

# The LINK

June 2013



**Learning  
Inclusion  
Networking  
X-cellence**

## "Just so you know!"...

**AGM!** The AGM has been set for Wednesday April 19, 2013 at 7:00. If you wish to place your name on the ballot for election, or know of someone that would, please contact the Election Chair Laurie T 780-789-3350 or Ingrid 780-955-5543.

**Scent Free!** The LINX office is now scent free!! Please be respectful when you come into the office, and do not be wearing perfumes, body sprays, and other items that make some of our people sick. Thanks!!

## Board Chair Report

The AGM will be held on June 19, 2013 at 7 pm at LINX. This is going to be a very important meeting. As most of you are aware there are some cuts being made by PDD that will affect our loved ones. Nicole and her management staff have been working very hard to try and comply with the new budget, and the cuts that have to be made. There will be some changes to the client's services that they will find hard to understand. We will have someone at the meeting, from PDD to help explain the changes.

We are going to have to look for ways and means to make up some of the short falls. Fundraising is going to be more important than ever! Unfortunately, at this time the fundraising seems to fall to just a few people. We need more people to step up to the plate and do their part. Another option which, some of the Agencies are already using is to have a monthly user fee. Maybe we need to do something like many of the sport clubs do, where you pay a fee.

As you can see it is a critical time for the LINX, and your input is important.

This will be my last report as Board chair, my term is up in June. I will still be on the Board as past chair.

I would be remiss if I did not comment on Nicole and her management staff. They have worked tirelessly on the many things that have been thrown at them. They had all the work for the accreditation, which I'm happy to announce LINX passed with flying colors. The turmoil of the move, now dealing with the budget cuts, yet somehow keeping everything afloat. A very big thank you, for your dedication, it is very much appreciated.

~ Ingrid

### Executive Director

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### Residential Manager

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### Day Program Manager

Cindy Rimmer  
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### Office Manager

Laurie Savill  
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### Dates to remember:

June 12 – Fundraising meeting  
June 13 – Picnic/Staff T-Ball  
June 16 – Father's Day  
June 18 – Devonian Gardens  
June 19 – Annual General Meeting

### November 2 – Gingerbread Live and Silent Auction

### Board Members

Ingrid Seitinger – Chairperson  
Laurie Tancowny – Vice-Chair  
Josh Pyrcz – Treasurer  
Jennie Tomlinson – Member  
Bill Carr – Member  
Ed Boender – Member

### Recycling Donation Challenge (as of the end of May)



Employers – \$561.00  
Parents/Clients – \$487.75  
Staff – \$483.45  
Board – \$80



You can now safely  
donate to LINX online at  
[www.leduclinxconnect.ca](http://www.leduclinxconnect.ca)

# Executive Director Report

We are finally moved! Thank you so much to all the people who packed boxes, lugged lockers and fridges, volunteered your family or staff, etc. It goes without saying that we could not have done it without you! Also a huge thank you for donations of beautiful furniture from Worley Parsons, ATB, and PeterSon Pipeline Consulting. We feel very spoiled by your generosity! We still have a bit of construction to go to get us to our final product, but it is coming along well. We look forward to an open house that we will be inviting you all to!

For anyone receiving services and their families, we know that you have heard a lot about the provincial budget cuts, and are wondering how this impacts LINX. Management has been working very hard to come up with some creative plans that will minimize the impact as much as we can for our clients. PDD will be meeting with families when we get to the point of where the cuts are made. Additionally, they will be at our AGM if you have any questions for them there.

Finally, and as always, I would like to thank everyone for all of their support, and wish you a happy, healthy and safe Father's Day month!

~ Nicole

## Day Program Report

We have almost been in our new home for a month now and are still getting settled, thank you to everyone who supported us in our move. Some of us were lucky enough to attend the Rally at the legislature on May 15 to bring attention to the budget cuts to PDD. Our group learned a lot about protests and we spotted a lot of friends and peers in the crowd.

We have a couple of fun events planned for June, on the 13<sup>th</sup> we are having a picnic lunch at Fred Johns Park and then a T ball game- staff against clients. Please provide a brown bagged lunch, the nutrition program will be making desert for that day.

On June 18<sup>th</sup> we are going for a field trip to Devonian Gardens for the Garden Tour, which includes the Japanese gardens and butterfly house. We will be leaving around 11:30 am and having lunch before the tour, please provide a brown bag lunch for that day. We will be using funds from our Purdy's sales for the fees. We will return before bus pick up.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you have your dates for camp or any other time away from the program.

The nutrition program is ready to resume the Friday hot lunches. The following is the June Menu;

June 7- Lasagna

June 13- dessert for ball game (no charge)

June 21- Potato salad

June 28- Subs

~ Cindy

## Residential Program Report

Wow! May was a very busy month with the move and the temporary offices, well the residential office is almost organized. The residential office has also completed a MANDT course this month with great success. The monthly SHP meeting was held at Smitty's. This month the meeting will be a picnic at Telford Park weather permitting. Bring a blanket and a bag lunch. Thank you to all who have helped with the move and have been patient with the schedule changes and for being flexible during this time of change.

This month's residential person of the month is Carrie McNeil- Carrie has been very flexible with her time for 2 of her clients. She has worked to ensure that the safety and security of her clients are a priority. She has excellent communication with her team.

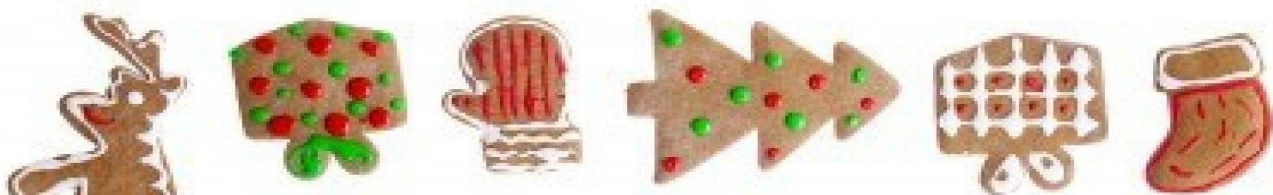
- June 21, 2013 First Day of Summer.
- May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013 The Black Gold Rodeo starts
- Timesheets and invoices are due June 20<sup>th</sup>

### MANDT Moment

#### 4 Key Elements to Build Relationships

- Dignity and Respect
- Trust
- Commitment to self, others and then the work itself
- Identification of roles, goals, and boundaries

~ Ronni



## ***Gala Update!***



5<sup>th</sup> Annual Gingerbread Live and Silent Auction is on November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2013. Things are moving along with planning. We will have our letter explaining what is happening and what we are looking for ready to go the first week of July. Just to keep you all interested – one of our door prizes will be a travel voucher! Sounds good now doesn't it?!? Please keep watching for more news next month!  
Diana and Susan



*Thank you to everyone who helped by either supplying squares, pickles, cheese or helped set up or cleanup for Dorothy Whitehead's Memorial Luncheon on May 11/2013. Your help was greatly appreciated.  
Sincerely, Diane Sims and Susan Boyle*

## ***Self Advocacy Group...***

### ***"No More Cuts!!"***

"No More Cuts!" "Now you see me, Now you don't!" This was the theme of the rally on May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Legislature to oppose the budget cuts to persons with disabilities announced by the Government of Alberta. Ten clients and staff from LINX joined the rally. They heard the Minister Frank Oberle talk about the cuts, saying that "If you need service, you will have service". But lots of people stood up and said that they were concerned that their much needed services would be taken away. A 42 million dollar cut has to affect people. There were people at the rally from all across Alberta.

On May 17, 2013 the government decided that they would re evaluate their decision to impose the 42 million dollar cut to persons with disabilities. The voice of the people had been heard!

The clients came away from the rally saying that it was a great experience. They had learned something. They had learned that: there is power in numbers, you have a right to voice your concerns, and you have the ability to make change.



# Our "... of the month" club!

There are so many people who make our world a better place. So, we have decided they needed individual recognition. Please help us celebrate our Citizen of the Month, our Support Home Provider of the month, our Staff of the Month, and our Employer of the month. If you see someone in any of these categories that you would like to see recognized, please let us know!

## ***Citizen of the Month***

**Donald Loucks!** Don has been such a help during the move and first couple of weeks in our new home. He has been happy and willing to lend hand moving furniture, tidying up and running errands. Thanks Don.

## ***Employer of the Month***

**Executive Express!** They continue to provide long term employment for six of our individuals in housekeeping, Ricky's Restaurant, Lobby and parking lot. The different departments also work well with our follow up job coach.

***The measure of a life, after all, is not  
it's duration, but it's donation. –  
Author Unknown***

## ***Staff of the Month***

**Carolyn DeKlerk!** Carolyn put in many hours of her own time preparing for the move and setting up her new class as well as supporting individuals who needed extra care during the transition, so glad you're part of our team.

## ***Support Home Provider of the Month***

**Carrie McNeil!** This month's residential person of the month is Carrie McNeil- Carrie has been very flexible with her time for 2 of her clients. She has worked to ensure that the safety and security of her clients are a priority. She has excellent communication with her team.

If you have ideas of something you would like to see in this newsletter, or would like to submit something to add to it, please contact Nicole at 780-980-9423 or [linxexec@linxconnect.ca](mailto:linxexec@linxconnect.ca).

# ***Thank you!!!***

