



Addictions Professionals Association of Saskatchewan, Inc.

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Members Communique

May 14, 2014

Another month gone by and Mother Nature still seem to be hanging on to winter's icy grip with below average temperatures reported across the province. However, I must tell you on the way to Prince Albert on May 3 for APASK's latest Board meeting, I did see pussy willows along the edges of sloughs...even though most of them still had some ice standing in the shade.

The Board of Directors, with new members now in place, is beginning to do further organizational review. Last June (2013) we had a strategy and goal setting meeting to review and put in place a plan for the development and updating of the terms of reference and governance goals for APASK. Our May 3 meeting this year was focused on how those goals were being met. Further action plans were developed which include a review of the Non-Profit Act of Sask., our bylaws, and our last proposed Legislative Act. It is felt that there needs to be a clear understanding of how our bylaws and the government acts do and will work together and "speak" to each other as we move into the future.

We have been under discussion for some time now on how we could provide more benefits for our members. One of the ideas that keeps surfacing is providing more training. There has been renewed interest in the [Certification Crash Course](#), the most recent held in Saskatoon on Feb. 14. The next course was slated to run in La Ronge on May 23 but due to some scheduling changes for the venue that date has been moved to [Thursday, May 29](#). It will be held at in [Room 2713 of the La Ronge Health Centre, in La Ronge](#). I will also attach a brochure to this email for those of you interested in registering and let you know that registration closes on May 23. The Education and Training committee has also had a request to run a crash course in the Lloydminster area. We are hoping that can be arranged for sometime late June or early July although July can be a tough time for people to get away to attend with holiday schedules and all. We will ask that members and other interested parties contact us with other requests or for more information.

Something old and new on the addiction's horizon in Sask. are the changes SGI has been making to the Impaired Driver's Screening Program. These changes have caused concern for and impacted addictions counsellors in a number of our Health Regions. What you may not know is one of our APASK Board members, Ruth White, along with another addiction professional from the Sunrise Health Region have been working with SGI on restructuring the program. This week saw a press release in the Regina Leader-Post stating that specially trained addiction counsellor would be hired to work with repeat offenders. Ruth and her counterpart from Sunrise HR have been able to illustrate the importance of specialty training and/or certification for professionals dealing with the treatment of addicted people. If you would like to have a look at the press release, it is available at:

<http://www.leaderpost.com/news/program+makes+impaired+drivers+examine+their+substance/9831797/story.html>

The Education and Training Committee and the Ethics Committee are also in the process of designing a workshop on Professional Ethics for Addiction Workers. The suggested target date would be sometime in the first week of Sept. and the target location at this point in time is Regina. We continue to look for ideas on how to have more involvement from the Southern and Eastern part of the province.

We have had two very strong nominations for the Angus Campbell Award this year. For some of our newer members who may not know about Angus Campbell here is a brief introduction:

The **Angus Campbell Award** was named after Angus Campbell (1912-2002)

Born on August 12, 1917, in Swift Current and educated at Norden School near Kinistino, SK., Angus Campbell played a key role in developing education and rehabilitation in the field of alcohol and drug abuse. He raised public awareness and made major contributions to alcoholism programs in Corrections, Aboriginal organizations, health education, and industry.

The first counsellor at the Saskatchewan Bureau of Alcoholism in 1953, Angus did pioneer research and public education on alcohol dependency. After graduating from the Yale School of Alcohol Studies in 1959, he founded the Saskatoon Alcoholism Society; this led to the establishment of the multidisciplinary, in-patient, Calder Centre, which he directed from 1967 to 1975.

From 1975 until 1983, Angus was director of community services with the Alcoholism Commission of Saskatchewan. In 1976 the Moose Jaw intervention and recovery facility was named the Angus Campbell Centre.

Angus' book, "The Grand Vision", was awarded the Medallion of Distinction by the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse. He was awarded the Saskatchewan Order of Merit in 1996 and named a Member of the Order of Canada in 1998.

The Angus Campbell Award for Excellence in the Field of Addictions was established in 2000 with Angus, himself, selecting the first recipient of the award.

Angus Campbell passed away in Penticton, BC on March 22, 2002.

If you would like further information on nominating someone you feel has made outstanding contributions to the Addictions Field, we encourage you to download a nomination form from <www.apask.org> under the Awards tab.

There was a motion made and passed at the May 3 meeting to add an external advisory committee to the APASK Board of Directors. As previously indicated this committee will be made up of knowledgeable people from across the province that may or may not be APASK members or Addiction Professionals.

A member of the APASK Executive Committee will be requesting a meeting with the Dean of the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Institute, School of Health and Science, Dr. Lynda Kushnir Pekrul for mid-to late June. We continue to lobby Sask. Polytechnic (SIAS) for an applied degree in Addiction and will be taking that lobby directly to Dr. Kushnir Pekrul.

Excitement is beginning to build as plans for this year's Celebrate Recovery month (Sept.) begin to fall to take off. I will encourage our members to have a look at www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org for more information on how celebrate recovery all got started and www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.ca for what's happening in Canada. APASK is embracing the concept of a month of events as some of our American friends are doing whereas other areas of Canada are going with a one day celebration rally. Again we hope that our members will bring ideas and ask questions about doing something, however small, in their own communities to help reduce the stigma that keeps addiction growing.

Brenda Hearn, Chairperson,
Membership Committee,
APASK Board of Directors