

## **About the Partnership:**

### **The story of the Central Alberta Sexual Assault Support Centre:**

30 years ago marked the inception of the Central Alberta Sexual Assault Support Centre. The Centre was created as a result of the vision of one woman who saw the need for services surrounding the issues of sexual assault and sexual abuse. Unfortunately, that need has not diminished and as our society continues to break the silence surrounding the issues of sexual assault and sexual abuse the more in demand our services are. This increased demand has led to our agency out growing its current space.

### **The story of the Central Alberta Child Advocacy Centre:**

A group of community leaders identified that there were some obvious concerns in regards to the mental health of our children. As this group of concerned citizens began to look at this issue closer they realized often these mental health issues were derived from children who had experienced some sort of trauma. They also realized that there were many agencies in our community that were doing incredible work but yet we were still falling short when it came to kids. They began searching for a better way, and found that model in the Sheldon Kennedy Child Advocacy Centre. This model integrates services for children under one roof who have been affected by primary trauma (this includes sexual abuse, mental abuse, domestic violence, and neglect)

### **The dream...**

Both the Central Alberta Sexual Assault Centre and the Central Alberta Child Advocacy Centre came to the realization that we have common goals and a passion to meet the needs of children. The services that are already provided at CASASC would be of benefit to the Central Alberta CAC this prompted the dream of having both agencies to be housed in the same building. To draw on one another's skills and talents to meet the needs of children who have been affected by primary trauma.



### **Becoming a reality...**

Being selected for the 2017 Sheraton Celebrity Dance Off has allowed these two agencies the opportunity to raise funds together to find a space that is capable of housing both agencies and allowing them to not only impact the lives of children but to have continuing services into adulthood.



Our integrated approach will allow us to collaboratively achieve greater results than any partner could on their own. Through working together we can be more efficient and effective in our services, this will result in cost savings for our government and our community. Most importantly the clients of CASASC and Central Alberta CAC will be able to access services that included but are not limited to RCMP support, Crown Prosecution, Child and Family Services, Child Therapist, Sexual Assault Therapist's, Mental Health Therapist's, and Doctor's.



We are a group of diverse, educated people who are driven to helping our children, families and community using our best talents and together we will create change.