

“Putting it Together”: Vernon FASD Conference

Date:

September 6-7, 2018

Time:

Full Conference Days 8:30 am - 3:30 pm Sept. 6 and 7, 2018

Location:

The Schubert Center (505 30th Avenue. Vernon, BC)

Objectives:

Most importantly, this event will connect new research and innovative policy to community and front-line services. This will include meaningful discussions on the latest research and practices in FASD prevention, assessment and supports. Over the course of the two-day conference, participants can expect to:

- Increase their knowledge on recent developments in the field of FASD
- Network and share with people from all areas of the FASD community
- Learn about best-practice and new evidence-based tools to navigate through different stages of life, supports and services
- Increase their understanding and awareness of the impact of FASD has on the lives of individuals and caregivers

Intended Audience:

This conference will be of interest to:

Caregivers and families	Academics and researchers	Social workers
Individuals with FASD	Justice and corrections workers	Mental health workers
Community agency staff	Family support workers	Alcohol and drug workers
Front-line service workers	Medical professionals	Elected officials
Government ministries and policy-makers	Teachers and educational administrators	



Conference Schedule Overview:

Thursday Sept 6, 2018		Friday Sept 7, 2018	
9:00 – 9:20	Opening Remarks	9:00 – 9:20	FASD Day Proclamation
9:20 – 10:30	Dr. Joanne Weinberg “Role Genetics Plays in FASD”	9:20 – 10:30	Danna Ormstrup “Best Practises in FASD”
10:30 – 10:50	Break	10:30 – 10:50	Break
10:50 – 12:00	Break Out Sessions: i. Robert Laboucane “FASD and Indigenous People” OR ii. Dr. Barry Stanley “FASD, Epigenetics and Perseveration”	10:50 – 12:00	Break Out Sessions i. Meredith Kerry “POPFASD – FASD and Teaching in the Classroom” OR ii. Jessica Renfrew “An in-class Prevention Module for Grades 9 -11.”
12:00 – 12:45	Lunch	12:00 – 12:45	Lunch
12:45 – 2:00	Dr. Rod Densmore “FASD and the Physical Impact”	12:45 – 2:00	Dr. Dorothy Badry “FASD and Homelessness”
2:00 – 2:20	Break	2:00 – 2:20	break
2:20 – 3:30	Break Out Sessions i. May Stanley “Raising a Child With FASD” OR ii. Brent Kisilevich “FASD: Movement Without Pain”	2:20 – 3:30	Paul Thompson and Glenda Jansen “Diagnosis – Why it is Never Too Late”
3:30	Day 1 closes	3:30	Day 2 Closes

Accommodations:

There are several options available.

- *The Vernon Lodge* have several rooms reserved at a conference rate of \$144.95 for a room with 2 Queen Beds. When making your reservation, be sure to tell them you are with the FASD Conference. Rooms will be held at the conference rate until **August 5, 2018**. They can be reached at 1 800 663 4422.
- *The Village Green* also has a block of rooms reserved at a conference rate of \$110.00 for a room with 2 Queen Beds. When making your reservation, be sure to tell them you are with the FASD Conference. Rooms at this hotel are on a first come first served basis. They can be reached at 250-542-3321 or 1 800 663 4433.
- There are many B&B’s in the area that offer accommodation. You can look these up on google to find just the accommodation that will meet your needs.

Conference Presenters:

Thursday, September 6, 2018

Dr. Joanne Weinberg topic: “Diagnosing FASD”

Dr. Weinberg has served as President of the International Society for Developmental Psychobiology and the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Study Group, on the Board of Directors of the Research Society on Alcoholism, and on the Editorial Advisory Boards of *Alcohol*, *Alcoholism: Clinical & Experimental Research*, *Neurotoxicology and Teratology*, and *Physiology and Behavior*. She is currently a member of the Advisory Panel of the Intervention Network Action Team, Canada Northwest FASD Research Network and is co-leader of the FASD Project of NeuroDevNet, Networks of Centres of Excellence.

Robert LaBoucane topic: “FASD and Indigenous People”

Robert Laboucane, a Metis businessman originally from Fort McMurray, is Director of Indigenous Awareness Canada. He has been delivering Indigenous Awareness Training Seminars across Canada for over 30 years. His client base includes dozens of major corporations, federal government departments, individuals, educational institutions, and aboriginal organizations. Mr. Laboucane was the District Superintendent for Economic Development and Employment with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in Alberta for three years, the Executive Director for the Calgary Aboriginal Awareness Society for three years and was the Executive Director for the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business for seven years (1992-1999).

Dr. Barry Stanley topic: “FASD, Epigenetics and Perseveration”

Dr. Stanley was a founding board member of NOYFSS (Mara House) in Vernon. After being trained in diagnosing FASD in Washington DC., he operated four diagnostic Clinics in Ontario. He offered diagnostic and support to individuals and families members who were experiencing FASD. He was accessed as an expert witness for The Ontario Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals in Ontario. He has published, and he hosts the bog website, “*FASD for Everyone.*”

Dr. Rod Densmore topic: “FASD and it’s Impact on the Body and Systems”

The adoptive father of a child affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder for 16 years, Dr. Densmore is the author of a recent book, “FASD Relationships What I Have Learned About Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.” He has been a family doctor for 28 years, was part of the 8 medical professionals who designed the algorithms for medication use for patients who have FASD. Dr. Densmore was a speaker at the international FASD Conference in Vancouver this spring. He is Interested in reducing caregiver stress and in promoting and understanding behavior in FASD. Dr. Densmore serves on the BC Government’s FASD Action Plan Committee and has been the diagnosing physician for two assessment clinics in B.C..

May Stanley topic: “The Humerous Side of Parenting Those With FASD”

May is a return speaker to Vernon NOYFSS conferences. She is a parent of an adult with FASD. She will share her journey as a parent. She will remind us of the lighter side when we are facing the challenges that go with parenting a child or an adult with FASD. She has presented at conferences in Ontario, England, and Wales.

Brent Kisilevich topic: “Movement Without Pain for Those With FASD”

Brent has been in the Vernon community for many years and is best known as an educator and a Guild Certified Feldenkrais Practitioner®, educator, and research specialist in the human movement sciences. His goal is to enable people to create more thoughtful and fulfilling life experiences by refining the quality of their movements. With his background in sport and education, Brent provides individuals the means to make significant changes in how to move their body, improve athletic performance, and gain greater flexibility, and ease in movement. He works with active-minded people of all ages and abilities.

Friday, September 7, 2018

Dana Ormstrup topic: “Best Practises While Supporting Those With FASD”

Dana began working with kids and adults with learning disabilities in the early 1990s. She is the executive director of the Foothill’s Fetal Alcohol Society in Alberta. Dana has made numerous presentations at conferences across Canada, she has presented several webinars and has been very active doing active research. Dana brings her belief that working with people who have been prenatally exposed to alcohol is the most challenging and most rewarding role she has had. Her role combines care and support of families, prevention and awareness initiatives, professional education and support and diagnostic services.

Meredith Kerry topic: “Best Practise in teaching students with FASD in the Classroom”

Meredith has been teaching since 1989 in Prince George, Kincolith, Nanaimo (college), Warrington England, and Lesotho Africa (high school). She has completed her Master's in Special Education from UNBC. Meredith will synthesize and share current research and successful practices to support students with FASD. She is on the active POP FASD team. The mandate of their program is to increase an educators' capacity to meet the learning needs of students with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. They are an outreach team with the description of “Have team....will travel”

Jessica Renfrew topic: “Prevention and Awareness of FASD...prevention of Shame and Blame”

Jessica is a UBC student who is completing her master's in social work. She has been researching “shame”. Jessica has authored an FASD Prevention and Awareness module that could be delivered in the grade 9 -11 health or life skills classes. She will be presenting her module that is now ready to be delivered in the classroom. Jessica has been initiating conversation surround FASD, prevention, intervention and the impact of the stigma, shame and blame to adults in recovery programs in Kelowna.

Dr. Dorothy Badry topic: “FASD and Homelessness”

Associate Professor in the Faculty of Social Work (FSW), University of Calgary (U of C). Her research interests and area of expertise primary focus is on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, (FASD) birth mothers and families of children with FASD, substance abuse social problems for women and families, homelessness and disability advocacy. She developed the Caregiver Curriculum on FASD through a 3-year research project funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada (2011-2014) which is available on the website www.fasdchildwelfare.ca. She is a member of the Steering Committee of the Prairie Child Welfare Consortium has co-edited three books in the Voices from the Prairies series. Her research agenda is on FASD from prevention to intervention. She is the co-lead of the Education and Training Council of the Alberta FASD Cross Ministry Committee. She has also been a member of the Canada FASD Research Network Action Team on Prevention since 2008.

Paul Thompson and Glenda Jansen

Paul lived for more than 40 years before he was diagnosed with FASD. Thirty of those years were spent homeless on the streets or in the prison system. He has also experienced severe childhood trauma. In 2009, Paul was diagnosed with FASD and was able to access advocacy and support. He is now 52, living independently in Vancouver. He has created a stable, healthy life with the necessary supports in place for success. He exemplifies why it is never too late to be assessed and diagnosed with FASD.

Glenda Jansen is an educational assistant and she has been instrumental in Paul's adult diagnosis, his care, advocacy and support. Glenda volunteers her time reaching out to the marginalized communities, building relationships and advocating when necessary. She is a member of the FASD Collaboration Roundtable in BC.

They will present Paul's story with humour and love through the desperate times; the critical importance of relationship and advocacy in supporting positive outcomes.