



developmentally  
focused

family involved

relationship based

trauma informed

competence centred

ecologically oriented

## Cookie campaign for Sport Venture

This holiday season was a little bit sweeter thanks to Ehrlo Sport Venture being chosen as the charity of choice for the Tim Hortons Holiday Smile Cookie campaign.

During the week of December 5th to 11th proceeds of the cookie sales sold in Regina, Balgonie, Indian Head, and Emerald Park went to Sport Venture to help fund the five free recreational leagues for youth (football, soccer, baseball, basketball, and hockey).

“We were extremely grateful to Tim Hortons stores in Regina, Balgonie, Indian Head, and Emerald Park for your partnership and friendship. These stores are locally owned by families, who like us, are passionate about making a difference in our community,” said Gloria Patrick, Ehrlo Sport Venture manager.

To celebrate the campaign, Ehrlo Sport Venture also held an open house on December 9th.

## Breaking out of comfort zones

Thanks to the Community Lottery Tickets program at Globe Theatre, a participant in our Supportive Living Program (SLP) had the opportunity to step out of their comfort zone and into the arts.

Ranch Ehrlo Society supports persons



Special guests kicking off our cookie campaign



with differing abilities by providing group living, educational, and vocational programs to people with multiple, complex developmental needs in our SLP programs. Care and support are focused on person-centered and strength-based services.

Greg\*, an SLP participant, had never been to a play but as a die-hard Rider fan, the #34 play at Darke Hall about the life of George Reed was right up his alley. When Ranch Ehrlo received free tickets to the play it was a perfect opportunity for Greg to try a new experience and have the opportunity to wear his Rider green.

“For our participants who have been at Ranch Ehrlo for a number of years and who depend on their structures and routines, it can be difficult to introduce new events and activities, but there are so many benefits to taking chances and trying new things!” explained Jacqui Wong, caseworker at Ranch Ehrlo.

The success of Greg attending the performance was largely due to the relationship he has with staff, specifically personal support worker Brenda Bulych. Greg initially experienced a lot of anxiety about the fact he had never been to a play before, about the icy conditions, that he didn’t know who would be there, and that he was concerned he would fall on the stairs. With reassurance and support, Bulych was able to get him to the performance and encourage him to enjoy his time there.

Wong added that supporting our participants as they step out of their comfort zones can help to develop their self-confidence as well as their sense of pride and self-esteem once they have tried a new activity.

“Taking a risk and trying something new can be an excellent opportunity for personal growth,” she concluded.

*\*Name changed for privacy*



## Art from the Heart reception

Ranch Ehrlo’s artists showed off their artistic achievements at the 18th annual Art from the Heart calendar reception on Dec. 14th.

The calendar was unveiled, and the artists had the opportunity to showcase their work and sign autographs for those in attendance. This year 16 works of art were included in the calendar. After the signing, guests and artists were treated to a table of goodies.

Each year the calendars are printed and distributed to Ranch youth, staff, board members, and partnering agencies.

## Gang prevention and the Ranch

Gangs are a reality in our province, and unfortunately, they sometimes involve Ranch participants.

Ranch Ehrlo Society teamed up with the Ministry of Social Services (MSS) and the Regina Police Service (RPS) to provide training to Ranch staff on how to recognize gang involvement and how to help youth avoid recruitment.

Gangs are able to recruit vulnerable youth because gangs offer a sense of family and belonging that the youth feel are lacking in their lives. Fortunately, there is a way to impede youth from joining gangs or encourage them to leave the gang lifestyle-relationships.

“

Using creativity, we can create the tools we need to steer these youth in a better direction. We can create a ‘family’ for them by building relationships, so they don’t need gangs for that sense of belonging,

- Wanda Remple, MSS

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Staff providing a Ranch “family” by building meaningful relationships and being positive role models all help to deter the attraction of gangs.

Wanda Remple, supervisor, community response unit at the MSS said that the ministry and Ranch Ehrlo can make a difference by supporting each other in the endeavour to save children from gangs.

“Using creativity, we can create the tools we need to steer these youth in a better direction. We can create a ‘family’ for them by building relationships, so they don’t need gangs for that sense of belonging,” she explained.

Staff at the Ranch can use the meaningful relationships they develop with the youth to identify why they’re susceptible and divert them away from the gang lifestyle.

## Improvement initiative

Ranch Ehrlo is one of ten organizations chosen by the Ministry of Social Services’ Community Living Service Delivery (CLSD) to participate in a pilot project to improve the services to people with differing abilities.

The Ranch is excited to be one of the first organizations selected to participate in this initiative.

“It will be great to have a person-centred outcome measure of the quality of life and quality of services from the perspective of people living in the Ranch’s Supported Living homes  
- David Rivers, vice-president of clinical services”

For many of our participants, the Ranch is their home, and we want to make sure they have the best quality of life possible.

CLSD has adopted an outcomes-based service delivery (OBSD) approach. It helps service providers achieve a positive and sustained impact on the lives of people with differing abilities.

An OBSD approach is a person-centred approach with clear expected results with measurable outcomes. It is “made in Saskatchewan” and builds on past work in our province.

David Rivers, vice-president of clinical services said, “It will be great to have a person-centred outcome measure of the quality of life and quality of services from the perspective of people living in the Ranch’s Supported Living homes.”

Ryan Labatt, director of quality improvement agreed. He also sees this approach as a very promising initiative from CLSD that will benefit the quality of life of the people who reside in Ranch Supported Living Program homes.

Ranch Ehrlo is in the first group of care providers to participate in this pilot project which will be completed in March 2023.

Full implementation of the project will take two to three years.

## Travelling trees



Buckland trees travelled to Pilot Butte in a north-meets-south gesture to make a cultural point.

A symbolic teepee is now one of the teaching stations on the new path to reconciliation being constructed at the Pilot Butte campus. The path is called mamawi-pimohtetan which in Cree means “walking all together.”

It all started with some trees that needed to be removed from the Buckland campus.

James Westerman, director of property management decided that the trees would be peeled and sent to Pilot Butte and upcycled to build the symbolic teepee for the path.

There were eight 24-foot-long trees, and it was very labour-intensive. Two youth from Matheson House and one from Klassen House helped with the task.

Philip Nothey, seasonal maintenance worker





explained, “The youth faced it head on. They showed a great work ethic when they were shown how to properly peel the trees.”

He was happy the youth were helping because he enjoys sharing his knowledge and experience, especially about this particular activity.

From the project came a beautiful teepee but even more important, strong relationships were forged. Even today the bond between Nothey and the youth is noticeable.

“It was really neat for me to see meaningful relationships build throughout the days between the youth and Phil,” said Chris Shynkaruk, manager of property management.

Ranch Ehrlo is guided by the CARE model which is a multilevel program aimed at improving services for youth in care. Three of the six principles are competence centred, developmentally focused, and relationship based.

These youth learned new skills within their abilities including teamwork. They built relationships with each other and the staff. Building meaningful relationships is vital for healing and growth.

When the youth were shown photos of the erected symbolic teepee at Pilot Butte, they were pleased with the result.

They were even discussing their ideas on how to make the next one bigger and better!

## Christmas parade



Ranch Ehrlo staff and participants got a special visit before Christmas on the Pilot Butte campus. Special thanks to Pokey's Tackle Shop for arranging the truck.

## Showing up



A Ranch Ehrlo youth was about to play her last volleyball game at her elementary school. She had the opportunity to do so in front of a packed crowd thanks to her teacher Randee Patton who contacted Ranch staff to come to the game and ‘pack the gymnasium’ to show our support.

## ECS open house



Ehrlo Counselling Services (ECS) recently held an open house to connect and network with current community stakeholders and potential stakeholders.

## Pawson Place



A new gazebo on Buckland campus was officially named Pawson Place to honour the late Geoff Pawson, founder of Ranch Ehrlo Society. A small ceremony was held in December with a camp fire hotdog lunch and a ribbon cutting.

## Goodbye Kevin



Kevin Mugford, director of Group Living Services in Prince Albert, retired after 11 years at the Ranch as an invaluable member of the Ranch Ehrlo team. We'll miss you Kevin!