



RANCH EHRLO SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

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Olympian delivers inspiring message

It was just another day at Schaller school on Pilot Butte campus until RBC Olympian Halli Krzyzaniak showed up to deliver an inspiring message.

Krzyzaniak, 23, hails from small-town Manitoba. She began skating at the age of four. It didn't take her long to realize she wanted to play hockey, but there was no girls' team. This was Krzyzaniak's first challenge – to play, she'd have to join the boys' team, and it wasn't easy being accepted.

At 13, Krzyzaniak made the decision to pursue her hockey career – and it paid off in spades. She was offered a spot on the Canadian U18 Women's National Team. Despite this success, her main goal was to play on Team Canada at the Winter Olympics in Sochi.

All seemed to be going well – the top 28 players from the team were chosen to move to Calgary to train for the Winter Olympics.

"I'd been playing really well and I felt confident they were going to tell me I would be going to South Korea to play at the Winter Games," Krzyzaniak recalled. "Except – they didn't."

Instead of being invited to play, Krzyzaniak was released from the roster.

"Through that devastation, I found out how strong I truly am, and I found out what made me, me," she said.

Her message to the youth was simple, but powerful.

"Throughout my career, I learned that anything is really possible – all it takes is visualizing your possibilities, leaning on your teammates, friends, and family, and having the courage to carve out your own ice."

"My advice? Strap on your skates and head in the direction that you want to go."

Community volunteering

Youth at Buckland campus once again lent a hand to help the community. Youth from Matheson House jumped out of bed early Saturday morning for the cause. The crew, led by youth care worker Kimberley



RBC Olympian Halli Krzyzaniak
presenting at Schaller Education Centre.

Johnson, volunteered to set up for the city's annual Relay For Life.

The work the Ranch crew accomplished did not go unappreciated.

"A special thanks to the folks from Ranch Ehrlo for all the help," said Garth Beddome of the Kiwanis Club, which hosts the Relay each year.

Volunteer opportunities like Relay For Life help the youth build relationships in the community and allow them to get some work experience which they may not receive at home, as well as helps to build self-esteem.

One month away

We are counting down the days to our third annual powwow. Ranch Ehrlo's powwow is a celebration of life! Join us on August 30th.

Our powwow will be competitive style – cash prizes will be given out to the top dancers in each age group/dance category. We will also be hosting a family style carnival, and will be providing a hamburger supper free of charge.

A special thank you to all our sponsors including our event sponsors: TransCanada, Signature Printit, SGI, Welldone Mechanical Services, Casino Regina, and Beyond Wealth Management.

Youth participate in community powwow

It was fitting that some of Buckland powwow club's young people had the opportunity to dance in the inaugural Heart of the Youth community powwow on May 25th. The powwow, organized in part by the Saskatchewan Rivers School Division as a way to bring back the once-annual community school powwow, was held in Kinsmen Park.



In spite of less than ideal weather, over 100 people attended to watch the 50+ youth, including three youth from the agency, dance.

"The girls we took made me so proud," said powwow club coordinator Ryanda Thunderchild. "They were a little shy, but they were just happy to get out there and dance."

CARE moment: Fan Expo

If you've seen our 2018-19 Art from the Heart calendar, you're likely familiar with the youth in this story. Her art is featured in the calendar (turn to October to see her talent), but she was too shy to attend the calendar unveiling earlier this year.

Since then, teacher Josh Hughes has been working with her to bring up her confidence, using CARE principles (Children And Residential Experiences: Creating Conditions for Change) such as competence centered activities and building strong relationships with staff.

The agency has recently begun implementing the CARE residential program model developed by Cornell University to our existing framework to improve our services for clients.

“It was definitely worth it because she still is happy about it. It gave her a lasting memory.”

Pita Tuiloma, youth care worker

A unique opportunity presented itself to help her step into the spotlight. Hughes was able to secure tickets for her and a residential staff member to attend Fan Expo in Regina, a pop culture event highlighting anime and comics.

Although not on shift, youth care worker Pita Tuiloma stepped in to accompany the youth to the Fan Expo.

"I just decided I'd take her myself because it was a once in a lifetime opportunity for her," Tuiloma said. "There was one person she really

wanted to see, a voice actor from one of her favourite anime shows, and she knew she'd be there, so she was really excited.”

As for being tired, Tuiloma was willing to overlook it.

“It was definitely worth it because she still is happy about it. It gave her a lasting memory.”

Through CARE principles, children, youth, adults, families, and employees work together to achieve their full potential.

Buckland youth graduation

Ranch youth Julie* had an exciting month of June as she graduated from Wesmor Highschool in Prince Albert.

Julie, who has been with the northern programs since September of 2013, and has attended the alternative education program at Wesmor for the past four years. She has successfully completed four work placement programs in various areas.

“Her success at school can be attributed to her internal motivation, as well as support from staff, teachers, and most importantly, our educational support staff Jody Wiesner,” said caseworker Rachelle Lavoie-Stumpf.

Next year, Julie plans to enter the workforce and possibly attend a community work experience program.

**name changed*

Staff movement

It is with mixed emotions that we announce the retirement of Dr. Walter Leckett from Ehrlo Counselling Services and the departure of two directors at the agency, Carmel Kleisinger and Allison Wills, and the addition of Janet Miller to the senior leadership.

Leckett, a Registered Doctoral Psychologist, was at the agency for over eight years. During this time, he offered clinical services to adults, couples, and families in the community and within our agency.

Kleisinger had been with Ranch Ehrlo Society for 24 years. Her contributions include the development of the solvent abuse program and she was instrumental in establishing the dynamic psychological assessments.

Wills has been with the Ranch for three years, in the role of director of human resources. During her short tenure she has had a significant impact on the HR team and its contributions to the success of the Ranch.

Miller, who joined the senior management team, has 21 years experience

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-Rachelle Lavoie-Stumpf, caseworker”

with Ranch Ehrlo. For the past few years, Miller, a Masters prepared clinical social worker, has been a clinical manager at Ehrlo Counselling Services.

Awards Nights



Awards Night south

Each of our clients are special in their own right. At our annual Awards Night, we take the time to recognize their outstanding achievements and exemplary effort throughout the year, whether it's academic, athletic, or somewhere in between.

On June 13th, staff, clients, and families gathered at our new venue, the Turvey Centre, for the southern programs' Awards Night. Awards were handed out for academics, athletics, social development, creative arts, and finished with the President's trophies.



Awards Night north (holder)

The adult clients in the Programs for Persons with Developmental Disabilities held their awards night on June 15th. The festivities were held at the Italian Club.

Awards Night season wrapped up in Prince Albert on June 21st at the Art Hauser Centre with youth from Buckland and Corman Park, as well as their families, in attendance.

Direct intake change

In the past, youth new to the Ranch often entered the program through the Pilot Butte campus and after a period of stabilization, were moved to homes in the city. As part of our CARE initiative, the Ranch expanded its youth intake programs to homes within the city of Regina.

This expansion reduces the number of moves and disruptions youth in our care experience and builds stronger relationships between youth and staff. Additionally, the Pilot Butte campus is no longer as removed from the city limits and does not have the same protective factors that once existed.

This will not eliminate some youth attending the main campus for intake and stabilization. Placement decisions will focus on the client's needs, the mandate of the programs, and whether or not the individual is best suited for a home located inside or outside city limits.

“We are committing to less placement disruption for the vulnerable individuals in our care, and have the opportunity to positively impact attachment and trusting relationships,” said Dr. Bree Fiissel, VP of clinical services.

Southern 3-mile



Ranch Ehrlo's southern programs held their 50th annual 3-mile race. This year a dunk tank was set up for youth to try their hand at giving staff a great cool down! To add an extra celebratory flair, each participant was gifted with a finisher's medal and race kit.

Northern 3-mile



The northern programs' youth and staff made an impressive showing at their 10th annual Buckland and Corman Park combined 3-mile race held in Corman Park.

New baseball league



The new Ehrlo Baseball Rookie League, made possible through a partnership with the Toronto Blue Jays' Jays Care Foundation, officially kicked off in June.

Cinco de Mayo



The Regina and Pilot Butte youth representative council held a Cinco de Mayo celebration on Pilot Butte campus. This is the 4th year for the popular event.

The greatest show



The greatest show, a circus-themed music show, featured the clients of Ranch Ehrlo's vocational programs playing to a full house in June.

Science fair



If you were ever curious about tornados or soundwaves you would've only had to visit Schaller school during their annual science fair. Experiments were judged by a panel which included two agency caseworkers and Dr. Xia Ji, an associate professor of science education at the University of Regina (above).