



Alberta Brain Injury Initiative

BULLETIN

December 2001

Update on Interim Advisory Council

Community Development is pleased to be working with the four members of the Interim Advisory Council (IAC), who were appointed by Minister Gene Zwozdesky in September 2001. The IAC has met four times to provide strategic advice on the implementation of supports for individuals with acquired brain injury. The members participated in developing the community-based approaches to the establishment of a provincial network of support, coordination and outreach, which formed the basis for the recent Requests for Proposals. They are currently assisting the ministry in the review of *Making Choices*. This review will contribute to the Government's strategic response to this report which is anticipated for release in early 2002.

Message from Connie Osterman, Chair

"I appreciate this opportunity, on behalf of the Interim Advisory Council, to extend our first "Hello" and compliments of the season to the many people in the Brain Injury community.

The Council has taken the first steps towards providing Minister Zwozdesky and Community Development staff with our advice regarding the steps needed to formulate a province-wide program. Matching ideas with available financial resources is difficult. However, great things can come from small beginnings. We will keep you posted."

Interim Advisory Council Members



Clockwise from the back:

Pat Marshall and **Suzanne Vallally**
Connie Osterman and **Hildegard Campsell**

Community Development Initiatives

Peter Faid of Community Services Consulting was contracted to meet with advocacy organizations and service provider groups across Alberta to explore the need and support for distinct provincial associations.

Community Development has received permission from Saskatchewan Brain Injury Services to edit and reprint the "Survivor Manual". This manual, a resource for injury survivors and their families, will be available by April 2002.



Community Support Systems (CSS) Division News

Tom Fowler, previously with the Premier's Council on the Status of Persons with Disabilities, has been seconded to CSS as Provincial Coordinator for the Support, Coordination and Outreach strategy.

More news on this exciting initiative in the new year.

Brain Injury Initiative Request For Proposals

Requests for Proposals for Support Coordination and Outreach, One Time Funding, Demonstration Projects and/or Enhancement of Services were sent out in early November.

A number of proposals have been received and are currently being reviewed. Our priority will be to establish agreements for the support, coordination and outreach functions across the province. We will be contacting everyone who submitted a proposal by the end of March 2002.

Bulletin

If you or someone you know is receiving the Bulletin by mail but you would prefer to access it from the Web site, please contact our office and request that you be removed from our mailing list.



Happy Holidays from the staff at Community Support Systems

CSS Office will be closed:

- * **December 24, 25, & 26**
- * **January 1, 2002**

NOTE: Messages received on the message line will be returned when the office is open.

For more information on the Brain Injury Initiative, contact:

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Alberta
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT