

New Co-Chair, members appointed to CFSA Board

(May 2, 2006) ... The Board of Southeast Alberta Child and Family Services Authority (CFSA) welcomed a new Co-Chair and two new members to help govern the CFSA in its work to strengthen families and keep children and youth safe and protected.

Heather Rann, who has been a member of the Board since October 2004, joins Ken Serr as Co-Chair. A special constable with the Medicine Hat Police Service, Rann has lived and worked in the southeast region her entire life. She was a member of the steering committee that helped establish the Child and Family Services Authority and sat on the selection committee for the original Board. She sees her biggest role as an advocate for children and families.

“Children and families are the heart of our communities,” she says. “My involvement with this Board allows me to connect with their needs and allows me a greater perspective in both my professional and personal life.”

New Board members **Susan Masterman** of Medicine Hat and **Sharon Ness** of New Brigden both bring relevant community experience to their new roles.

During her 34-year teaching career, Sue Masterman taught in a variety of diverse settings including Thicket Portage, a Cree village in Northern Manitoba; Grand Prairie; Dayton, Oregon; Ralston; and Redcliff. She has a Bachelor of Education degree and a Master’s in Special Education. Since moving to Medicine Hat in 1981, she’s served on a number of boards including the Women’s Shelter Board and Parish Council for St. Mary’s Church. She is also active in the Alberta Teacher’s Association and is currently serving her second year as local president.

Born in Eston, Saskatchewan, Sharon Ness has lived in the New Brigden area all of her married life. She works for AFSC – Crop Insurance in Oyen and her family owns a cattle and horse ranch. While raising her children she was involved in community organizations such as ECS and Home and School. She has also served on a Mental Health Advisory Board and served as the treasurer of her church. She is currently a volunteer for Victims’ Assistance with the RCMP.

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The current Board of the CFSA consists of eight members:

Ken Serr (Co-Chair) – Medicine Hat
Heather Rann (Co-Chair) – Medicine Hat
Sandra Dumoulin – Brooks
Norma Roy – Medicine Hat
Jim Black – Medicine Hat
Fred Kramer – Medicine Hat
Susan Masterman – Medicine Hat
Sharon Ness – New Brigden

The Board is responsible for governing Southeast Alberta Child and Family Services Authority, which provides a wide range of services and programs under the mandate of Alberta Children's Services, including:

- early intervention services
- child intervention services (family enhancement and protection)
- child care licensing and subsidy
- family support for children with disabilities
- prevention of family violence and bullying
- prevention of child sexual exploitation
- foster care
- adoption and permanency planning

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