ACDI 2014 - A Year in Review

Committed to a Strong Committee
- Developed, monitored and achieved the 2014 ACDI Goals
- 5 ACDI members attended the Collective Impact Medicine Hat Workshop
- Position Descriptions developed for:
  - Transit Advisory Committee Representative
  - Social Development Advisory Board

Guest Speakers: In the Pursuit of Understanding Processes & Opportunities
- Lee Ramsdell – Hearing & Hearing Assistive Technology
- Richard Sieppert, Transit Manager, Medicine Hat Transit – Special Transit Service
- Shelley Ross, Chief Librarian, Medicine Hat Public Library – Library Accessibility, Services, and Talking Books

Working with Departments: to Achieve Greater Accessibility & Inclusion
- Municipal Works - 14 areas were recommended, reviewed, and prioritized with regard to accessibility. These priorities and rationale were forwarded to Municipal Works for their consideration in their 2014 work schedule.
- Parks & Recreation Accessibility Audits were conducted at:
  - Kin Coulee Park,
  - Hillside Cemetery, and
  - Veteran’s Memorial Park
- Parks and Recreation – ACDI wrote letters of support for the Parks and Recreation accessibility projects to:
  - the Government of Canada’s Enabling Accessibility Fund,
  - the Alberta Government’s Community Facility Enhancement Program, and
  - Alberta Recycling’s Municipal Demonstration Grant Program.
- Medicine Hat Regional Event Centre - provided feedback around accessibility features including lighting for the stairs.
- Parks and Recreation – Why Playgrounds are Important for Children on the Autism Spectrum report was accepted and included as part of the Request for Proposal for the 2015-2016 Playground Projects.
• Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre – disability awareness training for the Esplanade volunteers.
• Parks & Recreation – contributed to the Grand Opening of the Kiwanis Central Park Water Playground.

Advocating for Accessibility and Inclusiveness in the community
• Emergency Preparedness – hosted a Table Top Exercise for disability serving agencies to think through the particular needs of their client groups and develop emergency plans.
• Disability Fact Sheet – updated and distributed.
• Alberta Transportation Strategy – contributed to the discussion
• Service Dogs – contributed to the provincial discussion
• International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) – members contributed to the committee, led participatory disability awareness sessions for the children at St. Patrick’s School,
• Accessible Medicine Hat and Words with Dignity Bookmarks – created and printed