



developmentally
focused

family involved

relationship based

trauma informed

competence centred

ecologically oriented

Successful COA visit

Ranch Ehrlo completed its final step in its year-long reaccreditation process to ensure that we continue to deliver the highest quality services to children, youth, adults, and families.

Peer reviewers from the Council on Accreditation (COA) visited Ranch Ehrlo from September 18th to 21st. COA is an international, non-profit human service accrediting organization that accredits more than 2,200 organizations. They review agencies based on a set of standards that are developed in conjunction with international subject matter experts.

The site visit follows an extensive self-study to evaluate all our processes. During the visit, a five-member team conducted on-site file reviews at the

agency's three campuses, toured various facilities in Regina, Prince Albert, and Moose Jaw, and conducted meetings and one-on-one interviews with dozens of staff, participants, and board members. Several members of the accreditation team had previously evaluated the Ranch.

"You don't always remember every organization you review but we remember yours because of the quality of your services," said Dale Peterson, COA team lead.



Grand entry at the 6th annual powwow which included The Honourable Russ Mirasty, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan and Her Honour Donna Mirasty (as seen at the front).



COA entrance meeting at the Kesten Centre on Pilot Butte campus

During the exit meeting on Sept. 22nd, Ranch employees gathered to hear comments from the COA peer review team. The five-person team consisted of Juanita Iwamoto, Bridget Leman, Amy Haile, Carl Hatch-Feir, and team lead Dale Peterson.

Common themes that emerged from the reviews included the review team's appreciation for the Ranch's commitment to best practices, and continuous improvement and learning with internal integrity seen throughout the agency.

During the exit meeting with Ranch leadership, Peterson said, "This is an amazing organization; it was a privilege to be here."

Haile said she was impressed with how quality improvement is in the DNA of the agency – it's woven through every aspect of the Ranch.

Leman said, "This visit was good for my soul."

She also expressed accolades for the calm and caring environments of the two northern campuses, and for our therapeutic camping program, which showed her what hope and resiliency can accomplish.

Ranch CEO Natalie Huber thanked the team at the end of their presentation and thanked the staff and board for the work they had accomplished getting to this point.

The agency is currently waiting for communication regarding any areas that

might need to be addressed. We expect to hear the final results of the reaccreditation process by the end of November 2023. Our next reaccreditation will be in 2027.

Truth and reconciliation experience

Jamie Lerat, Ranch Ehrlo Indigenous advisor, was invited to the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation commemorative ceremony at Parliament Hill in Ottawa on September 30th.

Lerat said, "The event was incredibly well-organized by the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR). It was empowering to be surrounded by a sea of orange shirts in a crowd of about 1,200 people. I felt such a connection and sense of belonging. I was honoured to have been invited."

She went on to say that it was a very impactful and powerful experience, and the scent of burning sweetgrass and sage was soothing.

"Ry Morin, the past executive director of the NCTR performed a beautiful and heartbreaking song while dozens of people made their way through the crowd carrying a huge banner displaying the names of all the children who didn't return from residential schools. There were 4,140 names on that banner along with the schools they attended. It was shocking how long it needed to be to display all the names, and I was overwhelmed with emotion at the sheer size of it," she said.

The overall message of the event was to never give up. Speakers urged all Canadians to embrace the day, make a commitment to educate themselves, and recognize and understand the need for the day. They said we can achieve reconciliation if we all work together.

"I think people should really pause and grasp what the day means. They should listen and reflect on what they will do for the rest of the year to advance reconciliation because this journey is more than a single day," said Lerat.



Left to right: Elder Shirley Wolfe-Keller, Governor General Mary Simon, Jamie Lerat

ECS pro bono services continue

We are pleased to announce that the Anonymous Donor Fund at the

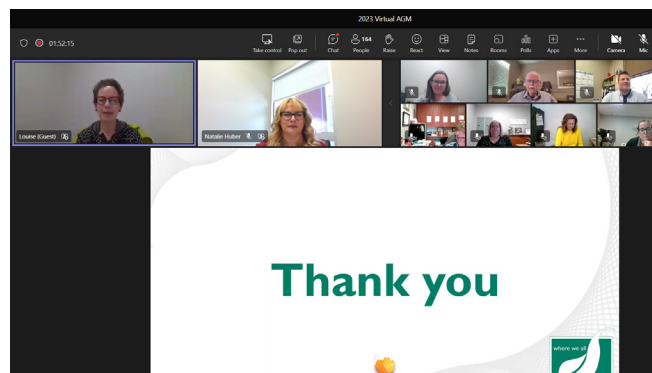
South Saskatchewan Community Foundation has provided Ehrlo Counselling Services (ECS) with \$50,000 for the 12th year. The funds will be used to provide pro-bono counselling for high-risk, vulnerable people in the community who require care for their mental health but are not able to afford to pay for these services.

Natashia Schoenroth, director of Ehrlo Counselling, said, “Because of these funds, last year Ehrlo Counselling was able to provide approximately 400 counselling sessions to over 100 persons and families within our community.”

She explained that service in the sessions included individual and family counselling, parenting support, psychoeducation, treatment planning, advocacy work and training around mental health issues, behavioural difficulties, identity work, relationship difficulties, grief, and loss.

“The need to serve our high-risk vulnerable persons in our community continues to be evident. Lower-income families, single-parent homes, persons with cognitive or developmental disabilities, and those with a comorbid diagnosis continue to be some of the vulnerable populations that we can serve,” Natashia explained. “Our thanks again for SSCF’s ongoing support to those most in need in our community.”

57th AGM



The 57th Ranch Ehrlo Society Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place virtually on September 20th.

Dr. Louise Greenberg, board chair, started the meeting with the

land acknowledgment of Treaty 4 and Treaty 6 territories. Greenberg, along with Ranch Ehrlo CEO Natalie Huber, then addressed the members to give them some highlights from the year. As we moved into post-COVID-19 recovery, Ranch Ehrlo saw the resumption of several in-person activities this past year. This included various events to strengthen cultural connections as we work towards our journey of truth and reconciliation.

Last September we also celebrated the 15th anniversary of the Corman Park campus and the 25th anniversary of the Buckland campus, with festivities at both locations.

“Employees in all areas of the agency were busy throughout the year preparing for two important milestones. The first was the agency

applying for CARE certification in June 2023. CARE is a multi-level program model aimed at improving services for children and youth in care. We received word in August that our application was successful. The second milestone is our reaccreditation with the Council on Accreditation. The Ranch has successfully been accredited by the Council on Accreditation since 1977,” Greenberg added.

The agency welcomed two new board members this fiscal year, Robin Clarke and Jordan Baptiste. Greenberg took the opportunity to thank retiring board members Greg Fieger and Peter Hoffmann for their valuable service. Additionally, a special thank you was given to board member Dave Hedlund who will be stepping down from his role as vice-chair but will remain an active member on the board.

This year’s special guest speaker was Tischa Stefanowski, executive director, Saskatchewan First Nations Family and Community Institute. She explained one of the roles of the institute is to help provide a general awareness and understanding of First Nations culture, tradition, history, and knowledge within child welfare.

Shelley Reddekopp, Ranch Ehrlo’s vice-president of support services, provided a high-level overview of 2022-2023 financial statements. Overall, the 2022-2023 financial results for the agency were positive with the year-end results providing a net surplus of just over \$2.1 million.

Thank you to our sponsors and donors

Thank you to all our incredible donors and sponsors who helped Ranch Ehrlo in the past two months:

The Giving Back Team - \$4,340

D&R Roofing - \$100

Anonymous staff from taco sales for participant fundraising trip- \$1,247

6th annual powwow

"We couldn't ask for a more beautiful day for a powwow," said Natalie Huber, Ranch Ehrlo CEO, following the grand entry.



Thank you to the dancers, drummers, volunteers, sponsors, and special guests who included The Honourable Russ Mirasty, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, Her Honour Donna Mirasty, the Honourable Gene Makowsky, Saskatchewan's Minister of Social Services, Elder Sidney Kay, Saskatchewan Advocate for Children and Youth Lisa Broda, members of the city, RCMP, and Regina Police Services, as well as Ranch Ehrlo board members Greg Fieger, Hirsch Greenberg, Peter Hoffmann, Dave Hedlund, Louise Greenberg, and Robin Clarke.

Appreciation social



Southern Treatment Foster Care families were celebrated at a recent appreciation social to show the Ranch's gratitude for their hard work over the last year. There are 12 families in Regina, Moose Jaw, and Caron, and all were at the social.

Budding artist



Robert Kaye, a Ranch Ehrlo participant in the Supported Living Program, had his artwork featured at the Inclusion Saskatchewan major fundraiser breakfast on Oct. 5th. He was supported at the event by Ranch staff and board (l to r) Jane Powell, Shelley Reddekopp, Pam Dmytriw, Robert, board member Jordan Baptiste, Joey Panko, and Malcolm Neill.

Thank you to our sponsors



Volleyball court



Our Corman Park campus has built a beach volleyball court! Appleton House recently visited and played a game with Welke House. Everyone who participated in this first game on the new court signed the ball.

Community fridge



The steady increase in the price of groceries led the Clinical Assessment and Resources Services team to prepare over 60 bagged lunches for the community fridge at Holy Rosary Cathedral in Regina.

Jam sale for Sport Venture



We would like to say a massive thank you to Bernadette and The Giving Back Jam Team for spreading the jam over Ranch Ehrlo Society and choosing Ehrlo Sport Venture as their charity of choice for this year's jam sale!