



RANCH EHRLO SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Issue 94 November 2017

Anniversaries

2017 – to some, it’s a year on the calendar. To us at Ranch Ehrlo, 2017 has had a lot of special significance attached to it! This year marks many different anniversaries throughout our agency.

Our Buckland campus celebrated its 20th year in operation while Corman Park marked 10 – that’s 30 combined years, and even more lives changed!

On the community services side, 2017 means Ehrlo Sport Venture’s first free-of-charge league, the Outdoor Hockey League (OHL), is 25, and its unique sports-equipment lending library celebrated its 20th year.

Buckland campus



Cutting the cake (l to r), Andrea Brittin, Ingrid Sinoski, Kevin Mugford, and Malcolm Neill

Buckland celebrated its 20th year in September. The event kicked off with organized tours of the campus and a demonstration of equine assisted learning. After speeches from staff, senior leadership, and youth, the evening wrapped up with a round dance and barbeque.

Corman Park campus

Corman Park celebrated its 10th anniversary on October 13th on campus. The event featured a barbeque, speeches, and even a jumpy castle.

Ehrlo Sport Venture

Ehrlo Sport Venture celebrated the library and the league’s anniversary with a community gathering on October 14th. The event was held at the library in Regina. The street was closed down during the afternoon to allow for a barbeque, tents, chairs, games, and sports demonstrations.



Youth practicing their football skills at Ehrlo Sport Venture anniversary

Annual General Meeting



Andrea Brittin, Cyril Kesten, and Debbie McKague

On Sept. 27th, the Ranch Ehrlo Society Annual General Meeting was held in Regina.

The meeting was called to order by outgoing board chair Debbie McKague. After welcoming everyone, she gave the board chair report, highlighting the approval of a multi-year capital plan, this year's focus on safety throughout the agency, and the amalgamation of Ranch Ehrlo Society, RES&E Holding Corporation, and Ehrlo Child and Family Services. McKague took the opportunity to thank the board, CEO and president Andrea Brittin, and the rest of the Ranch Ehrlo executive, and to welcome incoming chair Laurel Garven before concluding her report.

In delivering her CEO report, Andrea Brittin highlighted the expansion of the Family Treatment and Treatment Foster Care programs, and the creation of a day-student program for autistic students in Corman Park. She also noted the successful roll out of our new compensation framework, and the introduction to the CARE (Children and Residential Experiences: Creating Conditions for Change) model that the agency is currently working to implement.



Jack Holden

This year's keynote speakers were CARE support team members Jack Holden and Anton Smith, who presented

on trends in residential treatment in North America.

Vice president of finance and administration Lori Mann presented a review of the agency's financial statements, noting that the agency is in a "very stable financial position."



We've had a very busy, very productive, and very successful year.

Andrea Brittin in opening her CEO report



As a wrap-up, exiting board members Mark Guillet and Dr. Cyril Kesten were thanked for their contributions, while new members Hiedi Person and Dr. Louise Greenberg were welcomed to the board.

Hudson renovations and expansion



Staff reviewing renovation plans

As our agency grows, the need for additional office and training space has become apparent. Thus, design work is currently underway for the renovation of the Hudson Administration Building at Pilot Butte campus. The plans also call for a building addition.

Details are still being finalized, but the work will consist of accessible washrooms, and replacement of mechanical and lighting systems, as well as upgrades to the kitchen/lunchroom and the central administration area.

The multi-purpose addition will be added on the south-east side of the building and will be approximately 1,500 sq. feet (the current building is 5,700 sq. feet). The addition will be able to accommodate training, meetings, receptions, and numerous other activities. It will be accessible from the Hudson Building during the day but also have a separate entrance to accommodate activities in the evening and on weekends.

Completion of the project is scheduled for April 2018.

CVEP recommendations

The Community Vocational Education Program (CVEP) is in the process of making enhancements to the program that will better meet the needs of this group of young people and adults.

The program provides a variety of pre-vocational and vocational services designed to assist people with mental and/or psychological disabilities



develop and improve work skills and work attitudes.

Following an operational review last spring, made up of a cross-section of 20 employees, several recommendations were released and acted upon.

The biggest change was the creation of three distinct programs: Life Skills Education Program (LSEP), Vocational Training Employment Program (VTEP) and Supported Employment Program (SEP).

These three programs are based on specific goals relating to each area. For LSEP, the focus for clients is on life skills, leisure and recreation opportunities, training, and skill development. For the new VTEP program, the focus is on life skills, vocational training and skill development, and supervised vocational activities. Employment opportunities and training is the driving factor behind the SEP program.

“Clients are moved to the new programs based on their assessments,” explained Corinna Hayden-Fidler, VP of Education. “Treatment will be consistent with the Ranch’s philosophy and approach of being person centred with transformational service delivery focused on outcomes.”

Teaming up for new treads

Thanks to a generous grant provided by Canadian Tire’s JumpStart, 46 participants in Ehrlo Sport Venture’s Monday Night Football League (MNF) received brand new shoes.



“Everyone should have shoes that fit properly, and for the kids in our programs these shoes will allow them to fully participate,” explained Sport Venture manager Amanda McConnell.

On September 25th, staff from Sport Chek (which is owned by Canadian Tire) were on hand at Ehrlo Sport Venture library outfitting the kids with their new kicks. The youth were identified by indicating on their MNF registration forms that they needed shoes to be able to participate, or were brought to Amanda’s attention through the Sport Venture’s partnership with DreamBrokers.

DreamBrokers is a program through Sask Sport and Sask Lotteries. Staff are placed into four different schools in North Central Regina to help facilitate participation in extracurricular activities for families and children.

“Treatment will be consistent with the Ranch’s philosophy and approach of being person centred with transformational service delivery focused on outcomes.”

-Corinna Hayden-Fidler, vice-president of education

Ehrlo Counselling partnership

Ehrlo Counselling has recently formed a partnership with the Autism Resource Centre (ARC). The partnership will see Ehrlo Counselling employees fill gaps in ARC’s clients access to mental health services, as well as help support parents of ARC clients through psychoeducation sessions based on mental health issues that they or their children may be coping with.

The agreement was initiated by ARC, which received a grant to develop and facilitate a program aimed at helping its members address mental health issues through a variety of modalities, including counselling services.

“We were noticing that our young adults were coming to us with a variety of mental health needs, and we were unable to support them in ways they were requiring,” explained Chanda Winter, ARC program director.

Ehrlo Counselling clinical manager Janet Miller stated, “Part of our mission is to help fill in some of these gaps, and help provide services to folks who need them but may face barriers to getting them.”

Some of the barriers faced by ARC clientele could be around lack of transportation to appointments, anxiety about being in an unfamiliar area, or seeing a clinician who may not have experience with clients on the

spectrum.

By having a counsellor come directly to the Centre, some of these issues are mitigated. As such, Ehrlo Counselling contract clinician Cheryl Hymus-Fraser, who has experience working with autistic clients, will go to ARC for six hours every two weeks to provide on-site counselling services for their clients.

Additionally, Ehrlo's Dave Wiebe will be providing psychoeducation sessions to parents of ARC clientele at their monthly support meetings. Topics include grief, anxiety, depression, or addictions.

The initiative is currently slated to run from October 16 to June 1, 2018.

Outcomes released



We strive to help each of our clients live the best possible life by reaching their full potential – but how do we know if we're succeeding? We get feedback in many ways but perhaps the truest measure of success comes from hard and fast statistics and surveys – numbers don't lie, after all. This is

where our yearly Outcomes Report comes in.

Each year, we remain accountable to referring agencies, families, and the communities we work with by providing this report. The statistics, anecdotes, and data within this document look at nearly every aspect of our agency and show both where we have succeeded and where we could use improvement – because recognizing our weaknesses only allows us to improve upon them year after year. The full report is available online at www.ehrlo.com.

Donation



Regina landlord Michael Lee was inspired to raise \$3,350 for Ranch Ehrlo through a competition at the Casino Regina's Charity Championship. (left to right) Carole Bryant, director of governance and corporate services, Ranch Ehrlo, Michael, Lori Mann, vice president of finance and administration, Ranch Ehrlo, and Kira Novak, Community Relations Officer, SaskGaming.

Monday Night Football



Members of the Saskatchewan Roughriders and the Regina Riot were on hand to kick off the 2017 season of Monday Night Football in new Mosaic Stadium.

FASD



On September 8th – one day before the official nationally-recognized Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Awareness Day – citizens of Regina came together to mark the occasion with a walk. For the second year running, some of Ranch Ehrlo's clinical consultants joined approximately 100 others to walk, as many of the clients we work with are faced with FASD.

TFC workshop



The Treatment Foster Care program kicked off its fall programming by hosting the first of four scheduled family workshops. This year's workshops focus on culture.

CARE kickoff



Our senior staff recently took part in a four day CARE (Children and Residential Experiences: Creating Conditions for Change) leadership retreat in Regina. The agency has recently begun working to implement the CARE model to our existing framework.