October 1 – December 31, 2024
- ORS is due no later than Friday, January 3, 2025
- Narrative reports are due Friday, January 10, 2025
- EFAN biannual oral report: Friday, November 8, 2024

4. Finances

- \$100 cash honorarium for Dr. Pei (name misspelled on cheque), Tim Hortons \$69.96.
-
-



Agenda

- Motion (Lisa) to approve the above expenditures, seconded (Tracey), carried.

5. Health Outcomes Fund Applications

- No applications received.
- Reminder: applications should be in the the 22nd of the month for approval at the next EFAN meeting.
- If there is a late application, please email Lisa.

6. SWOT & Strategic Plan 2024

- **Action: Members to review the document and email requested edits/additions to Lisa prior to the December meeting.**
- Carry forward the Strategic Plan, December 2024 meeting. Please review the document.

7. FASD Frontline Collective

- The FASD Experience
- <https://edmontonfetalalcoholnetwork.org/2024/10/18/fasd-frontline-collective-the-fasd-experience/>
- November 19, 2024, 9:00 am – 11:00 am
- Locations: Unlimited Potential
- Includes: icebreaker, get to know one another/programs, and CanFASD CHOSE framework.
- **Action: Lisa to email the FASD Frontline Collective Committee and include supervisors to get details of event and determine what assistance is needed.**

8. 'Prevention Conversation' Project

- Currently updating the blog and aligning with the Collective Impact Framework.
- During the reporting period from April 1 to September 30, 2024, EFAN's Prevention Conversation program achieved significant community impact through targeted outreach and training activities aimed at increasing awareness and support for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).
- Targets 6 formal presentations per month, year-to-date 32 (46% of target)
- Total number of trainees 500, year-to-date 756 (151% of target)
- Community engagement reach 100, year-to-date 292 (292% of target).

9. 'WRaP 2.0 FASD Coaching Partnership' Project

- Year 4 end January 31, 2025.
-



Agenda

- Currently prepping the FASD Network Letters of Agreement for February 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026.
- Steering Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024.

10. New Resources & Research

- <https://edmontonfetalalcoholnetwork.org/2024/10/24/fetal-alcohol-spectrum-disorder-oral-health-care/>
- Dr. Keith Da Silva: Pediatric Dentistry – Dental Public Health at the Lakeland conference (Oct 2024) reviewed the Canadian oral health care system and the challenges faced by individuals diagnosed with FASD.
- 1. Access to oral health care for children with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder: a cross-sectional study
- 2. The oral health-related quality of life for individuals with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder – a cross-sectional study
- **Summary:** For individuals with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), maintaining oral health can be challenging due to sensory sensitivities, anxiety, and access barriers. This guide provides hands-on, practical approaches to improve oral health for those with FASD, focusing on increasing accessibility, promoting trauma-informed care, and creating supportive routines at home. Here are practical strategies for FASD programs, frontline staff, and caregivers to ensure that individuals with FASD receive compassionate, effective dental care.

For FASD Programs:

1. Increase Accessibility to Care

- **Partnerships with Dental Clinics:** Collaborate with local dental clinics to provide affordable and accessible services for individuals with FASD, especially in remote or rural areas where access is limited.
- **Oral Health Education:** Integrate oral health education into FASD programs to emphasize the importance of regular dental care and daily hygiene practices.

2. Promote Trauma-Informed Dental Care

- **Train Dental Professionals:** Ensure that dental care providers receive training in trauma-informed practices to address the unique needs of individuals with FASD, reducing anxiety and fostering a supportive environment.
- **Mobile and Outreach Dental Services:** Establish mobile dental services or outreach initiatives to bring care directly to individuals who may struggle with traditional dental office visits due to transportation or scheduling barriers.

For Frontline Staff:



Agenda

1. Training on FASD and Oral Health Needs

- **Understand Sensory and Behavioral Needs:** Provide training on how FASD affects oral health and behavior during dental visits, such as handling sensory sensitivities and communication challenges.
 - **Create Calming Environments:** Learn techniques to make dental visits more comfortable, using calming methods and sensory-friendly environments.
- ### 2. Collaborate with Multi-Disciplinary Teams:
- Work closely with families, caregivers, and other professionals (like mental health or social service providers) to ensure an integrated approach that addresses both physical and emotional needs.
- ### 3. Practice Cultural Competency
- **Respect Diverse Backgrounds:** Engage in cultural competency training to provide sensitive and respectful care that acknowledges diverse backgrounds and preferences.

For Caregivers and Families:

1. Maintain Regular Dental Check-Ups

- **Consistency in Visits:** Prioritize regular dental visits, as early detection of issues can prevent more invasive treatments later. Even brief, positive check-ups can help build comfort with dental care over time.

2. Establish Daily Oral Hygiene Habits

- **Build Routine with Visual Aids:** Develop a daily brushing and flossing routine that's simple and engaging, using visual aids or apps tailored to children with FASD.
- **Use Adaptive Tools:** Choose sensory-friendly dental tools, like soft toothbrushes or flavored toothpaste, to make oral care more enjoyable.

3. Advocate and Communicate with Providers

- **Share Individual Needs:** Clearly communicate any specific needs, fears, or successful strategies with dental professionals to ensure a more comfortable experience.
- **Seek FASD-Friendly Dentists:** Look for dental providers open to learning about FASD and collaborating to create a positive, tailored experience.

- <https://edmontonfetalalcoholnetwork.org/2024/11/04/canfasd-why-fasd-is-an-essential-diagnostic-term-response-to-the-lancet-article/>

- The [Canada FASD Research Network](#), CanFASD, feels compelled to make an official statement on the recent opinion published in the Lancet by Eliason et al., calling for urgent “international attention to address the harms of using Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) as a diagnostic term.” As the first and only comprehensive FASD research network in Canada, we are seen as a national voice for FASD. We bring together scientific evidence and amplify the voices of individuals and families with living experience. Collectively, we are surprised and troubled by the views and opinions



Agenda

expressed in this paper which are not evidence-based and have caused concern among clinicians, individuals with FASD, families, and researchers. To be clear, we value and encourage tough conversations. Indeed, these tough conversations help to move the field forward, particularly when they include diverse perspectives, invite continued discourse, and are evidence informed. As a team of researchers, clinicians, and individuals with living experience, we outline our concerns on the conclusions identified by Eliason et al and our rationale in support of FASD as a diagnostic term.

11. Upcoming Meeting Dates

- Tuesday, December 3, 2024: VIRTUAL
 - Tuesday, January 7, 2025: VIRTUAL
 - Tuesday, February 4, 2025: Catholic Social Services 11405 - 163 Street
 - Tuesday, March 4, 2025: Catholic Social Services 11405 - 163 Street
-
-