

# Inside THE CUPBOARD

## OPEN CUPBOARD



I am not sure were the time has gone but as we say goodbye to the hazy days of summer and see the colours of autumn arrive, we begin

another fiscal period here at The Lending Cupboard.

We know that people's needs don't necessarily come to a halt over the summer and in fact we were busy serving 1,729 clients since July 1st.

In recent months a lot of improvements have been done to our systems and processes. We have made upgrades to our record and registration process. We are now able to track, manage and maintain our inventory, we can identify what equipment we have and what we need.

We launched our new extended hours making it more accessible for our clients. Sept. 1st we introduced a \$10 processing fee. This is not a rental fee, The Lending Cupboard remains committed to loaning equipment to the community at no cost but is necessary and will help to offset the rising costs of overhead and operations.

As fall approaches the Board of Directors is preparing for the AGM set for Oct. 12, 2017 when they will be saying thank you to a few Board Members that are stepping down after several years of serving on the board. They will also welcome a few new individuals. It is certainly a dynamic time as we also continue our work looking for a larger facility that will serve our growing needs. I expect that by the time our winter newsletter comes out we will have more news to share. In the meantime the work goes on, it continues to be my honour to serve this organization and my pleasure to work with such a wonderful team of staff and volunteers.

*Dawna Morey*  
Dawna Morey, Executive Director

## GIVE-AND-TAKE: LENDING CUPBOARD VOLUNTEER LLOYD DICKSON

Red Deerian Lloyd Dickson received the Mayor's recognition award in 1998 for continuous volunteer service. His lifelong dedication to the community included volunteer work with the Legion, Rotary, the Canadian Diabetes Association, and Sunnybrook Farm Museum, where he was a founding member. Additionally, Lloyd gave of his time to The Lending Cupboard, volunteering for several years with equipment maintenance and repair.

"His 'old farm boy' ingenuity kicked in many times when he was repairing equipment," says his son-in-law, Arnie Gaudin. "No doubt he extended the life of many pieces. He loved to tinker, and enjoyed the camaraderie of the group."

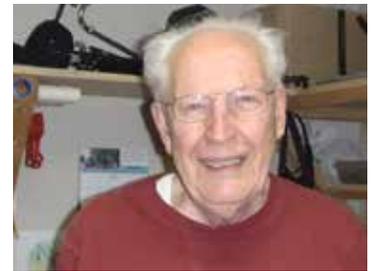
Lloyd met and married his wife Isabelle in Calgary in 1949, after he had completed his Naval service. Lloyd worked his entire career with AGT (Alberta Government Telephones). They raised two children, eventually making their way to Red Deer. Lloyd retired early, allowing him to pursue his passion to serve the community as a volunteer.

Isabelle Dickson, Lloyd's wife, was born with hip dysplasia which was corrected with a total of 3 hip replacements. As Isabelle's disability gradually worsened over time, the Dickson's were able to borrow a number of pieces of equipment from The Cupboard, including crutches, bed frames, bed rails, a commode and a walker. Lloyd's mobility began to decline with age, and he too benefited from The Lending Cupboard's equipment loan program, borrowing a power scooter and a walker.

**"The Lending Cupboard was a godsend," says their daughter Barbara. "The entire family has a great appreciation for the organization. There's a great need for this kind of service in every community."**

Lloyd gave freely of his time to The Lending Cupboard for many years, and The Lending Cupboard was there for him when he needed it. Lloyd passed away in November 2015 and, after 66 years together, Isabelle, who missed him deeply, passed away earlier this year. As Barbara says, "Mom's with Dad now."

The Dickson's are prime examples of the give-and-take opportunities people have with The Lending Cupboard. Community members can give of their time, and/or make donations to The Cupboard, and The Cupboard is proud to be available, when needed, to offer the community dignity, mobility, and independence.



Lloyd Dickson in the shop, his favorite spot at The Cupboard.



Lloyd along with John and Harvey tinkering on a piece of equipment.

**Produced by**  
**The Lending Cupboard Society of Alberta**  
5406C 43 Street, Red Deer, AB T4N 1C9  
P: 403.356.1678 E: [contact@lendingcupboard.ca](mailto:contact@lendingcupboard.ca)  
[www.lendingcupboard.ca](http://www.lendingcupboard.ca)  
Follow us! [t](#) [f](#) [i](#)

Dawna Morey, Executive Director  
Writer & Editor  
Danielle Klooster, [www.danikloo.com](http://www.danikloo.com)  
Layout & Design  
Kerstin Heuer, [www.heuerdesign.ca](http://www.heuerdesign.ca)

## MLA MEMBER STATEMENT SHOWCASES THE LENDING CUPBOARD

**On May 24th, 2017, Red Deer North MLA Kim Schreiner delivered a Member's Statement in the Alberta Legislature, showcasing the importance of The Lending Cupboard and detailing its work.**

Here is MLA Schreiner's statement:

*Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker. I am sure everyone in the House knows that I am immensely proud of the great city which I call home. Red Deer has earned the title of volunteer capital. That speaks to our strong sense of loyalty and community, and I never run out of reasons to sing its praises. I would like to shed light on The Lending Cupboard Society, which embodies this strong sense of community. Established in July 2006, with services provided to 456 clients, the mission was to provide medical equipment to those in need. Today their tremendous growth supports a diverse model incorporating a more holistic approach, including wellness, mobility, independence, and dignity. The Lending Cupboard Society helps make Albertans' lives better. As the only established nonprofit organization of its kind in central Alberta their mission has touched the lives of many family, friends, and constituents of many of our members in the House today. It is not only the services and equipment that make The Lending Cupboard such a success. The service it provides supplements Alberta Health Services by ensuring that Albertans have access to the medical devices they need to maintain their independence and dignity. On January 30 I had the pleasure of introducing the hon. Minister of Health to the gem that The Lending Cupboard is and to showcase the caring community that is Red Deer and its impact on central Alberta. With the dedication of many volunteers and phenomenal staff The Lending Cupboard Society meets a strong community need by supporting individuals when illness or tragedy strikes. Mr. Speaker, today I applaud the great strides that have been made in supporting Albertans who are vulnerable, and I compliment The Lending Cupboard Society for the leadership and compassion that motivates the great work they do in the community I call home. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.*

Executive Director Dawna Morey and Board Member Chris Hume were invited to the legislature for this event.



Left: TLC Board Members met with MLA Kim Schreiner & Honourable Minister of Health Hoffman at The Cupboard in January 2017.



Right: Board Member Chris Hume and ED Dawna Morey at the AB Legislature

"We're so grateful for the support of our local MLAs," says Executive Director Dawna Morey. "It's important that the Alberta government understand the very necessary service that The Lending Cupboard is providing to Albertans. MLA Schreiner's Member Statement was an important part of continuing to get that message across."

**The Lending Cupboard receives about 20% of its annual revenue from Alberta Health Services funding.**

## BUSINESS IS BOOMING AT RED DEER'S HIP & KNEE CLINIC

**One of the main user groups for equipment from The Lending Cupboard is people recovering from hip or knee surgery.**

The Red Deer Regional Hospital is the main surgical centre in Central Alberta for such surgeries, though some are now also being performed in Olds, in an effort to reduce wait times. Camrose Hospital also does orthopedic surgeries, and The Cupboard sees a number of referrals from that community.

### Increase of Hip & Knee Surgeries

In Canada, hip & knee surgeries increased 13% over five years from 2008-2013. In **Alberta, hip surgeries increased by more than 20%** between 2010 and 2015. Knee replacement surgeries in Alberta, over that same period of time, increased by almost 27%.

With the aging demographic, and an increase in the number of falls and motor vehicle accidents, limited operating room (OR) availability as well as availability of beds on hospital units, translates into ever-increasing wait times for patients requiring orthopedic surgery of any kind.

### More people rely on mobility aids

For The Lending Cupboard, this means that more people need mobility aids in advance of their surgeries, and for longer periods of time. Individuals having hip or knee surgery and requiring a loan of medical equipment from The Cupboard are encouraged to complete their loan application before they go in for surgery. It is also best if the patient themselves is present during intake, to ensure proper fitting.

As the demand for hip & knee surgeries continues to grow in the region, and across the country, the need for The Lending Cupboard also grows. Your support of our organization ensures that we will be able to provide this critical service to the community over the coming years. Thank you!

## PROCESS CHANGES

**In order to continue our commitment to providing quality customer service, meeting the ever-increasing demand and rising operational costs, The Lending Cupboard introduced a \$10.00 processing fee for all loan applications, effective Sept. 1st, 2017.**

“The fee is being introduced to offset the rising costs of overhead and operations for The Lending Cupboard, and to help us be sustainable to meet the growing demand for our services,” explains Executive Director Dawna Morey. “This is not a rental fee, as The Lending Cupboard remains committed to loaning equipment to the community at no cost.”

Visit our website for complete details.



## MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS ADVOCATE TO THE PROVINCE ON BEHALF OF THE LENDING CUPBOARD

**Each year, urban municipalities gather at a convention with their association, the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA). As part of this convention, members consider municipal needs and issues, put forward in policy resolutions. Members debate and adopt these resolutions, which are then advocated to the Province by the association on their behalf.**

This year, The City of Red Deer put forward a resolution regarding The Lending Cupboard, which will be put to the membership at the AUMA convention this fall. The resolution advocates as follows:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT Alberta Health Services immediately and substantially increase its funding support to The Lending Cupboard Society of Alberta, and include annual incremental increases; and

THAT Alberta Seniors and Housing and Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) also support The Lending Cupboard Society of Alberta; and

THAT these government ministries support municipalities and communities across Alberta to develop local medical equipment lending initiatives.

The Lending Cupboard is grateful for the support and advocacy efforts of Red Deer City Council, and other municipalities across Central Alberta and the province as a whole. We will provide updates on the success of this resolution in an upcoming newsletter.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**A bunch of funny, wise crackling, small-town characters looking for the true meaning of Christmas.**

When Leo Tannenbaum appears from nowhere on Dec 23rd, things begin to change around the Holly Rail way Station. This nostalgic theatrical greeting card is full of eccentric small town characters, wise-cracking their way to finding the true wonder of Christmas. A delight for audiences ages 6 to 106.

**“The Christmas Express” with Cow Patti Theatre, The Lending Cupboard is selling tickets to the December 9th Benefit Brunch Performance. Tickets on sale now for \$65**



## THE SEARCH IS ON!

**After ten years in our original location, The Lending Cupboard is bursting at the seams and looking for a larger space.**

Stay tuned to our website, social media and this newsletter for future updates on our big move.



## EXTENDED HOURS

Our new hours are:  
Mon/ Wed/ Fri: 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

## REACHING OUR GOAL

The Lending Cupboard had a fundraising/donation goal in the 2017 fiscal year of \$160,000. That goal was successfully reached because of the generosity of Central Alberta service clubs, Corporations and individual people who chose to support our organization.

With our new fiscal year underway as of July 1st and with raising cost and increased number of clients a new goal of \$180,000 has been set this year. The Lending Cupboard is optimistic that Central Alberta's generosity will continue. In fact we are off to a great start exceeding the \$20,000 mark in the first 6 weeks.



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting for this year will take place on October 12 at 5 p.m. at the Lending Cupboard. For more details or to RSVP call 403-356-1678 or email [executivedirector@lendingcupboard.ca](mailto:executivedirector@lendingcupboard.ca).

## SPOTLIGHT

"Thank you so much for this wonderful opportunity you have given the citizens of the Red Deer area. Throughout my mom's battle with dementia you have helped supply much of the equipment needed. As it was always changing as the disease progressed. She has now passed away and you make returning the equipment very easy. Thank you for this and all YOU do."

*Carrie Lou S.*

## NUMBER NUGGETS

July 1, 2017 – August 31, 2017

**1,729** Clients Served

**1,313** Equipment on Loan

**1,729** Equipment Returns

**452** Equipment Donated

## WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

If you have a special interest in Special Events, Fundraising or wish to volunteer in clients services, cleaning/sanitizing, or repairs contact our Volunteer Coordinator at [volunteer@lendingcupboard.ca](mailto:volunteer@lendingcupboard.ca) or call us at 403-356-1678

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Thank you Fonda! Donation from Harley Davidson Hog Rally July 2017



Thank you Ken Tighe and the Loyal Moose.



Thank you Ryan Philip at Red Deer Lighting!



Thank you Connor Douglas and Red Deer Kinsmen.

## STAY TUNED

Want to learn more about The Lending Cupboard? Visit our website at [www.lendingcupboard.ca](http://www.lendingcupboard.ca) anytime to stay up-to-date on events, and be sure to look for the next edition of "Inside the Cupboard" coming in January 2018. Receive it electronically – send us an email to [contact@lendingcupboard.ca](mailto:contact@lendingcupboard.ca), and we'll put you on the list.