

Calgary program wins national award for improving justice outcomes for people with FASD

Calgary, AB – December, 4 2025 The Enviros Neurodevelopmental Diagnostic Clinic has received the 2025 Claudette Bradshaw FASD Innovation Award, a national award that celebrates new and effective ways to support people with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).

This award, presented each year by the Canada FASD Research Network, recognizes outstanding work that helps people with FASD, their families, and their communities. The award is named in memory of Claudette Bradshaw, a champion for vulnerable children and families across Canada.

The Neurodevelopmental Diagnostic Clinic at Enviros is one of Calgary's leaders in FASD assessment and support. The clinic works with young people involved in Calgary Youth Courts, as well as individuals from Indigenous communities including the Stoney Nakoda and Tsuut'ina Nations.

Enviros is being recognized for its Transitions to Positive Futures (TTPF) program, which supported youth and women who may have FASD and who were involved in the legal system. TTPF was the first program of its kind in Alberta, bringing FASD expertise directly into correctional settings. This meant that people who often go undiagnosed or misunderstood were finally getting the assessments and support they needed. With FASD estimated to affect up to 23% of youth and 46% of adults in Canada's criminal legal system, the importance of this work cannot be overstated.

The program provides:

- FASD assessments from a full team of specialists
- Education and support to help courts understand an individual's needs
- Planning and guidance after diagnosis
- Support connecting to housing, mental health care, addiction services, education, and jobs
- Training for correctional and justice staff so they can better support people with FASD



Quotes:

"Many people with FASD struggle in the legal system because their needs are not recognized. The TTPF program changed this by offering early identification, clear explanations, and strong support during and after custody. This approach helped make the justice system safer, fairer, and more supportive. CanFASD congratulates Enviros on receiving the 2025 Claudette Bradshaw Award and extends sincere appreciation for their leadership, dedication, and tireless work in supporting youth and adults with FASD in Calgary." Kathy Unsworth, Executive Director, CanFASD

"At Enviros' Neurodevelopmental Assessment & Diagnostic Centre and through the TTPF program, we've seen how timely, comprehensive FASD assessments, paired with education and compassionate support, can transform a person's experience within the justice system and their transition back into the community. FASD assessments are critical; they bring clarity to complex needs, inform effective supports, and help ensure individuals are understood. We often meet people with FASD whose needs have been overlooked, and this award highlights the importance of our team's dedication to addressing those gaps. It reaffirms our commitment to ensuring people with FASD are met with understanding, dignity, and the opportunities they need to thrive." Sylvie Horan, Manager Community Services, Neurodevelopmental Assessment & Diagnostic Ctr and Chair, Cultural Ambassadors Committee, Enviros

About FASD:

FASD stands for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. It is a lifelong disability that affects the brain and body of people who were exposed to alcohol in the womb. Each person with FASD has both strengths and challenges, and will need special supports to help them succeed with many different parts of their daily lives. Find out more about the disability on the <u>CanFASD website</u>. Learn more about FASD in the legal system in the <u>FASD Prevalence in Special Populations issue paper</u>.

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