



MEDIA RELEASE

FASD Awareness Month brings buzz for upcoming local conference

(September 25, 2023) FASD Awareness Month in September sees some of Canada's most famous landmarks light up red, bringing awareness to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). This comes ahead of the sold-out Canada FASD Conference taking place in the Saskatoon in November.

The sold-out conference's unique program connects those with lived experience of FASD with renowned researchers and practitioners in the field, covering a wealth of topics that intersect with FASD. Over 500 delegates will gather in TCU Place to network and attend workshops, panels and presentations over three days.

Approximately 4% of Canadians have FASD – more than Autism, Cerebral Palsy, and Down syndrome combined. It is a lifelong disability that goes underrecognized and under supported. The conference will unite people from across Canada to network and educate, all in the name of FASD – a cause that is very close to many people in Saskatoon's hearts.

Saskatoon's local FASD organization, the FASD Network of Saskatchewan, is providing a local perspective in the support and preparation of this event, which is being hosted in partnership with the Canada FASD Research Network, the Canada Northwest FASD Partnership, the Governments of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

The Canada FASD Conference is still open to sponsorship.

The landmarks such as the CN Tower, the Calgary Tower, Montréal Tower and many more across the country are all lighting up red to show solidarity to individuals with FASD and raise awareness of this disability. This only adds to the excitement that the Canada FASD Conference brings to this community.

Quotes

Saskatoon local, Niall said: "I'm a 60 scoop Indigenous man who has FASD. I am definitely a dreamer I shoot for humongous goals - as of right now I'm developing the first ever triple discipline indoor cycling facility in Canadian history. I'm looking forward to this event being in Saskatoon as this is where I live, but I also think this would be great for Saskatoon as it brings international attendees and international attention. It'll be good for our local community and it will create more awareness of FASD for the people of province."

Shana Mohr, FASD Network of Saskatchewan said: "As a caregiver and a professional working in the field of FASD here in Saskatoon, it is beyond exciting to have a conference of this calibre coming to Saskatoon. The conference will bring together caregivers, researchers, and service providers, from all over Canada.

It is going to be a fantastic opportunity to not only learn about the newest research in FASD, but it is also going to give attendees an opportunity to connect in person, inspire each other, and walk away with hope and motivation to continue working through a positive lens to improve the lives of individuals with FASD."

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 CanFASD website.

About CanFASD:

CanFASD is Canada's first national Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder 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.

Contact:

Fiona Binns
Communications Coordinator
fiona.binns@canfasd.ca

For more information, please visit: <https://canfasd.ca/canada-fasd-conference/>