



LETHBRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
FOR COMMUNITY LIVING  
*Celebrating \*50 \* Years*

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## *April, 2007 Bulletin*



*Welcome to Spring and all of the wonderful things that spring and summer bring. We will try to bring you up-to-date with all of the great projects and events that are being planned for the next few months and look forward to seeing all of our members come out and enjoy.*

### **\*UPCOMING EVENTS TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDER\***

*Our 2007 Dinner Dance Spring Fling reminder poster is enclosed and we hope to see everyone there.*

*We would again like to welcome all the new members who have dropped in or mailed us recently and hope that you continue to find our bulletins informative.*

## ***LACL Survey***

*The LACL Board of Directors has been asked if we would consider getting a Debit/Visa/Mastercard processing machine in our office. We would then be able to sell Grocery Cards, Tee-shirts, caps, books and tickets to events, etc. and not be limited to cash or cheques only. If you could let us know if this would be helpful or more convenient for you, we can do an analysis on retaining one.*

*These are all on-going fund-raising programs that are available to everyone.*

Please Contact us at The Lethbridge Association for Community Living  
527 – 6 Street South, Lethbridge, AB  
or call us at 327-2911  
Email: [mail@lethbridgeacl.org](mailto:mail@lethbridgeacl.org)

**To remove your name from our mailing list, please reply to [mail@lethbridgeacl.org](mailto:mail@lethbridgeacl.org) or call 327-2911**



LETHBRIDGE ASSOCIATION  
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## ***“Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration”***

***The date is coming up on July 16<sup>th</sup> and we are planning a BBQ to celebrate.***

***We have been lucky enough to book the Elk’s Compound for that date, which is a Monday. In our next bulletin, we will provide everyone will all of the details and a map for those who are not familiar with the riverbottom location.***

***Keep this date open and come and help us Celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***

### **Up-coming Bingo Dates**

May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007

Sunday Afternoon  
Saturday Afternoon

**Please contact Cathy McKenzie at 308-6676  
or call Lesley, Dave or Anne at  
LACL’s office # 327-2911**

**Your help is always appreciated in these events**



***We are very excited about a new project coming up for the end of this year. LACL is going to publish our own Christmas Cards. We need to get submissions from anyone who is interested. This can be a small painting, drawing, colored page or abstract art. Whatever you choose. What are***

***your thoughts on having an Art Day here at the office? Let us know. From these submissions we will choose at least 10 – 12 to publish this year. The rest will be used either later on or in another project which is being planned for early next year. We will also have our artists sign their artwork and that will also be on the cards, with their permission.***



***This is an exciting time for LACL and we are looking forward to working with our members and families on this project. Submissions need to be in our office no later than July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007 so that we have enough time to get this project completed.***

*The Lethbridge Association for Community  
Living*

*7th Annual Spring Fling  
Dinner Dance and Auction*



*Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007*

*Lethbridge Lodge, 320 Scenic Drive - Doors open at 5:30 pm  
Catering provided by the Lodge with Music by Southern  
Flyer*

*Tickets are \$30.00 for Adults / \$15.00 for children  
\$225.00 for a table of 8*

*Come and Celebrate with us  
with a Live Auction - Auctioneer John Perlich  
Master of Ceremonies - Mike Leblanc  
Join us for an enjoyable evening of fun and music*



*Please contact the LACL office at 527 – 6 Street S, Lethbridge, AB T1J 2E1, or call us  
at 403-327-2911,*

*if you have any items to donate  
for the Auction or to purchase tickets.*

*Thank you for your support.*

# FAMILY VOICES

Newsletter, April 2007

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## FAMILY VOICES UPDATE

Family Voices South has created an Inclusive Education Parent Advisory committee with School District 51, and is now in the process of creating one with the Holy Spirit School District. If your child is enrolled in the Holy Spirit School District and you would like to be a part of an advisory group on inclusive education, please contact Anne at 327-2911.

Family Voices South would like to congratulate and welcome Leigh Bremner on becoming the new Chief Executive Officer for persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD).

The University of Calgary and the Alberta Association for Community Living will be offering three half courses on Inclusive Education in July. If you would like more information on the 2007 Summer Institute on Inclusive Education, please contact Anne at 327-2911 or AACL at 1-800-252-7556

## We Want to Know...

Have any questions? Any concerns? Wondering about a program or Policy? Please let Family Voices know what information you would like to receive. This will help us in setting up workshops and providing information seminars and/or information evenings for parents. These topics can also be added to our newsletter or discussed at Family Voices meetings.

## Upcoming Meetings

### Medicine Hat

May 2, 2007 - Family Voices meeting in Medicine Hat @ 7 p.m. at The Holy Trinity Anglican Catholic Church - 402-12 Street NE.

South-East Co-Chair Dee Wagner will be presenting on Family Managed Supports and How to Hire a Caregiver.

June 6, 2007 - Family Voices meeting in Medicine Hat @ 7 p.m. at The Holy Trinity Anglican Catholic Church - 402-12 Street NE.

This will be our last meeting in Medicine Hat before summer break.

### Lethbridge

May 31, 2007 - Family Voices meeting in Lethbridge @ 7 p.m. at the LACL office - 527 6 Street South.

Leigh Bremner, CEO of PDD South will be present at this meeting to meet with and hear from families.

This will be our last meeting in Lethbridge before summer break.

***Family Voices meetings will resume in both Lethbridge and Medicine Hat in September 2007.***

If you would like to receive this newsletter via email please contact Anne - Thank you!

# Fridge Notes

## **May 2007**

- May 2 - Family Voices meeting in Medicine Hat
- May 5 - LACL Annual Dinner Dance and Auction
- May 6 - Bingo - afternoon
- May 8 - LACL Board Meeting
- May 16 - PDD Board Meeting in Lethbridge
- May 31 - Family Voices meeting in Lethbridge

## **June 2007**

- June 6 - Family Voices meeting in Medicine Hat
- June 7 - Bingo - evening
- June 12 - LACL Board Meeting
- June 20 - PDD Board Meeting in Medicine Hat
- June 24 - Bingo - afternoon

## **July 2007**

- July 16 - LACL 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration BBQ at the Elks Compound
- July 22 - Bingo - afternoon
- July 29 - Bingo - evening

## **August 2007**

- August 4 - Bingo - afternoon
- August 12 - Bingo - afternoon
- August 23 - Bingo - evening

**For more information on any of these meetings or events, please call LACL at (403)327-2911.**

I'm Bruce MacKay and I was honoured to be elected as LACL's new President at the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2007.

Let me introduce myself. I and my family have called Lethbridge home for (yikes) forty years. I attended the U. of L. first as a music major (I still play keyboards in the band "Southern Flyer") before finally graduating with a degree in Anthropology. I met Flora during a summer production of the musical *Godspell*. We ended up at University together, got married, and headed off to Boston where I did my Master's degree. Our eldest daughter, Elizabeth, was born there. Two years later we moved to Toronto where I did a PhD in Religious Studies at University of Toronto. We finally arrived back in Lethbridge and I began to teach at the U. of L. in a variety of subject areas, but mostly Religious Studies and Archaeology. I'm currently Coordinator of Liberal Education in the Faculty of Arts and Science.

Maggie, our youngest daughter, was born nine years ago. Since then she has been educating us about the challenges and rewards of life with Down syndrome. It is because of Maggie that I first became involved in LACL 7 years ago.

I have learned a great deal over this time, not only from Maggie, but also from the other families I have met in LACL, in the Alberta Association for Community Living, and in Planned Lifetime Advocacy Networks (PLAN), Vancouver. It is the courage, wisdom, experience and knowledge of families that impresses me most. This is evident through the 50 year history of LACL. It is something we will enthusiastically celebrate at the Dinner Dance (May 5) and during our Birthday BBQ (July 16) this year.

The LACL Board has always been fortunate to include committed and hard-working parents, brothers and sisters, and friends who are happy to take time out of their busy lives to make decisions about policies and directions for our Association. Many thanks to those who have finished their terms, Rob Anhelher, Kathy Elford, and Danni Hanna. Special thanks to Kathy for having watched over the books as Treasurer. And extra special thanks to Cara Milne who has done exceptional work as President and Past-President during a time when our Association has developed new activities and new partnerships with other organizations. Also special thanks to Tina Fowler who has been President for the past number of years and who now moves on in the role of Past-President.

Our new Board includes myself, Lori Litke, Christine Oosterhof, Chris Rowley, Bev Garnett, Pat Robb, Jennifer Howard, Darlene Mankow, and Brent Hanna. Lori Litke and Darlene Mankow.

We're also very fortunate to have such a dedicated staff, Dave, Anne, Tanya, and Lesley, who do fantastic work on behalf of families and individuals in so many ways: from advocacy and crisis support, to fund and partnership development, to just managing the day to day affairs of LACL. They provide the welcoming face of LACL that you see when you drop in the office. Many thanks to them for their commitment to our association and to our sons, daughters, family members, and friends with disabilities.

This year will be an exciting one. Fifty years ago parents and families created the Lethbridge Association for Community Living so they could work together to make a better world for their sons and daughters. Because of their efforts and the work of staff and countless volunteers, my daughter Maggie and many others have opportunities and will enjoy a quality of life they could not have enjoyed had they been born fifty years ago. Our Association has accomplished much over these past fifty years. But as long as inequalities and discrimination remain, as long as opportunities are denied our sons and daughters and brothers and sisters simply because of their disabilities, then families will have to continue to share and learn from their experiences, to fight against the systems that hurt our sons and daughters, and to work hard together to create changes in the minds and hearts of people in our communities.

Maybe in another fifty years disability will no longer be a reason for exclusion or discrimination. Let us continue to work for that.

“No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.”

Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962), Humanitarian, Social Reformer.