

Lethbridge Diversity and Inclusion Alliance (LDIA)
7th Gathering – December 12, 2019. 10:30 am- 12 pm. | Multicultural Center
Minutes

Participants-Shawn Singer, Amanda Scout, Penny Balfour, Laura Branner, Stasha Donahue, Tymmarah Mackie, Aileen Burke, Janelle Marietta, Sharon Yanicki, Jerry Firth, Victor Iyilade Jr., Amanda Jensen

1. Welcome and Recognition of Territory-Meeting opened with welcome and recognition of indigenous territory.
2. Blackfoot Prayer-Shawn opened with a prayer.
3. Introductions-Introductions made. Everyone checked in on how they are filling.
4. Updates

A) **Public Awareness Campaign Survey**-Aileen suggested that with future surveys we need to consider plain language in order to be inclusive. The survey was difficult to complete for one of our members. We will remind the consulting company of this. Tymmm has an inclusive language manual that can be used. There are other resources as well. The survey will be used to inform development of a resource guide. Laura is a resource for plain language.

ACTION: For plain language, we will send it through Aileen, Sharon and Anna. Jerry/Victor will connect with consultants to ask them to send the survey out in plain language. Will also recirculate the survey before Christmas in plain language to increase participation. Those who have completed it do not need to redo. Timeline: Sometime in January, 2020.

B) **Letter to the Editor (Calling Out Racist Rhetoric)-**

C) **Website**

Looked at moving forward with the website. Jerry will start on the website over the holiday break because he did not say no. Will be various links on the page as well as meeting notes etc.

ACTION: Jerry would like to get feedback at the January meeting. URL is

www.ldiayql.com

Facebook page is a source of LDIA info in the meantime.

<https://www.facebook.com/LethbridgeDIA/>

5 Business

A) **Multiculturalism, Indigenous and Inclusion Grant Program**

There is a grant coming up from provincial funding source:

<https://www.alberta.ca/multiculturalism-indigenous-and-inclusion-grant-program.aspx>

We will look at applying for the March 1, 2020 intake. The Multiculturalism, Indigenous and Inclusion Grant Program supports initiatives and projects that builds intercultural awareness, and understanding. The Program fosters cultural awareness in communities across the province, and an appreciation and celebration of Indigenous peoples and multicultural society in Alberta. The Program strives to create a province where people feel included and that their cultures and heritage is valued.

ACTION: *Janelle and Aileen will work on a proposal to the above to support the awareness campaign and the website and a recording of Shawn doing the land acknowledgement that we could play at meetings. They will aim for the January 7th submission date. Janelle will also pull a list of future funding sources together.*

B) Partnership with the City-Need to develop a MOU with the city so that the relationship is well defined.

ACTION: Aileen, Shawn, Victor, Tymmm and Amanda will draft the MOU. They will bring it to the next meeting for review.

C) Inclusion Charter Strategy-Have had the mayor sign and Katherine Chubbs who is the Chief Zone Officer for AHS South Zone. Shawn suggested we have a sticker that indicates that organizations and businesses are safe places and have signed the charter. Right now we will focus on messaging with the charter. Next year we will focus on a call to action.

Could we challenge other organizations to sign the charter as well? Issue a challenge and use those who have signed as examples to others and encourage signing. This is a point of leverage.

ACTION: Discuss again at next meeting.

6 Discussion/Roundtable

A) Social Health Equity Network –Amanda presented on the Social Health Equity Network of Lethbridge & Area. She presented the draft terms of reference. This is a group that will address poverty and other related issues as the previous Vibrant Lethbridge group has been disbanded.

The vision for the group is as follows: *Engaged individuals, groups, agencies and sectors joined through collaborative action for social equity and well-being of people in Lethbridge and area.*

Amanda invited interested groups of this group to participate. WE need to consider collective impact of both groups.

The collective efforts of both groups could be synergistic.

Going forward we could have a standing item on each other's agenda so we maintain communication.

ACTION: Jerry and Victor come to the next SHENLA meeting so that SHENLA and members can sign.

- 7 Close meeting. Next meeting could have Sharon Yanicki present on the Current State of Poverty in Lethbridge for the Lunch and Learn.

Lunch N Learn-Aileen Burke is presenting on Hate Crimes & Discrimination and the Disability Community.