

AAFSLW Liazer



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GREETINGS and Holiday Wishes from the AAFSLW



Were you aware that the **Alberta Association of Family and School Liaison Workers**, or the **AAFSLW**, has been in existence for over 20 years providing support to Family and School Liaison Counsellors/ Workers in addition to Wellness workers, Family Resource Workers, Child and Youth Care Workers, Native Liaison in addition to Community Liaison Workers throughout Alberta?

We are working hard to develop greater awareness of our association with employers and funders of Family and School Liaison Programs, Native Liaison and similar programs across the province in order to connect with professionals working in the field.

The **AAFSLW** offers networking and professional development to its members by hosting an annual conference, regional meetings and by providing a biannual newsletter and a membership contact list. The Association supports new Family and School Liaison and Native Workers with the **AAFSLW** Handbook and additional orientation resources.

The **AAFSLW** has developed a recommended pay grid that may be of assistance to both employer and employee.

The **Alberta Association of Family and School Liaison Workers** aims to reach all School Liaison Programs/Community Liaison Programs in order to build the capacity of the Association through inclusiveness and diversity.

We wish you all a wonderful Holiday Season and a fabulous New and Special Year in 2013.

AAFSLW President—Julie A. Isaac, MA

J Isaac

Membership

Tonia Gille is our new membership worker, the web site information has been mostly updated. She will assume responsibility in mid January as it has taken some time to transition this position. If you have any questions please email Tonia at tgille@st-albert.net or Christine at christinepayne@ffca-calgary.com. Our apologies for any confusion this has caused. As of mid January Tonia will have all information to process your memberships. Just a reminder that if you renew now for 2013 you save \$5.00. See webpage for credit card options and membership forms.



 The elections in Kananaskis resulted in some new faces, in new positions. We welcome all the new Executive Members and say good bye to some awesome Past Executive. Thanks Christie Badry for your dedication and commitment to our Executive as Secretary and Sharon Mills as Past President. We will miss you both! Your commitment has been and will always be appreciated!

Our New Executive Fall 2012!



President
Julie Isaac has been with the Livingstone Range School Division as a Family School Liaison Counsellor for 11 years. Previous to that she enjoyed working for Golden Hills School Division and Alberta Mental Health. Julie is a Sports Psychology Consultant and was a Competitive Figure Skating Coach for 17 years. This is Julie's second year serving on the AAFSLW Executive and she is currently President.



President Elect
Christine Payne is a Family School Liaison Worker working for Foundations for the Future Charter Academy. She previously worked for Golden Hills School Division and within the education system in Ontario. She also has experience within the Mental Health and Welfare divisions. This is Christine's fourth year serving on the AAFSLW executive. She is excited to see the new members joining as the AAFSLW expands. She appreciates the commitment of the executive and the membership!



Past President
Jody Evans is a Community School Liaison for the County of Grand Prairie FCSS and has worked the past three years providing services to four schools in the Peace Wapiti School Division and one Charter School. She is currently serving her fourth year on the AAFSLW Executive and is currently the Past President. She enjoys working with the other executive members from across the province and appreciates the networking opportunities and access to a wide variety of resources within the association.



Membership Worker
Tonia Gille currently resides in Edmonton and has worked as a FSLW for St. Albert FCSS for the past 8 years. She is also a registered social worker, and has previous experience working with special needs and high risk youth populations. This is her first year serving on the executive and she looks forward to helping to serve the membership!



Treasurer
Eva Rasmussen has been a Family School Liaison Worker for Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools for 9 years. This is her third year on the AAFSLW executive. Eva enjoys her position as Treasurer of the association and she looks forward to a great year.





Secretary

Kayla Lewis currently works as a Family School Liaison for Foundations for the Future Charter Academy High School and has also worked at Renfrew Educational Services . In addition Kayla has worked with children and youth with complex needs at Hull Child and Family Services for 6 years. This is her 1st year serving on the Executive and she looks forward to learning and getting involved.



Public Relations Newsletter

Bonita Bournon is a Family School Liaison Worker with the Livingstone Range School Division for the past 11 years. Past experience includes 30 years as a Psychiatric Nurse. This is Bontia's 2nd year on the AAFSLW Executive.



Public Relations Website **Christine Payne** currently fills this position. Anyone interested in this position can please feel free to contact her.

Conference Thank You!

Recognition and a great BIG appreciation going out to **Chinook's Edge School Division** for bringing us a 1st class conference at the Delta Lodge in Kananaskis Country! Special thanks to the Conference Committee for all of your incredible hard work and amazing dedication in making the 2012 AAFSLW Conference more than a huge success, it was a wonderful experience in beautiful surroundings!

Thank-you!



What happened in 2012!

TOGETHER WE KAN - IN KANANASKIS was the fabulous setting for the AAFSLW Provincial Conference in September. Hosted by the Family School Wellness team, of Chinook's Edge School Division # 73 it was truly an event!

With the caliber of guest speakers and their expertise the educational sessions were very worthwhile. We are always learning and the guest speakers added more to our mountains of knowledge.

What a wonderful event to re-acquaint and meet new colleagues in our field. It was an opportunity to discuss our positions, the rewards, challenges and struggles we face day to day.

The weather and the breath taking mountain ambiance certainly added to the AAFSLW Provincial Conference being the great experience and success it was.

I would certainly encourage all to attend the next AAFSLW Provincial Conference, and to continue climbing your "mountains".

Janet Cornell Family School Wellness Hugh Sutherland School 337-3326 Carstairs Elementary School 337-8670

**We're on the web
at www.aafslw.ca !**



Conference Update

The AAFSLW Executive is excited to announce the 2013 Fall Conference will be in beautiful Southern Alberta. The Livingstone Range School Division will be hosting it from Lethbridge and we look forward to the coming agenda and registration information in our Spring Newsletter. Thank you Livingstone Range!

**A place to
enjoy and
meet friends!
you haven't
met yet!**

Web Page Update

Happy Holidays Everyone! The fall has zipped by! My apologies to all of you as I wanted to have the membership only area ready a lot sooner. The good news is that over the Christmas break I will have the time to actually get it done. I know all of you can relate to the busyness and it is my goal to spend some of my holiday break working to finish this area! If you have had a chance to check out the web page I have made some changes. Also I encourage you to forward any valuable resource links to me as I would be glad to post them on the web. Also there will be an area under the membership only tab to post resources specific to what we do. I am thrilled to see the # of people accessing the web to renew and would encourage you to take the time if you haven't already, to look at the membership page when renewing. If you have any feedback or suggestions I would love to hear from you. Please feel free to email me at christine.payne@ffca-calgary.com. Make sure to check out the employment tab as I have been posting jobs forwarded by organizations and school boards. I hope you all have a restful and wonderful Holiday Season and you can expect to receive your password for the membership area early in the new year! ~ *Christine Payne (President-Elect & Public Relations)*

Twenty Ways 'Soup' is a great asset builder!

- **1 part Support**
 - Have a soup night and eat together as a family
 - An elder makes a traditional soup and tells its story
- **1 part Empowerment**
 - Make soup for someone ill or shut in
 - Teach safety/hygiene skills as you prepare
- **1 part Boundaries & Expectations**
 - Nutritious soup models healthy lifestyle choices
 - Invite neighborhood kids to make soup together
- **1 part Constructive Use of Time**
 - All ages have a role cutting, chopping, stirring, tasting
 - Enjoy a cup of soup after an activity you have enjoyed together
- **1 part Commitment to Learning**
 - Make alphabet soup to teach letters and spelling
 - Read 'Chicken soup for the soul together'
- **1 part Positive Values**
 - Read Stone Soup, tale of compassion during scarcity
 - Volunteer in a soup kitchen
- **1 part Social Competencies**
 - Try soup from different cultures
 - Allow a child to choose a soup, plan a meal, set a table & teach manners
- **1 part Positive Identity**
 - Give thanks and encouragement for their efforts
 - Send a thermos of soup in their lunch with a love letter in the lid

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!