

NEWS RELEASE

Experts on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) will travel to Yellowknife to discuss FASD

(October 17, 2019) The Canada Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Research Network (CanFASD) Board of Directors is meeting in Yellowknife at the end of October to discuss nation-wide Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) strategic priorities.

FASD is a lifelong disability that affects the brain and body of people who were exposed to alcohol in the womb. CanFASD is Canada's first comprehensive national research network focuses on addressing the complexities of FASD.

A key component to CanFASD's success is the partnerships they've developed with individuals and organizations across Canada and around the world. Their trip to Yellowknife will allow them to further develop these partnerships within organizations and communities in the Northwest Territories.

Community members within Yellowknife will have the opportunity to interact with experts in the field of FASD at two public events. The first is a presentation with Dr. Jacqueline Pei, the Senior Research Lead at CanFASD.

Dr. Pei will be discussing a new intervention model to improve outcomes for individuals with FASD. As the lead researcher on this project, Dr. Pei will give the audience a unique insight into the behind-the-scenes work that lead up to the release of this document.

The development of this intervention model perfectly illustrates CanFASD's collaborative process. This research was conducted in partnership with a number of researchers, families and service providers, and research institutions including CanFASD and the University of Alberta. To learn more about this research, please visit our page <https://canfasd.ca/publications/towards-healthy-outcomes/>.

The event will be held from 1:00 to 4:00 PM on October 28, 2019 in the auditorium of Northern United Place. It is an afternoon recommended for families of individuals with FASD and service providers, but all are welcome.

CanFASD will also be hosting a public meet and greet with Board Members, researchers, and select staff members. This informal event will give attendees the unique opportunity to talk with FASD experts from across Canada. This event is open to

the public. It is being held from 5:30 to 7:00 PM on October 29, 2019 at the Flavour Trader in the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

In between these events CanFASD will be hard at work to develop a new CanFASD Strategic Plan. Meetings with board and committee members have been scheduled to review of CanFASD's current initiatives in the areas of FASD prevention, intervention, and diagnosis.

A major product of these meetings will be the development of CanFASD's new Strategic Plan, which outlines the path the organization has to follow to remain a national leader in FASD research.

Quotes:

"We are excited to have an opportunity to increase our understanding of FASD in the Northwest Territories by connecting with individuals, families, caregivers, agencies and government. This helps us to ensure the research we are undertaking and resulting new knowledge remains relevant and gets to the people who need it most. We deeply appreciate the time people are willing to spend with us and share their valuable insights and perspectives."

Tim Moorhouse, CanFASD, Board Chair

"I'm excited to connect with community members and explore ways in which we might work together to support healthy outcomes in individuals with FASD."

Dr. Jacqueline Pei, Senior Research Lead, CanFASD

About CanFASD:

CanFASD is Canada's first national Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) research network. CanFASD works collaboratively with researchers and partners across the nation to address complexities of FASD. Our mission is to produce and maintain national, collaborative research for all Canadians, leading to prevention strategies and improved support services for people affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. For more information on CanFASD, please visit: <http://www.canfasd.ca/>

To speak with a CanFASD expert regarding the scheduled CanFASD events in Yellowknife please contact:

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