

# CENTRAL ALBERTA CHILD ADVOCACY CENTRE



## MESSAGE FROM CEO

Since the Sheraton Celebrity Dance Off last year, we've had a tremendous shift in how we, as a collective community, respond to abuse. The original dream of the coalition was to create a centre where we would work in integrated practice under one roof. Now that we are housed in our temporary location, we have seen this dream come to fruition in such a short period of time. This is a testament to the unbelievable progress that happens when passionate members of the community rally together to deal with children and youth who have been subjected to any form of maltreatment.

The incorporation of the Central Alberta Child Advocacy Centre in May 2017 saw us working with our working partners to form a multi-disciplinary team of professionals who work together on a daily basis to empower children, youth and families through treatment, recovery and support while dealing with abuse.

As an organization, we are excited to continue building and strengthening partnerships through community outreach, service delivery, training, research and educational advancement. We are ecstatic to take another step forward in becoming a centre of excellence, offering opportunities for advanced education students to be able to learn and develop skills that will help them move forward in their educational and professional careers. Potential collaborations with Red Deer College will provide a promising future in post secondary education and will demonstrate the role that students play in making our society a better place.

Thank you for the outpouring of support this community has shown and continues to provide in our collective battle against child abuse. Sincerely,

Mark Jones, CEO

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

The Board of Directors of the Central Alberta Child Advocacy Centre is thrilled at how the centre has evolved over the past two years. The CACAC was started due to a significant increase of teen and young adolescent suicides in the City of Red Deer and surrounding area. Youth suicide was very much an epidemic and still is an epidemic in Central Alberta.

With guidance from the Sheldon Kennedy Child Advocacy Centre, we learned the effects of childhood trauma and the issues presented among youth due to such trauma were linked to depression, suicide, self-harm, homelessness, school drop-out, sexual ideology and violence. It was apparent the CAC would put us on the right path to prevention of suicide and many other social issues.

Once completed, the Central Alberta Child Advocacy Centre will be a centre for everyone affected by childhood trauma and mental health. Through the building of relationships with our key partners and Indigenous Bands of Central Alberta, this integrated and collaborative approach will be a strong, transparent model to which we see the most profound effect on children's lives.

In looking toward the future, we hope to continue serving the needs of the most vulnerable people in our community... our children. We could not be where we are today without the support of the people around us.

Terry Loewen, Board Chair

## ABOUT THE CENTRAL ALBERTA CHILD ADVOCACY CENTRE

The Central Alberta Child Advocacy Centre is a not for profit organization that works in an integrative partnership with the Central Region Child Services, Alberta Health Services, Alberta Justice, Alberta Education and the RCMP to better service children, youth and families impacted by sexual abuse and the most serious/complex cases of physical abuse and neglect.

Working collaboratively in a culturally relevant and trauma-informed system, we achieve greater results than any partner could on their own. It blends investigation, treatment, prevention, education and research with expertise to provide an integrated practice approach wrapping around children and always working in the best interests of the child.

## OUR PARTNERS

Alberta Health Services Acute Care  
AHS Mental Health and Addictions  
Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
Ministries of Children's Services  
Alberta Justice  
Alberta Education  
Red Deer College  
CA Sexual Assault Support Centre  
First Nations Communities

# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

## \$8,000,000



The Central Alberta Child Advocacy Centre is embarking on a major capital campaign of \$8,000,000 for a stand-alone building to be opened late 2019. We are committed to becoming a Centre of Excellence specializing in leading practices, training, research, community awareness and education in trauma-informed care and integrated child abuse practice.

It is our goal to have not only the CACAC located in the building, but house a team of multi-disciplinary professionals, the Central Alberta Sexual Assault Support Centre, and Alberta Health Services Mental Health to ensure that this new centre is a one-stop destination with complete wrap around services for all those who are impacted by abuse, neglect, maltreatment and mental health issues.

### BUILDING NOT EXACTLY AS SHOWN



## INVESTIGATION, TREATMENT, PREVENTION, AWARENESS

In collaboration with Red Deer College, leaders from both organizations have committed to explore the development of training, professional development, credit and non-credit education programs and research opportunities related to child advocacy services and education.

This partnership will provide promising and exciting advancements in education and demonstrate the role students play in making our society a better place.

## FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

The CACAC has been working diligently with the First Nation Bands located in Maskwacis, along with Children's Services and Alberta Education to minimize barriers and provide integrated practice to these communities. We feel it is imperative to engage and support our First Nations communities, as their area has been affected by the highest numbers of Child Abuse.

Future relations with Sunchild and O'Chiese First Nations are being pursued in anticipation of continuing our commitment to provide integrated services to all in Central Alberta. This initiative is integral to provide wrap around services to First Nation children, youth and families with the support needed to receive help, the feeling of hope to move beyond trauma, and the opportunity to heal.

*40% of Indigenous people self-reported experiencing some form of childhood physical and/or sexual maltreatment before the age of 15 compared to their non-Indigenous counterparts (29%)*

## 2018 FUNDRAISERS

HOME LOTTERY Fall 2018

BATTLE OF ALBERTA  
GOLF TOURNAMENT AUG 8-9  
SERVICE GROUP FUNDRAISERS  
ROTARY EAST GALA LUAU

If you are interested in learning more about any of these events or other fundraising activities, please contact Terry Loewen at [terry@abbeyplatinum.ca](mailto:terry@abbeyplatinum.ca)

## ONE COLLECTIVE COMMUNITY RESPONDING TO CHILD ABUSE

Partnering with the CACAC gives you the opportunity to join with all of our key partners in changing the lives of children, youth and families throughout Central Alberta. Join in the collective battle against child abuse.

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