

Strategic Framework 2011-2016

AASCF's Strategic Framework was developed by the AASCF Board of Directors, the executive director, AASCF staff and our members.

Our Mission	Our Values
<p>The Alberta Association of Services for Children and Families works to strengthen member agencies and promotes attitudes, practices and conditions that contribute to quality services for vulnerable children and families. We achieve our mission by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a network of agencies for information sharing, social policy development and advocating on behalf of service providers; • Working to resolve social policy issues with collaboration between various stakeholders; • Developing professional service excellence; • Representing the interests of member agencies on regional and provincial committees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect for children, families and communities • Working together; • Service excellence; • Diversity of individuals, cultures, communities and services; • The strength of the community of staff, professionals and volunteer helpers who support children and families.
Our Beliefs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All people must be treated with dignity and respect. • Children and families must live in safe, secure, healthy, stable and nurturing environments. • Children and families need to be supported in developing a sense of pride in themselves and their cultural heritage. • Understanding and supporting people's spiritual beliefs contribute to their sense of empowerment, resiliency and capacity. • Children and families must be given the opportunity to access education that meets their needs. • Services need to be accessible and responsive to all in a timely and proactive way. • People must know what services are available to them. • People have the capacity to make their own decision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All families and communities have the strengths and capacities to grow and change. • Service providers must foster and facilitate growth for children, families and communities. • People must be heard. • Quality Services must be sensitive to all cultures in supporting children in their familiar environments and in their home communities. • Children are gifts and we are all equally responsible for their well-being. • We believe in the integrity of Aboriginal culture specifically. • All cultures' values, language, beliefs, principles and ceremonial practices for the empowerment of children, families, individuals, communities and agencies are important. • Each child and family must be provided the opportunity to maximize their potential.

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Our Strategic Directions

WORKFORCE CHALLENGES	TASKS>> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in the Human Services Network. • Participate as a member of the Alberta Workforce Council. • Liaise with other organizations on coordinated support for agencies e.g. ECVO, CCVO, etc.). • Provide workshops as necessary that help participants address workforce issues and challenges. • Participate in research projects that identify the value of the non-profit sector and its impact and influence on the community/economy. • Advocate through government channels for increased resources and support to address workforce issues and challenges, including support of AASCF, ACYS, etc. • Continue working with AASCF members through strategic initiatives committee to develop approaches, advocacy and support. • Work for adequate funding of our programs, services, and administration. • Work to ameliorate the historical salary gap issues facing our membership.
AASCF will use a variety of approaches to address the workforce challenges of its members	
SELF SUFFICIENCY	TASKS>> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain an office space that is suitable and affordable. • Produce the Annual budget. • Provide training opportunities as a revenue source. • Determine other or alternative revenue sources that may be available to AASCF.
Ensure that AASCF is financially viable and self-sufficient	
QUALITY SERVICES	TASKS>> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work on OBSD including hiring staff to support initiative. • Provide guidance and expertise to policy areas. • Respond to reviews and questions as necessary. • Support the FSCD council. • Contract Foster Care Council. • Provide training on practice and practice related issues. • Hold AASCF conference. • Undertake and/or participate in best practice, evidence based research about <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Aboriginal services, ✓ Child intervention, and ✓ Outcomes for children. • Provide ongoing opportunities for leadership development through the Bursary Program. • Convey stories that demonstrate effective practice models, successful services, and the role of AASCF.

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Our Strategic Directions

STRUCTURE

Ensure the effective and efficient operational structure of AASCF. This involves continued, effective communication with members as well as the potential to sell new services to government.

TASKS>>

- Review Board structure.
- Continue to regularly upgrade the website and our communication tools.
- Provide regular updates, and ED news.
- Hold regular membership meetings.
- Produce an Annual report.
- Undertake surveys and data gathering to ensure advocacy is accurate.
- Review Business practices and business purchasing.

A VOICE FOR MEMBERS

AASCF will clarify what its voice will be used for, when it will be utilized, for whom it will be used to benefit, and the audiences which are most crucial for its voice to be heard.

TASKS>>

- Continue to be a voice for:
 - ✓ Funding issues,
 - ✓ Increasing the strength of the sector and
 - ✓ Advocacy.
- Increase the strength of the social services sector especially with respect to the following:
 - ✓ Language and reframing our work,
 - ✓ Business mentality,
 - ✓ Social Return on Investment,
- Review diversity in membership.