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# Canadian Social Worker's Month 2023



**NEAFAN**

Northeast Alberta FASD Network







## Canadian Social Worker's Month 2023

Canadian Social Worker's Month is celebrated every March to recognize the valuable contribution that social workers make to our society. These professionals work tirelessly to help individuals and families navigate complex social issues and provide crucial support to some of the most vulnerable members of our communities. This year, it is especially important to acknowledge the role that social workers play in providing health services to individuals with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and their caregivers.

FASD is a complex condition that affects individuals who were exposed to alcohol in utero. It can lead to a range of physical, cognitive, and behavioural challenges and have a profound impact on individuals and their families. Social workers are often the first point of contact for families seeking support for FASD and play a critical role in connecting them with the resources and services they need to thrive.

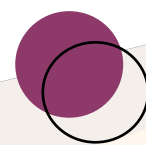
One of the key roles that social workers play in supporting individuals with FASD is providing access to health services. This can include everything from early intervention and diagnosis to ongoing support and treatment. Social workers work closely with other healthcare professionals to develop individualized care plans that take into account the unique needs and challenges of each individual with FASD. They also work with families to provide education and support, helping them navigate the complex healthcare system and access the services they need.



"Social workers provide crucial support to some of the most vulnerable members of our communities."



Another important role that social workers play in supporting individuals with FASD is providing advocacy and outreach. They work closely with community organizations, schools, and other stakeholders to raise awareness of FASD and promote understanding of the challenges faced by individuals and families affected by the condition. They also work to promote policies and initiatives that prioritize the health and well-being of individuals with FASD and their caregivers and advocate for greater access to services and resources.





## Collaborating for Care

Social workers play an important role in assisting individuals and families impacted by FASD by providing critical access to healthcare services, advocacy and outreach, and caregiver support. This might range from early intervention and diagnosis through continuous care and therapy. Social workers collaborate with other healthcare experts to create tailored care plans that address the specific needs and problems of each individual with FASD. They also work with families to educate and support them as they navigate the complex healthcare system and obtain the services they require.



“Social workers collaborate closely with community organizations, schools, and other stakeholders.”

Social workers also play a vital role in advocating for and reaching out to people with FASD and their caregivers. They collaborate closely with community organizations, schools, and other stakeholders to improve FASD awareness and promote understanding of the issues



that individuals and families affected by the disorder experience. They also advocate for increased access to services and resources by promoting policies and programs that prioritize the health and well-being of people with FASD and their caregivers. Additionally, social workers help people with FASD and their families to develop coping strategies and access resources to enhance their quality of life. They also work to reduce the stigma associated with FASD by promoting education and awareness campaigns in the community.



## International Women's Day 2023

International Women's Day is a significant day for commemorating women's accomplishments and highlighting the ongoing struggle for gender equality.

FASD is a complex and frequently misunderstood disorder that affects people who were exposed to alcohol while pregnant. FASD is thought to affect up to 4% of Canadians and can cause a variety of physical, cognitive, and behavioural issues.

Women are especially vulnerable to FASD since they are frequently the primary caretakers and decision-makers in their households. Women may be unaware of the risks of drinking during pregnancy in many circumstances, or they may lack access to the resources and assistance they require to make informed decisions.



“It is critical to emphasize the role that women play in FASD prevention.”



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### Links & Resources

- [Canada FASD Conference 2023 Registration](#)
- [Contact NEAFAN](#)

### CANADA FASD CONFERENCE

## From Evidence to Action

The first ever Canada FASD Conference is happening in November 2023 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan for three days of presentations and events to learn how we can transform evidence into action in the field of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). This conference will bring together approximately 500 researchers, caregivers, individuals with FASD, policymakers, and professionals to share what they know about FASD. Canadian and international attendees are welcome! This year's theme is Connect, Inspire, Innovate: From Evidence to Action.

REGISTER

