# 2019 FASD Awareness Day Act Winnipeg, MB

**Event Report September 9, 2019** 

- On May 23, 2018, in the Legislative Assembly, A private member's bill was introduced by Sarah Guillemard, MLA for Fort Richmond which passed its second reading to establish a day for awareness of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD). Bill 230, the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Day Act Manitoba, proposes that Sept. 9 every year be designated as Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Awareness Day throughout Manitoba.
- In recognition of the recently legislated FASD AWARENESS DAY ACT Manitoba accented on Nov 8, 2018, September 9 is to be known throughout Manitoba as FASD Awareness Day, which represents the ninth day of the ninth month of the year to symbolize the nine months of pregnancy.



THE FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER AWARENESS DAY ACT LOI SUR LA JOURNÉE DE SENSIBILISATION À L'ENSEMBLE DES TROUBLES CAUSÉS PAR L'ALCOOLISATION FŒTALE

STATUTES OF MANITOBA 2018

Chapter 39

LOIS DU MANITOBA 2018

Chapitre 39

Bill 230 3" Session, 41" Legislature

Assented to November 8, 2018

Projet de loi 230 3" session, 41" législature

Date de sanction : 8 novembre 2018

#### **Volunteers:**

 On July 4th, Aug 20<sup>th</sup> and Sept 4, 2019 the collective FASD community agencies/organizations met together to begin planning the first FASD Awareness Day Act. Each agency organization committee Members recruited volunteers.



• The event was held at the Manitoba Legislative grounds 2<sup>nd</sup> floor rotunda area, Monday Sept 9, 2019 at 9:00 am with the Life's Journey, "Miikana Pimatiziwin" drum group opening the event with the spirit welcoming song.



## **Greeting table / Registration table:**

- Bev S, Life's Journey Inc participant greeted guests as they arrive. 180 people attended the event.
- At 9:09 a.m. the bell was rung 9 times by a participant to acknowledge the ninth day of the ninth month of the year to symbolize the nine months of pregnancy.
- At 9:10 a.m. Elder Debbie Cielen provided greetings with the treaty 1 land acknowledgement followed by the prayer and blessing.
- Debbie provide an acknowledgement of thanks to the Manitoba FASD Coalition for sponsoring the 1<sup>st</sup> annual FASD Awareness Day Act as well as acknowledgments of thanks to FASD Awareness Day planning committee, volunteers, speakers and guests.
- Debbie spoke about the private members bill accented Nov 8, 2018, the 20th anniversary of the FASD community celebrating FASD Awareness Day (1999 – 2019), FASD Language Guide and LAEO Dream Catcher – Promoting dignity for those impacted by FASD.
- Lastly, Debbie queried the crowd to think about: "If you woke up tomorrow and there was no more stigma about FASD, how would this impact you?" Debbie invited attendees to write their responses on the paper stigma clouds.









Russ H emceed events along side with coemcee Debbie Cielen housekeeping items, comments, speakers, door prizes provided closing remarks.

## **Speakers**

- Life's Journey participant poetry reading.
- Speakers from Visions & Voices.
- David Livingstone **FASD** Classroom students, they will provide the same 'brain domains' presentation.

#### **Door Prizes**

 Door prizes were given out at the end of the event. Various art pieces, gift cards and toys were raffled donated by several agencies.

#### **Activities and Entertainment**

- **Rock Painting**



## **Closing Remarks**











#### **Resource Table:**

- LAEO Language Guide and Dream Catcher Dignity project. HCMO resources.
- Family Network resources
- Life's Journey resources.
- Display student's artwork from camp.

#### **Invitations and Advertisement:**

 All committee members distributed invitations throughout their own networks.

#### Media:

The following media was invited to the FASD Awareness Day however there was no media who attended the event.

- Free Press
- CBC Indigenous
- CTV Winnipeg
- Global news, Winnipeg

## **Sponsors and Donations**

- Manitoba FASD Coalition for sponsoring 2019 FASD Awareness Day event.
- New Directions Opik ihi wawin program for donating 2 beautiful sets of 7
  posters which features incredible artwork done by the participants and staff
  at New Direction's Cultural, Educational and Training Services.
- MB FASD Coalition gift card donations.
- The FASD Family Network for children's toys.
- Aboriginal Health & Wellness Centre Inc., for the Ceramic Coasters and Turtle necklaces.