



Early Childhood + School Age Community Conversation Notes: February 8th, 2023

TRENDS:

- Emotional regulation skills needed in Out Of School Care (OOSC).
- There is a challenge with gaming from a mental health and addictions perspective.
- Indoor Playgroup attendance has increased since *Van Gogh's Violets* (crafting) started. Indoor playgroup is filling the gap when *Roots + Wings* isn't open.
- There's an increase in food insecurity.
- Parents of special needs children and teens are having a hard time finding qualified respite workers to hire. The daycare is also seeing stress among parents with special needs kids. It is a long wait to get in to see a specialist and confirm a diagnosis, after which support funding becomes available (Family Supports for Children with Disabilities - FSCD)
- Community Outreach Services is seeing a lot of anxiety with children/teens/parents. They are working on a session coming this spring.
- There is an increase in eating disorders in teens.
- Ecole Desrochers is finding an increase in bullying. Teen boys in particular are listening to and being influenced by Andrew Tate (misogynistic youtuber/podcaster). Teens with risk factors like no positive male role models in their life seem to be more easily influenced by social media channels they follow.
- Increase in sexism, racism and homophobia, predominantly in teen boys.
- Pride is thinking about security for events this year, with all the transphobic/homophobic protests happening around Alberta. Want to position our Pride for success and have it be a safe space.
- It's been great to have teen male role models at teen programming. More of this mentorship would go a long way.
- Increase in teens using the gym.
- Council talking about crisis services since changes at Victim Services.
- Wildflowers daycare waitlist is about 90 families. However, not everyone is waiting for a spot right now. Only a few families need a spot right now but can't get in. People also decline spots regularly.
- The Daycare would like to have a session on helmet safety - **Lisa D** to reach out to Northern Alberta Brain Injury Society or the Jasper Park Cycling Association to do a session. Alberta Health Services, Public Health is no longer able to do a session.
- FSCD requires diagnosis for funding.
- The birthrate in Jasper is going down.

COMMUNITY UPDATES:

- Kids Adventures of the School-year (KAOS) went kayaking.
- OOSC is aiming for more family involvement, such as: sharing skills, stories, etc. Also, starting to think about summer.
- Advocates for Special Kids (ASK) is requesting special times at the recreation facilities.
- Paid Parking will be starting again with some changes from last year for residents.
- There will be increased resident parking and an increase of the prices in parking lots.
- Coldest Night of the Year Raised \$18K for food bank, rent, utility and relief funding.



- Community Future West Yellowhead has a Youth Entrepreneurs In Training (YEIT) Project where senior high school students run their own business during the summer. They receive start-up cash and get to keep the proceeds. There are 37 participants in West Central AB. Teens can get up to 3 credits at school for participating.
- Wildflowers is starting their summer hiring/is regular hiring: April + May.
- Ukrainian Support Group went really well with 8 people in attendance for the first session.
- Ukrainians are welcome at Alberta Health Services (AHS) for Tuberculosis Tx testing even without healthcare.
- Fairmont Jasper Park Lodge was a wonderful partner providing teens at a Community Outreach Services skating program with nachos in the restaurant after.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS OR EVENTS:

- *Let Them Play* on Tuesdays.
- *Tween Takeover* at the Library has been a smashing success.
- Holly is still looking for old, non-functional electronics. Drop off at the Library if you have any!
- Virtual programs coming in for teens from addictions and mental health.
- Sessions coming in late spring (mental health and addictions).
- Potential ideas: Boys and Girls Club? Other influencers? Scouts Program?
- Jasper Pride is April 14th - 23rd with 35 events and more geared towards families and youth:
 - o April 15th - Family Pride
 - o April 21st- Family Pride Party
 - o April 22nd- Family Pride (Parks Canada)
- There will be a spring parent speakers' series.
- Summer programming:
 - o Share Straight with Tor and Carla
 - o Swim Club on Tuesday/Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings May 1st - August.
 - o Recreation + Stroke Improvement
 - o Kayaking
- Lemonade Day is coming up (June 17th). Kids orientation is on June 8th and is open to all kids from Kindergarten to Grade 12 (typical ages are K-Gr. 8). Kids work on goal setting and making a business plan.
- March is Francophone month.
- *Crank It Up* and *Rev It Up* are running again this year.
- Jasper Park Cycling Association (JPCA) is doing *Pedal Pushers* again this spring for kids.
- Ukrainian Support Group for adults and older teens will run Tuesday evenings for 8 weeks.

ACTION:

- **Tor** working on connecting teens with the police.
- **Lisa:** Grant ideas - Go Bro, Gym Mentors, Scouts program.



- **Lisa** to invite CRISIS TEAM to adult community conversation.
- Check out the ACFA calendar of events for March!

What do you think?

- ✓ [Municipal public engagement opportunities](#)
- ✓ [Give feedback, contact council or report an issue.](#)
- ✓ [You can also contact council by emailing them.](#)

Promote your program or event:

- ✓ [Check the Community Calendar to find out what's going on in Jasper.](#)
- ✓ [Add your program or event to the calendar.](#)

Share your passion:

- ✓ [Fill out this form](#) and we will contact you to discuss your idea!

All things Community Conversations:

- ✓ [Community Conversations schedule and information](#)
- ✓ Community Conversations most recent notes
- ✓ Application to join Community Conversations
- ✓ Municipal Community Conversations policy

Do you have neighbours or colleagues who are new to Jasper?

- ✓ The [New to Jasper page of the website](#) has helpful information for them.

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