

Inside THE CUPBOARD

SHARING THE NEWS



It's been an exciting and busy summer at the Lending Cupboard, and the coming months promise to be equally eventful.

One of the biggest items on the horizon is our Annual General Meeting, which will take place on October 14 at the Lending Cupboard. Our organization helps people and contributes to the well-being of residents – in Red Deer and far beyond. The leadership from the board makes this possible, as they make decisions that pave the way for current and future operations.

If you're interested in learning more about the Board of Directors, please contact me at executivedirector@lendingcupboard.ca to discuss how it might be a fit for you. Board members are a vital and valued part of our organization; we sincerely thank all of those who dedicate their time to the Lending Cupboard and look forward to welcoming new members to the team.

Until next time, I hope you enjoy reading these articles and learning more about the positive activities happening here every day.

Dawna Morey
Dawna Morey
Executive Director

NUMBER NUGGETS

Board members are a crucial part of the Lending Cupboard, and here's a snapshot of that invaluable team:

9 people currently serve on the Board of Directors

4 are on the executive committee

2 have been on the board since 2007

3 are regular volunteers in other areas of the organization

CHARTING A PATH

The Board of Directors provides essential guidance for the Lending Cupboard

The Lending Cupboard has thousands of pieces of equipment, thousands of clients and dozens of volunteers. With all of these elements to consider, long-range planning and organizational strategies are critical for success. Thankfully, the Board of Directors provides the leadership necessary to propel the organization forward.

"Our board is a diverse group, as members bring a variety of skills and expertise," says Janet Pennington, board chair. "Board members may have backgrounds in accounting, law, fund development, strategic planning, marketing and health care. We also have volunteers who work in other areas at the Lending Cupboard." These volunteers include John West, Chris Hume and Gerry Campbell – all of whom bring knowledge of daily operations to the decision-making table of the directors. "I have a background in nursing, and when I retired in 2010, I knew I wanted to volunteer so I came to the Lending Cupboard," says Chris Hume. "I joined the board in 2014, and it allowed me to see both sides of the operations, which is quite a unique perspective."

When it comes to recent and on-going board projects, Pennington notes they focus on high-level items, such as reviewing policies and procedures, as well as approving plans and projects proposed by the executive director, and sitting on subcommittees that include staff and volunteers.

"It's important that we're strategic about our planning and projects so we can continue helping others," says Pennington. "Often when people come here, they're suffering, but we can help them, and that's very positive and rewarding. The Lending Cupboard is an organization that people – whether staff, volunteers or board members – can take pride in being connected with."



Gerry Campbell, Board of Director and in-house volunteer thanking one of our donors



Chris Hume, Board of Director and in-house volunteer

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will take place on October 14 at 5 p.m. at the Lending Cupboard. To learn more, call 403-356-1678 or email contact@lendingcupboard.ca.

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PAYING IT FORWARD

Sharing knowledge and equipment with Wetaskiwin volunteers

Diane Sauer and Janice Lockhart are preparing to help in Wetaskiwin. “There’s a need for easier and more timely access to the loan of medical equipment,” says Sauer. “This service has been offered by the Wetaskiwin Home Care program, but AHS management and staff in the program have identified capacity challenges in providing, maintaining and managing the equipment – in addition to the other services they provide.”

This has led community volunteers Sauer and Lockhart to look into options for starting a local equipment centre. Through contact with the Lending Cupboard’s executive director, Dawna Morey, they’ve begun discussions into sharing equipment and resources. Just like the Lending Cupboard was initially helped by a large donation of equipment, Morey is happy to provide that same service to Wetaskiwin. “We have extra equipment that we’ll provide to them as a starting place,” says Morey. “Plus, we’ll look into sharing any policies or procedures that may be useful.”

These items will be gratefully received by Sauer and Lockhart. “Dawna and the Lending Cupboard have provided us with so much knowledge and enthusiasm and support,” says Lockhart. “We appreciate their help so much, and it will benefit the people in Wetaskiwin and Wetaskiwin County.”



The Lending Cupboard plans to send much needed equipment to Wetaskiwin

SPOTLIGHT

“It’s so easy to volunteer here, because it’s such a positive environment, and I truly believe in the Lending Cupboard’s vision.”

*Chris Hume, volunteer since 2010/
board member since 2014*

“I enjoy working here and being able to give people the equipment they really need at no cost – that’s important for so many people.”

*Gerry Campbell, volunteer since 2012/
board member since 2013*

WELCOME

The Lending Cupboard is happy to welcome two new employees. Verna MacLeod has joined our team in the Receptionist/Administration role, and Terena Seaward has started as the new Volunteer Coordinator.

Welcome to the Lending Cupboard!

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Contact our volunteer coordinator at the Lending Cupboard: volunteer@lendingcupboard.ca or 403.356.1678.

LEARNING ABOUT THE OPTIONS

Post-operative equipment is an important part of the Lending Cupboard

Two knee replacements in two years means that Mary-Lou Farr has gotten to know the Lending Cupboard very well. “My first surgery was in March of 2013, and the second one was in June of this year,” she says. “I went to the Lending Cupboard before each surgery, so everything was set up for what I needed at the hospital and once I got home.”

Farr was referred to the Lending Cupboard by the local Knee and Hip Clinic offered through Alberta Health Services. “The Lending Cupboard is currently in its second three-year contract of offering medical equipment to patients through the Knee and Hip Clinic,” explains Janet Pennington, board chair. “This has been a good partnership, and we work with many local clients through the program.”

Mary-Lou Farr, a happy Red Deer client



When Farr needed equipment, she was provided with a prescription from the clinic, which she brought to the Lending Cupboard. During her recovery periods, she used a walker, bath bench and a cane. “It’s incredible how much equipment the Lending Cupboard has and to receive it free of charge is an amazing service,” she says. “The staff and volunteers were so good to work with, and their organization provides a huge help to so many people in the community.”

STAY TUNED

Want to read more about the Lending Cupboard? Be sure to check out the winter 2015 edition of “Inside the Cupboard,” which will look at some of our fundraising activities.

Check out our Quilt Raffle starting after Thanksgiving. Quilt will be on display at The Lending Cupboard!