

**LETHBRIDGE ASSOCIATION FOR
COMMUNITY LIVING**

JANUARY 2004 BULLETIN UPDATE

Welcome to a new year for the Lethbridge Association for Community Living, one we hope will be filled with information, connections, gatherings and learning. We are starting by changing the format of our newsletters with shorter and more frequent versions. Our hope is to keep everyone informed with up-to-date information and news that is of importance to all of us. If you currently receive the Bulletin and would like to be removed from our mailing list, please call the office at 327-2911 so we can take care of it. We welcome both input and feedback and hope you enjoy the new Bulletin.

IMPORTANT MEETING

The proposed regulations for the new Family Support for Children with Disabilities Act are now available for families to review and comment on. It is important for families to know what changes may be taking place in the supports currently offered by Resources for Children with Disabilities. There are proposed changes for mileage, meals/accommodation, eligibility and equipment. LACL is holding an information evening for parents to learn more about the Act and what input they can have to ensure the supports offered are fair and equitable and meet the needs of families. Come to the Culver Room at City Hall in Lethbridge on Tuesday, January 27, at 7:00 p.m. and hear more about this important issue. Your voice must be heard.

**LACL ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2004, 7:00
P.M.**

**CULVER ROOM, CITY HALL
EVERYONE INVITED**

Did you know that LACL has 2 Parent Support Groups? Parents and family members are invited to attend one or both of these groups to get connected.

Parent-to-Parent February 9, 9:30 a.m.
Call the office at 327-2911 for the location.

Family Chat February 23, 7:00 p.m.
43 Laval Road West, Lethbridge.

Parents and family members are welcome.

LACL is always looking for volunteers to help with our fundraising events. Besides our ongoing bingo events we are selling tickets to the February 29 home game of the Lethbridge Hurricanes. This is a great opportunity for us to raise funds and help the community to know who we are. If you would like to buy some tickets, please call the office.

**"Alone we can do so
little, together we
can do so much."
Helen Keller**

As well, we are looking forward to our 4th Annual Dinner, Dance and Silent Auction on Saturday, April 17 at the LCC DA Electric Barn. We need tickets to be bought and sold and items for our silent auction. Call the office to give us a hand and help us to raise our much needed funds.

The next bingo events take place on January 25 and February 14. Please call Robert Nish at 381-0998 to offer your services.

We would like to pay respect at this time to a long-time supporter and member of LACL who passed away last year. Bill Secretan was a man who gave much of his time, energy, resources and passion to our Association. His wife, Pauline, and his four children were actively involved in the various programs and fund raising efforts of LACL. Bill served on the LACL Board of Directors, as President of the Association and also did work with the Alberta Association for Community Living. We will miss Bill and his humor and his conviction that individuals with developmental disabilities can live and participate in the community. Thank you Bill, Pauline and family for your support and your example. LACL is better for your contributions.

The Southern Alberta Individualized Planning Association (SAIPA) is currently looking for three volunteer board members. SAIPA is a not-for-profit organization with a mandate to provide support to individuals with developmental disabilities. If you are a self-advocate, a parent of a child or adult with a developmental disability, a lawyer, a business planner or a community member with an interest, please call Ron Burr at 327-9464.

Persons with Developmental Disabilities will be holding a Public Forum in Medicine Hat on Thursday, February 5. They would like to have the input of individuals and parents/guardians for their business plan. LACL will be glad to arrange carpools if you would like to attend. Please call the office for more information.

Don't forget about our resource library at the office. We have lots of books, videos, magazines and articles that are available for borrowing. Stop in today for a look.

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| <p>UPCOMING</p> <p>*Family Voices Meeting March 11, 2003 at the LACL Office.</p> <p>*AACL Family Conference March 19 & 20 in Edmonton. Details available soon.</p> | <p>Reminder that we have the <i>Safe & Secure Alberta Edition</i> books for sale at the office for \$29.95.</p> <p>For more information about Planned Lifetime Advocacy Networks (PLAN) call Tom Cain at 327-3365.</p> |
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To contact the office and LACL staff:
 Barbara Nish 327-2911
 Lindsay Caldwell 327-2911
 Tom Cain 327-3365
 Office Fax 320-7054

Thanks to Bruce MacKay for keeping our website up to date. If you haven't taken a look lately log on and see what is there. Website: <http://www.lethbridgeacl.org/>

Email: mail@lethbridgeacl.org

“One’s life has value as long as one attributes value to the life of others, by means of love, friendship and compassion.” Simone De Beauvoir

posted: January 21, 2004