



January Community Conversation Notes

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH, ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT

1. Red Cross:

- Personalized support through Red Cross for impacted families, help with support with recovery planning, challenging issues, assistance with insurance, and much more. recoveryopslead@redcross.ca email is monitored daily.
- TIP sheets are available on the website <https://www.redcross.ca/how-we-help/current-emergency-responses/alberta-wildfires-2024>
- In-person services in Hinton located at 217 Pembina for residents living in Hinton. Jasper some days of the week support is located at JECC.
- As of last week the Red Cross is supporting 1200 case files, with 350 apt's booked in January.
- Granting open – <https://www.redcross.ca/how-we-help/current-emergency-responses/alberta-wildfires-2024/grants-for-community-organizations>

Trend: Residents seeking support due to decreased hours/loss of employment due to the fire, higher numbers of mental health concerns, housing insecurity as we get closer to February, and Food Insecurity.

2. Community Outreach Services / Community Development:

- Senior Outreach - Social prescribing for seniors through Health Care Professionals.
- Drive Happiness is a volunteer run program available – looking for volunteers
- Tai Chi Tuesdays at 12pm
- Movie Nights in Library basement
- Technology session being offered soon, teens at Seniors Lounge connect with seniors on devices
- Protect your Assets – fraud protection for seniors coming soon
- Friendly Visitor program – volunteers to get trained, and paired with seniors who could get teamed up with a senior.

Trend- Mental Health, Housing, Financial, Food Insecurity, Hard to connect with people who are fully employed.

- Teen Outreach- Upcoming Programs – Teen – skating, ice climbing, Community Helpers next week are teaming up with Prime Time to help seniors troubleshoot devices, Go Girl coming up in the spring
- Safety concerns for co-living scenarios

Trend – Teens finding good connection and positivity from programming and groups, hockey back on is helping, kids are connected with peers

Trend- Financial Strain – kids are stressed about family finances

- Early Childhood – Client load growing, lots of new babies, food insecurity is a major concern, need ongoing ways to provide families with food. Gift cards are important so families do not have to wait – harder and harder to get these days – gift cards seem more limited.
- Noticing kids are being forgotten about, playgroups are important.
- School Age – never had so many people with food insecurity, food bank numbers are high, food bank trailer move should happen February, they will have fridges then.
- Increase use of Pool and gym COS passes
- COS pass – screening process form is working well, Fitness center staff noticing residents are buying the passes once they can.
- BEST coach and Outreach ran group for children needing more help – 10-12 kids. Friendship group starting soon
- Feb 6/7 teachers convention – Suncatchers & Pool KAOS programming 1-3pm

Opportunity- Wing of Pine Grove, rebuilt to be a place for neurodivergent space for about 8 community members needing increased levels of care

- Settlement Services – food insecurity is a main concern clients right now.
- Community Development- Red Cross funding assisted the Community Dinner program hire new Community Dinner Coordinator, Darryl Huckulak. There will be a trial for Community Dinner transportation to and From Hinton for displaced residents. Jan 2 dinners so far have fed 476 people and 679 people

Opportunity-Anyone to partner with a food-focused program please reach out to Lisa.

- LIP-Liaison for newcomers in the community
- Planning Women's Day for March 7th
- Local Immigration Partnership email: MRodriguez@jasper-alberta.ca
- Sled library created by Mens Shed – Thank you to mens shed for making the sled holders!
- Expanding recovery outreach in coming weeks
- Grant funded project- Community Development Supporting employers to better support newcomer employees. Toolkit, and guide that Sarah would love to have feedback on.
- Next Community Cooking circle next event Jan 30th
- OOSC & Wildflowers Childcare- Parent board Playgroup at Multi Purpose Hall for parents to connect.
- Seniors Visit over Christmas
- 96 waitlist at daycare, room at OOSC-7 spaces available
- Fundraiser storytelling 7pm Feb 20th Su Casa

Trend – Seeing Kindergarten age kids have higher emotional needs right now

- CD Fitness and Aquatic- Almost completely open, very pleased to open back up. Registration for swimming lessons are open. Lost 3-6 staff members, aquafit Tues & Thurs 9:30-10:30am,

Trend- seeing lots of people, it has been busy consistently

- Upcoming events- Curling Club 100th Anniversary soon, Jasper Minor Sports Jasper Hockey Days this coming weekend.
- Jasper Physio for session before Christmas – the group is still coming in, together, great outcome.

3. Alberta Health Services:

- Homecare AB Health – RN – Care for people in homes and in community clinic

Trend: Decrease in homecare population, needs are still high or higher

- Recovery Alberta –Walk-in clinic 9-2 M-F services for Addiction and mental health, or Intake Line.
- AB Health Services logo will be slowly removed, soon will be Recovery Alberta solely
- Treatment planning with clients – pool and gym are being identified as having a positive impact on clients
- Referrals from community partners, emergency and acute care
- Increase in walk-in traffic recently
- Grant from Red Cross for prevention and promotion work
- Connected with NA&AA – links were inaccurate, found out we do have consistent meetings – virtual and one in-person meeting can get-pamphlets from Ryan

Trend- Evacuation returning people to substance use.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

1. GOA Income support program

- Business as usual, Edson office flooded before Christmas, Edson income support open but across the hall from where it used to be

2. Service Canada

- Thurs Jan 9th 10-3 at Library, work sharing program will be open until August
- Victoria Dunbar - Service Canada: Contact information
Citizen Services Specialist, Citizen Services and Program Delivery Branch
Service Canada/Government of Canada victoria.dunbar@servicecanada.gc.ca / Tel: (780)357-4156
- Those with no internet or who need more help can call 1-877-631-2657 8:30-4pm M-F,
- Processing CPP & old age 1-800-277-9914, EI 1800-206-7218, Passport Canada 1-800-567-6868
- Service Canada will be at the In-person Recovery open house with JRCC

FIRE RELIEF

1. The Canadian Red Cross:

- The Canadian Red Cross is offering personalized recovery support to help households impacted by the 2024 Alberta Wildfires. There is also support available to organizations and businesses. recoveryopslead@redcross.ca email is monitored daily.

2. Recovery Outreach:

- Two Recovery Outreach Workers have been filled and three more just approved by council, folks are working out of Community Outreach Services to work with individuals and families one-on-one in Jasper.

3. Jasper Recovery Coordinaton Centre

- JRCC Social Recovery
- Pathfinders program to help foster connections with recovery related options
- Community Needs Assessment is currently being developed
- Recovery open houses in January Thurs Jan 23rd 6-8-virtual , Jan 25th 1-5pm in person

EDUCATION, LANGUAGE & EARLY LEARNING

1. Jasper Library:

- Seniors situation right now, lonely without belongings, need to be together with people. Programming for Seniors 1st & 3rd Thursdays , Knitting Club Thursday mornings, Crafting Hour
- The Deepest Part, collection of evacuation stories – connect with evening sessions
- Looking into literacy programs
- Storytime Saturday mornings – story and craft,
- Next Thurs Jan Stuffie sleep over – Casper the stuffie is hosting a sleepover for stuffies
- Tween Steam Thursdays 8-12 if younger and have an adult can join
- Kids space is always available to come into, crafts can be requested anytime
- Wed & Thurs open until 8pm
- Feb 7th treasure hunt 1-2 hours 10:30-4:30

2. Jasper Employment and Education Centre:

- Over 60 jobs posted on the job board right now, job fair Jan 23rd, 3-5pm hire local job fair.
train@jasperemployment.com; ed@jasperemployment.com

3. Schools:

- Jasper Jr /Sr Highschool- Figets for school kids at JJSH, One day Ski trip for students \$35, Feb 6th Bear Awareness course- can watch from home 12:30-3:30pm

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

1. Friends of Jasper:

- Programs coming up soon – and putting out feelers for the spring and summer programming
Trying to see how friends fits in with Recovery and what can be done to increase connection.
Parks Day event – looking into how to plan for the event which will fall on the anniversary of the wildfire

2. Seniors Society

- Conversation around open unstructured time at Seniors lounge
- Dinner for Christmas at Alpine, enjoyed by all
- Looking into equipping the seniors lounge with technology to develop space for seniors lounge
- Memberships are free right now, trying to connect with displaced seniors
- How can we connect with Jasper residents outside of Jasper better?

3. United Church

- Alpine Summit will be the space for Jasper United Church to gather for now. Church interested in partnering and doing things, interested in spiritual recovery for Jasper.

4. Jasper Seniors Housing Society

- Meetings with the Planning Department in Municipality, church lands are being considered for rebuilding and opportunities there.

5. Evergreens Foundation-

- Hoping to see more units built in Pine Grove rebuild 56 is the hope, bigger would be the hope 2.5-3years
- 6 seniors still living in Twin Pine hotel
- Seniors needing housing should get their names on the list
- Activities at Alpine Summit – encourage seniors to feel comfortable attending the events at Alpine
- Generator coming soon

6. Jasper Crisis Team

- Seeing housing as a major issue – crisis housing referrals
- Local families living in small spaces and all together since fire – late evening crisis housing is needed
- Funds needed for crisis team
- Emergency shelter put into new builds
- Gap identified that Crisis team was not able to receive assistance from Children’s Services over the holidays

7. JCTS

- Listening to community needs

INDIVIDUALS

- Resident: In from Ontario – listening to what is happening in Jasper as she is displaced.
 - Jasper Wellness – Somatic Affective Talk and Touch and Orthobionomy, Body-Mind Therapist noticing people are feeling sad, and unwell, wanting to offer workshops to connect people with healing. Interested in partnering with businesses and Red Cross to offer group sessions. Used to do seniors group sessions in the past, looking for these types of opportunities to collaborate with.
Group recommends: Seniors Lounge, Alpine Summit, Bombshell space.
 - Gratitude for the work being done
 - Interested in bringing ideas to the library on programs, looking into Baby Buzz Box – Habitat of the arts is being asked if they would like to collaborate on that
 - Looking for funding to think about spray park
 - Would government advocate for the 20 hour top up for workers like experienced in Covid
- Trend- Hearing that people are doing well, but the children (adult) are struggling with the loss of the family home

PARKS CANADA

- Parks Canada- Looking into the need for programming in the community again. Seeing a need for old-fashioned engagements, and community connections for post-wildfire. Collaborate with

partners around the table to offer engagement and education, Street Party, FJNP programs, in-person orientation around wildlife, and park offerings.

- Parks Canada IR & Cultural Heritage team – Assisting Indigenous partners and Indigenous businesses into the Jasper Rebuild

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

- Mayor and Council focused on business continuity.
- Parks Canada sessions to rebuild – until end of Feb
- JRCC sessions open houses are coming up end of January
- Jasper Minor Sports – Jasper Hockey Days Fri, Sat, Sun
- JRCC updates at each meeting – Fiscal controls policy altered to move forward in recovery.
- Reviewed strategic priorities – still relevant in post-wildfire context, considering what will still be relevant in new strat planning and what should be added
- Working with all levels of government for interim housing
- Presentation from Recovery AB yesterday regarding services