



Calgary and Area RCSD eNewsletter

Calgary and Area RCSD Working Together on Complex Communication Needs

As part of its mandate Calgary and Area RCSD serves children and youth with Low Incidence Disabilities. Low Incidence Disabilities include blindness or visual impairment, deafness or hard of hearing, deaf-blindness, and complex communication disorders. Recently, Calgary and Area RCSD completed a project related to children and youth with Complex Communication Needs. The goal was to find out more about the scale of need within the region, learn about what the research says about the best way to support children and youth who require communication support, and begin to develop resources for parents, service providers and teachers.

An ongoing RCSD Complex Communication Needs Working Group is continuing to develop resources, strengthen cross system linkages and pathways, and bring knowledge into practice in this area. Of note is that two of the upcoming opportunities below relate to the theme of addressing complex communications – the Pragmatic Organization Dynamic display workshop and the Microsoft Accessibility Workshop.

More information and resources can be found online at:

<http://www.calgaryandarearcsd.ca/resources/complex-communication-needs>

Calgary and Area RCSD Bringing Evidence to Practice

Calgary and Area RCSD brings the latest evidence into practice by highlighting upcoming learning opportunities, new resources, research reports and policy documents that are relevant to the RCSD and its collaborative effort for children and youth. Each listing is selected from credible sources and many of the opportunities listed are offered at no or low cost to minimize the barriers to improving services to children and youth.

Please take a moment to forward this eNewsletter to your colleagues and encourage them to sign up at: <http://www.CalgaryandAreaRCSD.ca/news-and-events/newsletter-signup/>. We send out an eNewsletter once a month between September and June with reviewed information for everyone who works together for children and youth.

Upcoming Opportunities

Social Media and #ChildHealth: Successes and Challenges

Webinar

November 4, 9:00 – 10:30 am

This webinar will provide an overview of social media and a summary of the evidence on the role of social media in child health. This webinar will also provide examples of how social media can be used to make sure child health research is delivered to a broader audience, including both health professionals and parents.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Sleep Disturbance in Children and their Families Across the Continuum of Care

Webinar

November 11, 9:00 – 10:30 am

This webinar will describe the findings of studies that have examined sleep in children and family caregivers across the continuum of paediatric health care.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Organizing Communities to Create Health

Webinar

November 17, 12:00 – 1:00 pm

This webinar will provide an overview of the role that communities can play in creating their own health, as they themselves define it, review guiding principles for how to foster that role and share examples from panelists with community outreach, research, and clinical experience.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Pragmatic Organization Dynamic Display (PODD) 2 Day Introductory Workshop

Ambrose University 150 Ambrose Circle SW

November 21 & 22 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

This introductory workshop teaches both theory and practice related to the development and implementation of PODD communication books. PODD communication books can assist people with significant communication challenges to support their understanding and use of language.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Beyond Inactivity and Unhealthy Diet: How Should We Address Obesity in 2015?

Webinar

November 25, 9:00 – 10:30 am

This webinar will present information on why health practitioners and clinicians need to consider a broader range of influential factors and should target the root causes of the problem to more adequately address the obesity epidemic.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

2016 Great Kids Awards

Nominations

November 27

The Government of Alberta has opened the call for nominations for the 16th Annual Great Kids Award. The awards celebrate amazing young leaders who deserve recognition as role models in our communities.

Click [here](#) for more information and to download the nomination form.

Microsoft Accessibility

SAIT 1301 16th Ave NW – MacDonald Hall

November 30, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

No Cost to Attend

This workshop will focus on a variety of tools that can help engage students during lessons, give them alternate ways of expressing what they have learned, and give educators various ways to represent the lessons taught to differentiate learning for all populations of students.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

21st International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN)

Conference

August 28 - 31, 2016

The theme of the congress is Protecting Our Children, Protecting Our Future.

Click [here](#) for more information about the conference, abstract submission and to register.

Reports and Research

Health Profile on Immigrant and Refugee Children and Youth in Canada

This module describes immigrant and refugee children and youth in Canada and their overall health status. It specifically identifies priority preventable conditions and diseases among immigrant and refugee children and youth and explores the questions of cultural discordance and how this might influence their health and well-being.

Click [here](#) to access the module.

Report of the Advisory Panel on Healthcare Innovation

The Advisory Panel on Healthcare Innovation was charged with identifying the most promising areas of

innovation in Canada and internationally, that have the potential to sustainably reduce growth in health spending while leading to improvements in the quality and accessibility of care. The Panel was also asked to recommend ways the federal government could support innovation.

Click [here](#) to read the full report.

Consulting the Community on Advancing an LGBTQ Alberta Framework on the Prevention of Domestic Violence

In order to test the validity of the Alberta LGBTQ conceptual framework Shift conducted six community consultations throughout the province of Alberta.

Click [here](#) to read the full report.

Students Against Drinking and Driving (SADD) 2015 Liquor Bag Campaign

Alberta students of all ages can add their personal message on the dangers of impaired driving. This activity assists educators in continuing the conversation about the dangers of drinking and driving.

Click [here](#) to for more information and to order bags. Be sure to order by December 4.

KnowBullying Mobile App

Talking with children about bullying is an important step to understanding whether bullying is affecting them. This free app can help by facilitating meaningful conversations about bullying anytime, anywhere.

Click [here](#) for more information and to find the app.

Calgary Regional Consortium – Monthly Newsletter

Calgary Regional Consortium provides professional learning opportunities. See their newsletter for upcoming training sessions.

Click [here](#) to see the Newsletter.

Family and Community Resource Centre – Community Education Service

The Community Education Service (CES) provides parents/caregivers and other community members with opportunities to access free, evidence-informed education session and resource materials to address child, youth, and family health and mental health needs.

Click [here](#) to see the current listings.