The Hub on Ross Annual Report 2012

Written by Rea Vanlie Hub Advisory Committee Volunteer



# The Hub on Ross

is currently in service to 1800 persons with a developmental disability in Central Alberta, helping all persons become involved with their community. As an active bridge for further learning, development, and continued connection, the Hub encourages a sense of belonging to foster friendships and partnerships between individuals and organizations.

On all levels, the Hub assists others for personal and social growth by addressing issues, encouraging discussions and assisting ALL persons with self-advocacy and the formulas for positive outcomes.

The Hub aids in the planning and implementing of activities that encourage self-expression, the celebration of individual abilities and the expression of the arts in all their forms.

Connections have been made through visual, performing, heritage, literary and musical arts, as well as, Natural History Initiatives.

As a key player in the Arts and Culture scene in Red Deer, we continue to provide opportunities year round for persons to participate in a safe, vibrant and thriving community environment.

Sharing resources and collaboration are important cornerstones to our sustainability and our model as a government service. This keeps our members connected and in the state of creation needed for fun and friendship to bloom.

We break down barriers through healthy interaction by providing opportunity for persons to participate in a safe and loving place they can call home away from home.

At the end of the day, we hope all who have entered, enjoy their time, had fun, felt engaged with others, and maybe even...met a new friend or two.



#### Lucille & Lisa



#### **Don Swift Performing**



#### Canada World Youth



#### **Community Connection**

## The Hub on Ross

# Engagement & Volunteerism

These are the hallmarks of the Hub on Ross and the coolness of the season didn't put a freeze on the warm environment of our community in connecting to the world at large. Canada World Youth frequented our Hub throughout the month and created a safe and inviting environment for young people who had traveled to Red Deer from Nicaragua & all parts of Canada. Youth mentoring and inclusion were a big part of this month's focus as the needs of those traveling abroad (some visiting Canada for the first time) were tended with great care by staff, Hub PDD partner volunteers, and community members at large. We showed movies, hosted culture festivities and partnered with C.A.R.E for a volunteer appreciation night as some of our events. Our youth and community volunteers really allowed our Hub space to shine!

Art Exhibit SPIRIT OF THE PEOPLE Stand-Up Medicine Bear Thomas Francois

# January 2012

#### **Weekly Events**

Local First Market **Pasta Players Theatre** Sunrise Toastmasters **Right-On Theatre** (With Lucinda) Yarn Works **Good Reads Book Club** All day Art Wednesdays (With Wilson & Mary) **Pop Dance Movers Community Drum Circle** The Model Club **Creative Creations** (With Carlee) Hand bell Choir The stage is yours Anthony's Open Song Adapted Yoga for Beginners The Model Club **Culinary Arts** (With Amy) **Music Gallery** (With Roland) Thursday Night Film Series (With Canada World Youth) **Jewelry for Somalia** 

#### **Music and Entertainment**

Don Swift Dean Ray Paeton Cameron Amy Thiessen Randi Boulton Singers Bluegrass Music Jam

#### **Special Delivery**

Red Deer Art Club

Central Alberta Self Advocates

Central Alberta Residence Society (CARS) Speaker Series



Pasta Players Theatre



Dean Ray & Hub Dancers



**Dave Painting Piano** 



Dave, Cindy & Meaghan Painting Community Piano

## Poetry & Literacy Expression

The Hub partnered with The Spoken Word Youth Choir, a unique and lively group that worked with our Hub members to bring to life the entertaining and theatrical side of the written word.

No body or voice was left out; each person had their part, their line, and their word to share with an audience. And what an audience it was! Community members from far and wide joined us for this unique and incredibly expressive event.

This event and others such as the cross-generational valentine cards through C.A.R.E. helped ensure that The Hub bustled with social activity and literary connections as members, volunteers, seniors, and youth in Red Deer shared their hearts and minds through creativity and personal expression. Art Exhibit TRANQUIL TRANSITIONS Marjorie & Sheldon Robert

# February 2012

**Weekly Events Local First Market Pasta Players Theatre** Sunrise Toastmasters **Right-On Theatre** (With Lucinda) Yarn Works **Good Reads Book Club** All day Art Wednesdays (With Wilson & Mary) Pop Dance Movers **Community Drum Circle** The Model Club **Creative Creations** (With Carlee) Hand bell Choir The stage is yours Anthony's Open Song Adapted Yoga for Beginners The Model Club **Music Gallery** (With Roland) Thursday Night Film Series (With Canada World Youth) **Jewelry for Somalia** 

Music and Entertainment Duane Hay Rob McIver Valentines DJ Dance Joal Kamps Calum Graham Carolyn Harley & The Davidsons Randi Boulton Singers Bluegrass Music Jam

#### **Special Delivery**

Cultural Café with C.A.R.E.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Learning Series

# ST. THOMAS NIVERSITY

#### Mark & Cindy



CWY, Murray, Mark & Tanya painting wall art



Delbert, Cindy, Mark & Murray in Art Exhibit

# The Hub on Ross

## **Agencies of Hope**

Our focus during the month of March was on all the incredibly beautiful and needed organizations that support our communities, include our Hub members and make this place their supportive environment of choice.

The Hub on Ross became a home base for numerous agencies that bring hope to the larger community through education, advocacy, and fundraising on everything from Epilepsy to Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder.

Our staff and Hub volunteers were always on hand with smiles and helping hands, often giving their time making posters, selling goods, tending to ticket sales and taking on leadership roles during numerous events.

One such newer event, which has now become an ongoing event, is the cultural cafe. It is a unique and lively discussion that allows participants from all walks of life and being to share their life experiences with other interested community members on a chosen topic at a bi-weekly or monthly luncheon. Art Exhibit ECCENTRIC EMBRACES OF LANDSCAPES EXPRESSED Rea Vanlie

# March 2012

Weekly Events Local First Market Pasta Players Theatre Sunrise Toastmasters **Right-On Theatre** (With Lucinda) Yarn Works **Good Reads Book Club** All day Art Wednesdays (With Wilson & Mary) Pop Dance Movers **Community Drum Circle** The Model Club **Creative Creations** (With Carlee) Hand bell Choir The stage is yours Anthony's Open Song **Adapted Yoga for Beginners** The Model Club **Music Gallery** (With Roland) **Thursday Night Film Series** (With Canada World Youth) Jewelry for Somalia **Piano Painting** 

#### **Music and Entertainment**

Randi Boulton Singers Bluegrass Music Jam Gary Sponitz Peter Christian Dean Ray Scott B & Friends Steve Palmer Randi Boulton Don Swift CD Release Party (With Mental Health)

<u>Special Delivery</u> Human Trafficking in Central Alberta education day

Master Rim Tae Kwon Do

Earthdance Planning

TedX Red Deer Planning

Purple Day Epilepsy Awareness



'Elvis Evolution' with friends Rebecca & Adam



#### C.A.R.E. & Hub Volunteer Recognition Evening



Carlee, Jean, Bonnie, & Rose at the Teddy Bear Picnic

# Embracing the Individual Through Nostalgia & Entertainment

From the Elvis Evolution to the Teddy Bear Picnic, this month was a month of personal expression.

By remembering where we come from, by acknowledging the things we have loved, and by sharing our individual tastes with others, patrons of The Hub made it a hopping house of play.

Our community members came together to share their loves and interests in life through an eclectic blend of art, music, movement, theatre, and songs of the past. The Hub truly came to life!

Songs to remember were written and sung. Art walks were prepared and danced to completion.

And future entertainers were born!

Art Exhibit URBAN WILDERNESS Wilson Harrowby

# **April 2012**

**Weekly Events** Local First Market **Pasta Players Theatre Sunrise Toastmasters Right-On Theatre** (With Lucinda) Yarn Works **Good Reads Book Club** All day Art Wednesdays (With Wilson & Mary) Pop Dance Movers **Community Drum Circle** The Model Club **Creative Creations** (With Carlee) Hand bell Choir The stage is yours Anthony's Open Song Adapted Yoga for Beginners The Model Club **Music Gallery** (With Roland) Thursday Night Film Series (With Canada World Youth) **Jewelry for Somalia** 

**Music and Entertainment** 

Adam Fitzpatrick/Elvis Impersonator Duane Forrest Paeton Cameron Nathan Lee Gartner Music Gallery with Roland & Scott Bluegrass Music Jam Randi Boulton Singers

Special Delivery Toast Masters Speech Contest

**FASD Education Series** 

Light Up The Night (Soldiers of Fitness)

C.A.R.E. Volunteer Appreciation Event



Tanya & Rosemary



Brett Shanks & Friends of the Hub performing



#### Kylie, Kate & Jen



Gord, Dorris, Rob & Kylie

# Community Recognition for Volunteerism and Achievement

We partnered with C.A.R.E to celebrate the hundreds of volunteers who make our community & world go round. This month, The Hub nominated and supported our friend and community volunteer Kylie Morrison. Kylie received two awards of excellence in the area of volunteerism; The Rotary Young Citizen of the Year Award and The Red Deer Volunteer of the Year Award.

This month, we participated in the "Wheelchair for a Day" event through which the Canadian Paraplegic Association Initiative creates awareness and understanding of the barriers present in our everyday world for those who require a wheelchair for mobility. It was a wonderful learning experience and very eye-opening for all who participated. Art Exhibit WITH SPIRIT AND SOUL Notre Dame High School Students

# May 2012

#### Weekly Events

Local First Market Pasta Players Theatre Sunrise Toastmasters Right-On Theatre Yarn Works Art with Wilson & Mary Pop Dance Movers Community Drum Circle The Model Club Creating With Carlee Hand Bell Choir The stage is yours Anthony's Open Song

**Music & Entertainment** 

Guitarist Jim Mclennan Justine Vandergrift Joal Kamps Neil McNairnay Randi Boulton Dean Ray Brett Shanks Bluegrass Music Jam Randi Boulton Singers Anthony's Sing a Long Music Gallery with Roland and Scott

<u>Special Delivery</u> World Day of Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.

Council of Canadians and Rights Action host an information session on fair trade coffee (High Plains Farmers Development Cooperative)

City Advisory Committee

Watershed Alliance Connection

Wheelchair for a Day (With CPA Initiative)



Shawn & Family



Think 'BIG' with Lucille Animal Companion Therapy



#### Betty, Bonnie & Kelly in the Local First Market



**Right On Theatre** 

# Community Engagement & Leadership

This month we celebrated a new partnership with the Red Deer downtown core & the Downtown Business Association with the launching of the Community Patio outside our front doors for the first time. Hundreds of newcomers to The Hub saw and heard what happens inside our doors and met our members who actively participated in the weekly festivities.

During the month we were all reminded of the importance of community and connection, as well as the forward thinking leaders who make those connections take place.

We're talking about you, Hub members! You blew us away with your warmth and generosity this month.

This month also gave us a special screening of the movie "One", a documentary showing the importance of not living a life of isolation. This reminded us that The Hub is a choice for individuals avoiding isolation; helping them create a life with connection, community and colour. Art Exhibit IN THE GARDEN The Red Deer Arts Club

# June 2012

#### Weekly Events

Local First Market **Pasta Players Theatre Sunrise Toastmasters Right-On Theatre** (With Lucinda) . Yarn Works **Good Reads Book Club** All day Art Wednesdays (With Wilson & Mary) Pop Dance Movers **Community Drum Circle** The Model Club **Creative Creations** (With Carlee) Hand Bell Choir The stage is yours Anthony's Open Song **Adapted Yoga for Beginners** The Model Club **Music Gallery** (With Roland) Thursday Night Film Series (With Canada World Youth) **Jewelry for Somalia** 

#### **Music and Entertainment**

Prairie's Edge Finnessee Trio Cassandra Littlespoon Erin Glover Gary Spornitz Erin Ross Rebecca Raabis Bluegrass Music Jam Randi Boulton Singers Anthony's Sing a Long Music Gallery with Roland and Scott

<u>Special Delivery</u> National Aboriginal Awareness Day Drumming Circle

Little Gaetz in the Park Entertainment Series

Veteran's Park Concerts

Earthdance for Somalia



Teamwork



Sharing Joy



And Success



Reaching the Top and Removing Barriers

#### **Expanding Borders**

With a focus on partnership and getting outdoors, this month The Hub worked with the Push to Open Nature Society to create and participate in two Central Alberta Adaptive Challenges.

We traveled to Crimson Lake for hiking, voyageur canoeing and soaking up the sun.

By expanding our understanding of accessibility and creating opportunities for all our community members, everyone got to enjoy the beauty of nature in all its glory.

In Drayton Valley more opportunities for freedom from barriers were offered with the use of tandem canoes, kayaks, and a raft floating down the North Saskatchewan River (in the rain! ). We camped overnight and awoke bright and early Sunday to the sound of birds and the warmth of sunshine as we completed our trip with an incredible group hike. Art Exhibit ART FROM THE INSIDE Art therapy drawings & paintings Wanda Cassidy

# July 2012

#### Weekly Events

**Stitching and Stations** (With CARS and Cosmos) **Exploring the Literary Arts Purple with Kylie** Arts with Wilson & Mary **Music and Mingling** (With DJ Jim) Lunch and Learn (With C.A.R.E.) The Model Club Local First Market **Sunrise Toastmasters Bluegrass Music Jam Randi Boulton Singers** Anthony's Open Song Music Gallery with Roland and Scott

**Music and Entertainment** 

So Far, Sophomore CD Release of Justine Vandergrift Rebecca Rabbis Duane Forrest Nathan Lee Gartner Amy Thiessen Charlie Jacobson

Special Delivery Crimson Lake Adaptive Challenge & Drayton Valley Adaptive Challenge (With the Push to Open Nature Society)

Live Street Entertainment

10th Anniversary CentreFest Street Festival

Westerner Days Poetry w/Hazel



Rea & Artist Sarah Smith



Art with Coffee & Cocoa with Mary & Wilson



Anthony& Friends on the Ross Street Patio



Delbert, Tanya, Becky, Mary & Cindy Saying Thank You!

# Cultural Narratives

This month we worked with immigrant community members, their families, and the organizations that support them to share cultural narratives with the greater Red Deerian Community. With the support of C.A.R.E. and our beautiful Hub support family, we connected, shared, and danced with life together.

The lovely children and adults from the ASPIRE Children's Services Centre frequented our Hub on various Fridays. Throughout the year we have been helping ASPIRE fundraise through hula hoop jams. These efforts have been very successful, and have introduced our members to new people and new activities, creating a wonderful space for wellness and health for everyone participating.

Laughter & smiles abound and joy has been known to become a part of basic air quality control! Art Exhibit FOOD FOR THOUGHT Sarah E. Smith

# August 2012

Weekly Events Local First Market **Pasta Players Theatre** Sunrise Toastmasters **Right-On Theatre** (With Lucinda) Yarn Works Good Reads Book Club All day Art Wednesdays (With Wilson & Mary) **Pop Dance Movers Community Drum Circle** The Model Club **Creative Creations** (With Carlee) Hand Bell Choir The stage is yours Anthony's Open Song Adapted Yoga for Beginners The Model Club Music Gallery (With Roland) Thursday Night Film Series (With Canada World Youth) **Jewelry for Somalia** 

Music and Entertainment Dean Ray Here Come the Gleeks Don Swift Shaky O's Moonwalk Project Paeton Cameron Bluegrass Music Jam Randi Boulton Singers Anthony's Sing a Long Music Gallery with Roland and Scott

<u>Special Delivery</u> Heritage Stories with C.A.R.E Story Telling- Cultural Narratives Immigrant Stories

Cultural Dance Day

Central Music Festival

Latin Fiestival

Kananaskis Adaptive Challenge

Fort Normandeau Picnic



Roland & Randi



**Ross Street Patio** 



#### Earth Dance Participants



Lorinda Stewart Giving Speech on Forgiveness

# Empowerment Through Entertainment

This month was a month of showmanship and empowering entertainment at The Hub.

All the current & past volunteers and members graced us with their talents and their presence as numerous exciting venues for expression took place around Ross Street and The Hub.

The Annual Earthdance Festival used The Hub as ground central for another year, and hundreds of Red Deerians came out to promote peace together.

When Flying Bob rolled into town with his one-man circus act, our community banded together to promote and support laughter therapy!

The month rounded out with the making of "Peace Poles" in collaboration with The City of Red Deer Councillors and The C.A.R.E. Society.

Art Exhibit TWO DIRECTIONS = THE WAY FORWARD + STRATA Tracie Stewart O'Brien & Rita Schoenberger

# September 2012

#### **Weekly Events**

Local First Market **Pasta Players Theatre** Sunrise Toastmasters **Right-On Theatre** (With Lucinda) Yarn Works **Good Reads Book Club** All day Art Wednesdays (With Wilson & Marv) **Pop Dance Movers Community Drum Circle** The Model Club **Creative Creations** (With Carlee) Hand Bell Choir The stage is yours Anthony's Open Song **Adapted Yoga for Beginners** The Model Club **Music Gallery** (With Roland) Jewelry for Somalia

#### **Music and Entertainment**

Randi Boulton Gary Spornitz Brett Shanks Richard Harrow Free Concert at Veteran's Park (On Ross Street) Bluegrass Music Jam Randi Boulton Singers

Special Delivery Flying Bob Circus Fun

FASD Awareness Day

Earthdance Festival (Global Enrichment Foundation)

Alberta Culture Days



Carlee & Stace



Mosaic Market



Gramma Link Canada



Weekly Hub Entertainment

# Cultural Awareness & The Importance of a Social Network

This month we worked with Gramma Link Canada to educate the public and our Hub community members about the importance of social networks during times of illness or crisis. The impact of AIDS on the surviving children and family members of entire communities in Africa is the focus of Gramma Link, and their mission is to help create new structures & social supports for those left behind.

In addition, recipients of PDD funding joined committee work (Lt. Gov. Gala Committee) and attended meetings to provide opportunities to celebrate ability. Art Exhibit M.A.D. (MICHENER ART DIVAS) Michelle, Alexa & Donna

# October 2012

#### **Weekly Events**

**Local First Market Pasta Players Theatre** Sunrise Toastmasters **Right-On Theatre** (With Lucinda) Yarn Works Good Reads Book Club All day Art Wednesdays (With Wilson & Mary) Pop Dance Movers . Community Drum Circle The Model Club **Creative Creations** (With Carlee) Hand Bell Choir The stage is yours Anthony's Open Song **Adapted Yoga for Beginners** The Model Club **Music Gallerv** (With Roland) **Thursday Night Film Series** (With Canada World Youth) **Jewelry for Somalia** Huila Hoop Jams

Music and Entertainment Randi Boulton CD Release Party at Red Deer College Don Swift Lann Dean Ray Kayla & Melody Bluegrass Music Jam Randi Boulton Singers Cosmos "Soulful Noise Band"

Special Delivery Gramma Link Meetings

Polynesian Dance Extravaganza

Fourth Junction Heritage Society

Every Penny Counts (With Cancer Support Services)

Gramma Link Africa Chili Lunch



Bonnie & Valentine with the Polynesian Dancers



Tammy Serves People at Luncheon



Bonnie, Betty & Barb Serving at Luncheon



Waiting for Customers

# Caring Connections

The Mosaic Market initiated a month of community collaboration. On a bustling Saturday afternoon 20 vendors who provide ethical shopping worked with our Hub volunteers to showcase the spirit of caring and giving.

Later on, the spirit of the season brought people into The Hub for free hot chocolate and Creating Seasonal Crafts with Carlee. Eventide Funeral Home partnered with the DBA to host activity in the warm Hub before the Annual Santa Claus Parade and the Festival of Trees Lighting Display. Outside the Hub, carolling, compliments of The Hub music community, warmed the crowd waiting for the parade.

The very next day, we bridged with the Francophone community for their annual events and hosted one of their concerts for the community at large. Beautiful traditions and songs were shared by all.

Speaking of traditions – the largest collection of home-made soups was once again well received and supported by our many "friends" at The Hub's annual fall United Way fundraiser.

# November 2012

Art Exhibit MARKER TOPIA Sheldon Rabbit Wheatley

**Weekly Events Community Drum Circle** Music Gallery Jamming Local First Market The Model Club Local First Market **Sunrise Toastmasters Creating with Carlee P.A.S.T.A Players Theatre Randi Boulton Singers** Morning Music and Art (Ross Street Piano Building Community) **Button Making** (With IDPD & friends) **Melting Pot Cultural Cooking Polynesian Dancing** (With Valentine) **Right On Theatre** (With Lucinda) **Hand Bell Choir** The stage is yours Anthony's Open Song Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Learning Series

Music and Entertainment Gord Cannon Ruined Escape Plan After the Storm Music Gallery (with Roland) Bluegrass Music Jam

Special Delivery Eighth Annual United Way Soup Benefit Luncheon raises \$1,000.00



#### Judy & Clifford Creating Art for Red Deer College



Lucinda & Maren Doing Adapted Yoga



#### Tim and His Adapted Trike



Jean and Canada World Youth Friends

# International Disability Awareness

This month brought great awareness and celebration for all peoples in our community. We celebrated our differences through seasonal festivities and marketplace connections. Our members held concerts, hung posters, made new friends, hugged old friends and loved one another as equals in the family of humanity.

Through the North Pole Stroll we met a lot of people who learned what we have to offer as an organization and a venue for community connection. Our Hub friends and volunteers were ambassadors beyond compare and new friendships were made by the minute. Art Exhibit INDIGENOUS IMPRESSIONS Claudine Fleury

# December 2012

**Weekly Events Community Drum Circle** Music Gallery Jamming Local First Market The Model Club Local First Market Sunrise Toastmasters **Creating with Carlee P.A.S.T.A Players Theatre Morning Music** (With DJ Jim & Anthony) Hand Bell Choir The stage is yours Anthony's Open Song Pop Dance Moves . Adapted Yoga Hula Hoop Jam **First Market Christmas Sale** Afternoon of Crafting (With CADA and ACFA) **North Pole Stroll** 

**Music and Entertainment Third Annual Benefit Winter Benefit** Concert Donna Durand **Back Porch Swing Carolyn Harley & the Davidsons Rob Hollis** The June Bugs Darren Johnson **Bob Jahrig Ruth Henderson** Emily Rowed Jessica Hall **Paeton Cameron Olivia and Friends Ivan Daines** 

<u>Special Delivery</u> International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Mayor celebrates with the community to acknowledge the many organizations and businesses that have removed barriers for those with disabilities.

North Pole Stroll

Seasonal Local Christmas Market



Hub artists treat downtown to a Flash Mob

"Caring, honest, friendly – that's what I enjoy and that's why I keep coming, on my own via Red Deer transit, using one bus."

Cindy

**Patron of the Hub** 

What Our Friends And Patrons Say



PASTA Players expressions with Ian and Lucinda



On Stage with Chris

"Patrice Michaud in concert was a great success! More than 35 people assisted with the concert and 3 volunteers helped for the setup. The Hub Is a great part of the ACFA of Red Deer's activities and it is good to see how the community comes together for those kinds of events. All the participants and the volunteers gave positive comments about the venue; they feel comfortable and they love everything The Hub has to offer!"

Marilou Bergevin B.Sc.

Agente de developpement



Tammy helping Gramma Link Africa

Annual Report 15

"From our soul the pain of everyday life, music has the power to drive and motivate you; nothing beats the sound of your inner voice!"

Ron Baumgaite

Regular patron of 'Live at The Hub

#### \*\*\*\*\*

"The Council of Canadians, Red Deer and Area Chapter enjoys a pleasing working relationship with The Hub and its patrons. Personnel at The Hub make every effort to work with us on events of mutual interest. Of course, the very fine resources - material and human - at The Hub sustain an active ad growing community in which the Council of Canadians is proud to play a part. Of singular notice to us are the greetings we receive on the street downtown and elsewhere when we run into Hub participants and workers. That's important in an increasingly fragmented world, and I think crucial for the people who use The Hub. In fact, that is part of The Hub's mission - to make sure we are all connected and know each other as well as we can."

#### **Ken Collier**

Treasurer, Council of Canadians, Red Deer and Area Chapter

\*\*\*\*\*\*



Kevin helps Flying Bob juggle hats



#### Hub stage is for everyone









# Mosaic Market and Family Friendly Too!

"I was so incredibly impressed with the work I saw happening at The Hub last Thursday. I attended my first Hub event because a co-worker whom I have known for the past 10 years was speaking there. He approached me months before to invite me. Leading up to his speaking engagement I watched a light come on inside him. The amount of confidence and passion he brought to his speech was inspiring - I had never seen him that engaged in anything before. I can see where The Hub is really contributing to the lives of many across our community through the building of confidence, opportunities to excel, and inclusion and inspiration, especially in the lives of people that are often overlooked or disregarded in their communities. I was also struck by the Hub's

willingness to support us in our summer of gnomes fundraiser this year. By playing the gnome game, you were able to support us in ending MS, promoting The Hub, helping local businesses promote traffic through their doors and encouraging Red Deerians to become more involved in their community. Thanks for being so engaged in the community. It is a pleasure to work alongside such engaged groups and causes."

#### Bre Fitzpatrick

Development Coordinator, Central Alberta Chapter, MS Society of Canada



# Maren and Valentine dance Polynesian Style

"The gentleman I support becomes more verbal when we are at the Hub. Through the sharing circles, theatre games and singing, Warren's ability to use his voice and form sentences has greatly improved!"

#### Karen

Individual Support Worker

"I like to come into The Hub. There is always such great energy."

# Jeff Stokoe

Advocate Photographer



Working together is always more fun



And heart felt thanks are freely given

"I am sending this note to thank the PDD for providing such a remarkable venue for the community Drum Circles. My daughter Katherine (Kate) is now a participant through Cosmos programming. When we discuss her weekly attendance at The Hub, she becomes excited and animated and always looks forward to seeing friencls at The Hub.

She is always greeted warmly by staff and other participants. She feels a sense of belonging while engaging in a fun and therapeutic event.

Kate has enjoyed varied Hub activities for almost two years, firstly joining in as a youth. The Hub was also instrumental in supporting Kate's transitioning activities between being a student and utilizing adult community services.

During that time, she participated in drama groups, choir, bell choir, yoga and dance.

On a number of occasions our entire family has attended functions at The Hub and we have invited family friends and classmates to watch productions that our daughter has participated in there.

On behalf of my daughter Kate and my family, we are sincerely grateful to the PDD for supporting and providing this excellent, centrally located facility where all are welcome.

Thank you."

#### Mary Jane Morrison

"I have met the coolest people here at the Hub and I love volunteering at all the events with my mom and sister. I run into the a lot of Hub friends on the street and I always give them a big hug and smile"

FOX 14 year old High School volunteer



Balancing Acts with Random Acts of Kindness



I Truly Love Being Here ...

The Hub on Ross is one of the most amazing places I have ever experienced.

I have met more people in different walks of life here than I have anywhere else.

It's a truly love filled place for everyone to come and enjoy themselves and be a part of community, no matter what part of humanity you come from!

Rea Vanlie Hub Committee Member & Volunteer Curator



"Please accept our thanks for working with GrammaLink to put on our third Chili Bowl Lunch. Also, please thank all of The Hub volunteers that helped. From Tammy's enthusiasm and monitoring of the hairnet situation to Derek's wise counsel and being in the right place at the right time for set up, pepper, sour cream and cheese and to all of the others - Judy, Cindy, Wes - that helped with the set up/clean up, counting, and cupcake and bowl stations, we really benefitted. As you know, we raised over \$3,000 and served over 200. We noted lots of positive interactions between the grammas and The Hub volunteers hopefully we are beginning to hit the right stride in involving The Hub volunteers - thank you for asking them to be involved. We appreciate being able to use The Hub for this event because of the great atmosphere and your support, as much as for the location and cost. We are hoping to come again next year! Thanks again!"

**Diane Assinger** 

#### The Red Deer Advocate, February 12, 2013

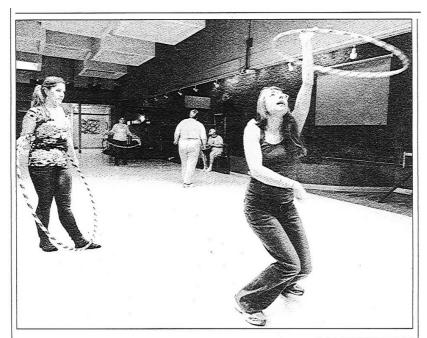


Photo by JEFF STOKOE

Hula Hoop instructor Jodie Seymour demonstrates a move to Lindsey Geisbrecht during a night of Hula Hooping at the HUB on Tuesday.

# Home is where The Hub is

COMMUNITY CENTRE OFFERS AFTERNOON DROP-IN SESSIONS FOR A DIVERSE ARRAY OF INTERESTS

#### BY LANA MICHELIN LOVOCATE STA

Hula hoopers, handbell ring-ers, amateur artists, actors and community advocates all share a home base in downtown Red Deer called The Hub on Ross.

called The Hub on Ross. The community centre offers af-ternoon drop-in sessions for a di-verse array of interests — whether it's yoga, dance or drumming. And when most downtown busi-nesses shut down for the night, The Hub's Ross Street store-front remains a whirlwind of ac-tivity, bringing the community to-gether for a common purpose. Folks can try a new healing ex-ercise program that mixes various body-mind disciplines, or attend popular Friday night concerts fea-turing performers, such as Amos Garrett, that attract audiences of 60-plus people.

60-plus people. One recent Tuesday evening, participants were having fun while exercising at the Hula Hoop

Jam. Jodie Seymour, who runs her Jodie Seymour, who runs her own hooping business, volunteers to informally facilitate hula hoop-ing at The Hub, saying it's a great place for novices and experienced hoopers to get together and do their thing. "It's a chance for us to meet informally," said Seymour, who's own philosophy aligns with The Hub's goals of building commu-lity through shared experience.

nity through shared experienc-

The adult-sized hoops that Sey-

mour brings in make it easy to keep them circling your waist, and "it's something fun to do," said Lindsey Geisbrecht, a 28-year-old office worker, who dropped in for the jam for the first time recently with a friend. "I didn't know anything about The Hub so I was placantly sur-

"I dian't know anything about The Hub, so I was pleasantly sur-prised to see all the things there are going on," said Elly Hunter, 23, a support worker for the dis-abled who also attended for the forettime. first time.

first time. For many years, The Hub was The Centre Shop, a store that sold hand-crafted wooden items creat-ed by mentally disabled residents of Michener Centre. It has evolved since 2005 into more of a welcoming community centre that integrates those with disabilities with the community at larse.

disabilities with the community at large. Ber Randers, one of two staff members, said all kinds of people now use the centre, which is still funded by the Persons With De-velopmental Disabilities Board through the provincial Human Services Department. Each week, easily 200 people walk through the doors, said Randers.

"Everybody loves the place. It's

a huge success story." Randers feels The Hub's role

is to help people make connec-tions through cultural programming. The centre's other staffer, Twy

- HUB STAFFER TWYLA JOY LAPOINTE

WE BRING CULTURE TO THE COMMUNITY 12

HOURS A DAY AND EVERYBODY'S A PART OF IT.'

The centre's other staffer, Twy-la Joy Lapointe, said The Hub of-ten partners with other non-prof-its to jointly offer activities. For example, a group such as the Central Alberta Refugee Ef-fort might bring its own facilitator to offer a program such as the Cul-ture Café at The Hub, so there's a sharing of resources.

where satisfy the fully so there's a sharing of resources. "We bring culture to the com-munity 12 hours a day and every-body's a part of it," said Lapointe, who believes that culture makes up the fabric of community — and requires a real communal effort.

and requires a real communa-effort. But the reason so many peo-ple buy into what The Hub has to offer, she added, is that "people feel accepted here and everybody brings their best self forward." Blair Charters, a 24-year-old restaurant worker, is a regular participant in programs at The Hub because he enjoys the laid-back vibe, which he feels takes the edge off some of the "intensity" of his job.

"What I most enjoy about it is meeting new people and making friends," Charters added.

Please see HUB on Page C2

STORIES FROM PAGE C1

#### HUB: 'Everybody equal at The Hub'

"Everybody is equal here," said Lucinda Shear-down, who facilitates one of the more popular pro-grams offered at The Hub — the PASTA Players act-ing group. Sheardown sees acting as a collaborative experi-ence, so everyone's idea for scenes is considered fair game — and if somebody likes to sing, the group is encouraged to write it into a scene. "Every lay is something we can relate to," said Charters, entition of the Lieutenant Governor's

Charters. In recognition of the Lieutenant Governor's Arts Awards being given out in Red Deer in June, the players are writing original scenes that will be performed for the public on the Ross Street Patio.

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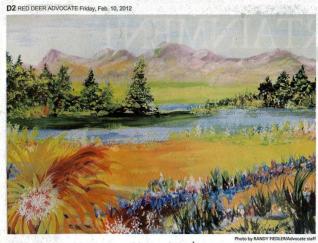


Photo by MAIDY FIDLENAdvocate staff River Round Up by Marjorie Robert is one of the pieces in the new show Tranquil Transitions at The Hub on Ross. She and her stepson Sheldon have a number of paintings and mixed media pieces in the exhibition.



Tranquil Transitions — present by The Hub unil Feb. 26 leatures wor of artists Marjone and Sheldon Robe Call 403:340-4866 for more informatio Cape Dorset: Selections from H MGC Collection will be featured at R Deer Museum and Art Gallery continu to March 41 in Dee: 1983, Dr: Kathle Anderson Swallow, a local collector inuit and Native Art, donated her colle lion to the museum. Cape Dorset prin commission 4 learen protein of ber deer

comprised a large portion of her dor tion. See www.reddeermuseum.co email museum@reddeer.ca, or pho 403-309-8405. Uuturautilt – Cape Dorset Cel brates 50 Years of Printmaking – v

brates 50 Years of Printmaking – 1 be on display at the Red Deer Museu and Art Gallery until April 1. This é hibit is organized by the National Galle of Canada in collaboration with Dors Fine Arts and represents a culmination of five decades of diverse styles and techniques of printmaking of the West Baftin Eskimo Cooperative Ltd. or Kinngait as it is locally known in Nunavut. Phone 403-309-8405 or email to museum@reddeer.ca.

The Gardens at Trevarno: works by Sally Towers-Sybblis, will be on display at the Kiwanis Gallery until Feb. 26. These gardens in Corrwall England inspired the artist to paint imagery of birds, ponds, boathouses and more. Te find out more, phone 403-346-4576. Remembering the Olympic Dream of Calgary's 1998 Winter Games through Commemorative Art is on disthrough Commemorative Art is on display at the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame and Museum until March 3. Includes featured sculptures by artist John Weaver courtesy of WinSport Canada. See www.ashtm.cor phone 403-311-8614.

the Alberta Sports Hall of Fame Museum, explores the effects of the First and Second World Wars on sports in Alberta and how war influenced so many Albertans when sport and war collided. For more information call 403-341-8614

To be included in this listing, please email event details to editorial@reddeeradvocate.com, fax to 403-341-6560, or phone 403-314-4325.



## **Red Deer Scene, December 2012**

