



# FASDchildwelfare.ca

## A National FASD Child Welfare Community of Practice



**William Pelech**, University of Calgary  
**Dorothy Badry**, University of Calgary  
**Deborah Goodman**, CAS Toronto  
**Don Fuchs**, University of Manitoba  
**Sharon Long**, Alberta Human Services

### First International Conference on Prevention of FASD

Shaw Conference Centre  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
September 23, 2013



UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA

**Government  
of Alberta** ■



# Our Story



## The Inter-Provincial FASD Initiative



### Our Funders:

- Child Welfare Institute, Children's Aid Society of Toronto
- The Public Health Agency of Canada

### Our Partners:

- Child and Family Services Division, Alberta Human Services
- Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary
- Manitoba Family Services and Corporate Affairs
- Faculty of Social Work, University of Manitoba
- Child Welfare Institute, Children's Aid Society of Toronto
- Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto



# Our Objectives

- **FASD tri-provincial national prevalence study**  
(lead by Dr. Donald Fuchs)
- **Provincial inventories of FASD child welfare services**  
(Dr. Deborah Goodman)
- **FASD child welfare virtual community of practice**  
(Dr. William Pelech)
- **FASD caregiver curriculum/online training**  
(Dr. Dorothy Badry & Dr. Deb Goodman)



# Why Study Prevalence

- Despite the growing body of literature on FASD as a condition that merits greater understanding and appropriate intervention by schools, health care systems, and social services, most of the professional literature acknowledges that the actual prevalence of FASD is still unknown (Burnside, 2012).

# Prevalence of FASD in Canada

## Children and Youths in Care



- There are only 2 studies that have estimated the prevalence of FASD among Children in Care in Canada:
  - Fuchs et al. (2005) estimated that approximately **11.3%** of **children and youths in care** have FASD in Manitoba
  - Burge (2007) estimated a prevalence of approximately **3.3%** among children who are **permanent wards** in Ontario have FASD



# FASD Prevalence Study



- Baseline information on how many children in care in Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario are diagnosed with FASD (or are in the process of being assessed for FASD).
- Aim: To help child welfare systems plan for service delivery, training needs, placement development, policy development, and funding projections.



# Prevalence: Methodology

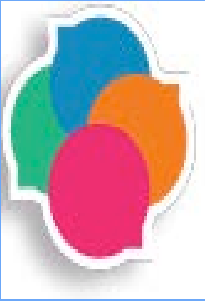


- Gathering Prevalence Rates of CIC Three provinces. Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario.
- Developed a common set of definitions.
- Developed a data collection tool.
- Major Challenge to set in place a data collection process in each province.
- Data Collection completed August 16, 2013.
- Report on the Findings Fall and Winter 2013 and Winter.

# Next Phase of The Prevalence Study

- To set in place continuous data collection processes in each of the participating provinces.
- To extend the Prevalence study process to Saskatchewan and Maritime Provinces willing to participate





# FASD-Related Service Inventories



## Completed

- Alberta
- Manitoba
- Ontario
- Nova Scotia
- PEI
- New Brunswick
- Newfoundland & Labrador
- North West Territories
- Nunavut
- Yukon

## In Progress

- British Columbia
- Quebec
- Saskatchewan



# Online Training Focus: Caregivers



- Coming January 2014
- Why is it important to have online training?
- Many Foster Parents (FPs) reside in rural and remote communities.
- Access to training on caregiver needs for children with FASD is limited.
- A great deal of information exists on FASD online – limited focus on caregiving.
- Online curriculums are often long & focused on professionals.



# Online Training Focus: Caregivers Requires



- A process of defining a curriculum.
- A literature review on caregiving.
- Reviewing information on provincial inventories and what exists in different communities.
- Review of curricula that presently exists online.
- Awareness that foster parents often take online training on foster care through sites in the USA.
- Awareness of training needs of FPs modeled after the FASD Community of Practice in Alberta.

# Focus on Training for Caregivers



- Curriculum to be grounded in best practice in foster care.
- Offered in modules that include social/behavioral and care related concerns specific to FASD.
- Provides insight from leading experts on care issues.
- Offer a self study process.
- Provides links to relevant resources for FPs/caregivers.
- Recognizes stress in FPs/Caregivers.

# Foster Care/Caregiver Training – Anticipated Outcomes



- FPs/Caregivers feel confident in their own practice within the home.
- FPs/Caregivers are encouraged to develop their own “model of practice” by working through the modules
- FPs/Caregivers feel empowered to adapt and shape their responses to the care needs of children with FASD.
- FPs/Caregivers act as advocates for children with FASD in their care, with the support of the child’s team of professionals.



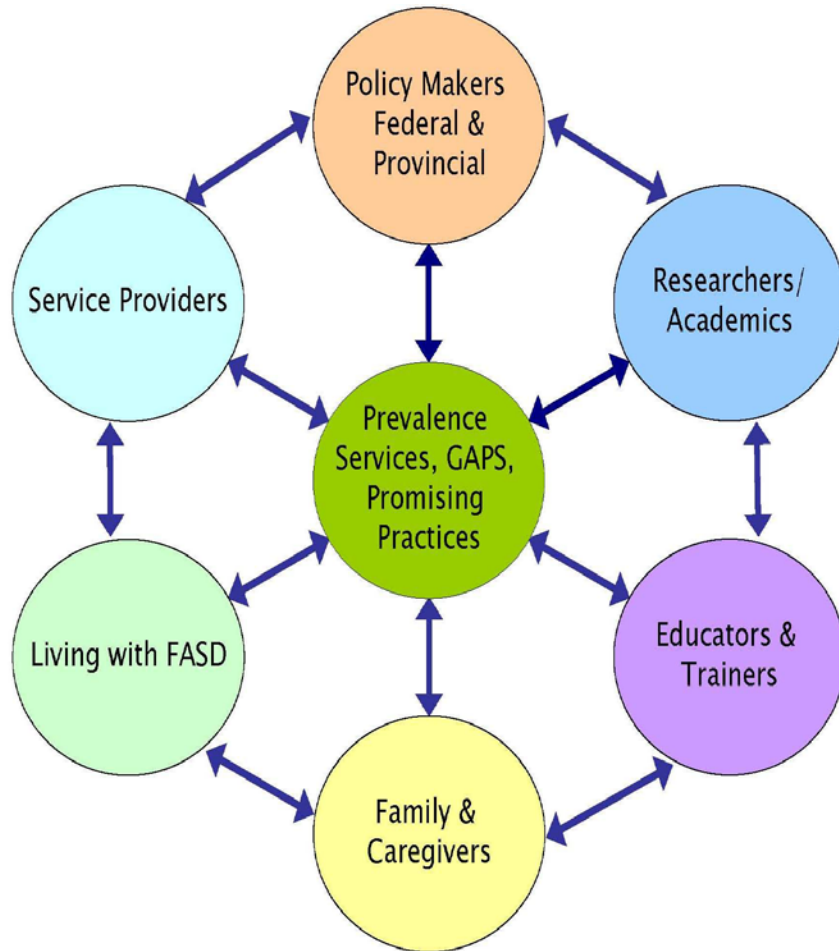
# FASD Child Welfare Community Of Practice: Goals

- Providing current information related to FASD and child welfare
- Promoting collaboration in FASD knowledge exchange
- Creating an interactive multi-faced FASD and Child Welfare Community of Practice (CoP)





# Our Virtual Community of Practice



- ***Domain:*** Children & Youth who are affected by FASD and involved in the child welfare system in Canada
- ***Community:*** Children & Youth, Caregivers, Service Providers, Policy Maker, Researchers & Educators
- ***Shared Practice:*** Inventory of Services, Promising Practices & Establishing Prevalence



# Unique features:

- Child and Youth focus
- Current information on child welfare related organizations
- Interactive nature of the website





# Let's Check It Out:

Firefox | www.fasdchildwelfare.ca | Google

**FASDCHILDWELFARE.CA** | FASD & Child Welfare Community of Practice

SEARCH OUR SITE  
[Search Bar]  
[SEARCH] [RESET]

HOME | COMMUNITY | RESOURCES | BLOGS | FORUMS | CONTACT US

*Main menu bar*

**FEATURED BLOG**  
**CASE PLANNING FOR WOMEN WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEMS**  
**Dorothy Badry**  
May 7, 2013  
Best practice for women with substance abuse problems can be found in the Parent Child Assistance Programs (PCAP) in Alberta modeled on the work of Dr. Therese Grant and colleagues from the University of Seattle, Washington. The relationship between Alberta and Washington in terms of training and support for women struggling with addiction problems is about prevention, protection and preventing the intergenerational cycle of...

**FEATURED ORGANIZATION**  
**LAKELAND CENTRE FOR FASD**  
**City:** Cold Lake  
**Province:** Alberta  
**Type:** Support Services, Networks and Advocacy  
Serves the communities of Lac La Biche, Cold Lake, Bonnyville, St. Paul, Smoky Lake, and surrounding areas including First Nations and Metis communities. Provides: a one week overnight camp for children and young adults (8-27 years old) with FASD diagnosis, diagnostic and assessment services to children and adults with or suspected with FASD, outreach mentorship services to mothers or mothers to be who are struggling with substance abuse, and training...

**LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**  
**THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL SAF FRANCE SYMPOSIUM**  
**May 30, 2013 to May 31, 2013**  
the Cité Internationale Universitaire of Paris  
For information, please e-mail [katana@katanasante.com](mailto:katana@katanasante.com).  
The 3rd International SAF France Symposium will be held Thursday 30th and Friday 31st of May 2013 at the Cité Internationale Universitaire of Paris. The thematic chosen this year is : "Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder: Prevention, Diagnosis and Intervention". The objective is to mobilize the key players from various departments such as, Health, Social, Adoption, Education and Justice. Registrations are still in progress : number of...

**Sign up button**

username  
password  
[LOG IN] [SIGN UP]

*Links to help guides*

**Note from the team**  
Welcome to **FASDChildWelfare.ca** - a Canadian Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and child welfare Community of Practice! The goal of this website is to cross-pollinate ideas and enhance reciprocal knowledge exchange of all registered interested parties through posting blogs, participating in discussion forums, sharing recent projects, research reports, and links to important resources in the field of FASD and child welfare. We encourage you to register and contribute!  
**To register**, please [see the forums for help](#).

Desktop | Libraries | EN | 12:56 PM 10/06/2013



# Website Features: Resources

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `www.fasdchildwelfare.ca/content/fasd-resources`. The website has a blue navigation bar with links: HOME, COMMUNITY, RESOURCES, BLOGS, FORUMS, and CONTACT US. The main content area is titled "FASD RESOURCES" and includes a welcome message: "Welcome to the resource page. This section of the site holds information about organizations, research databases and links to relevant websites. As registered community members, you are invited to share information about your own resources and activities. For information on how to begin participating in this community, [please click here](#)." Below this, there are three main categories: "ORGANIZATIONS" (with a red icon of two people), "LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES" (with a red icon of a computer monitor), and "RESEARCH" (with a green icon of a document). Each category has a brief description. On the right side, there is a login/sign-up box with fields for "username" and "password", and buttons for "LOG IN" and "SIGN UP". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several application icons, and the system clock indicating 1:04 PM on 10/06/2013.

**FASD RESOURCES**

Welcome to the resource page. This section of the site holds information about organizations, research databases and links to relevant websites. As registered community members, you are invited to share information about your own resources and activities. For information on how to begin participating in this community, [please click here](#).

**ORGANIZATIONS**

This category holds current information on organizations that provide services in relation to FASD and child welfare practice.

**LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

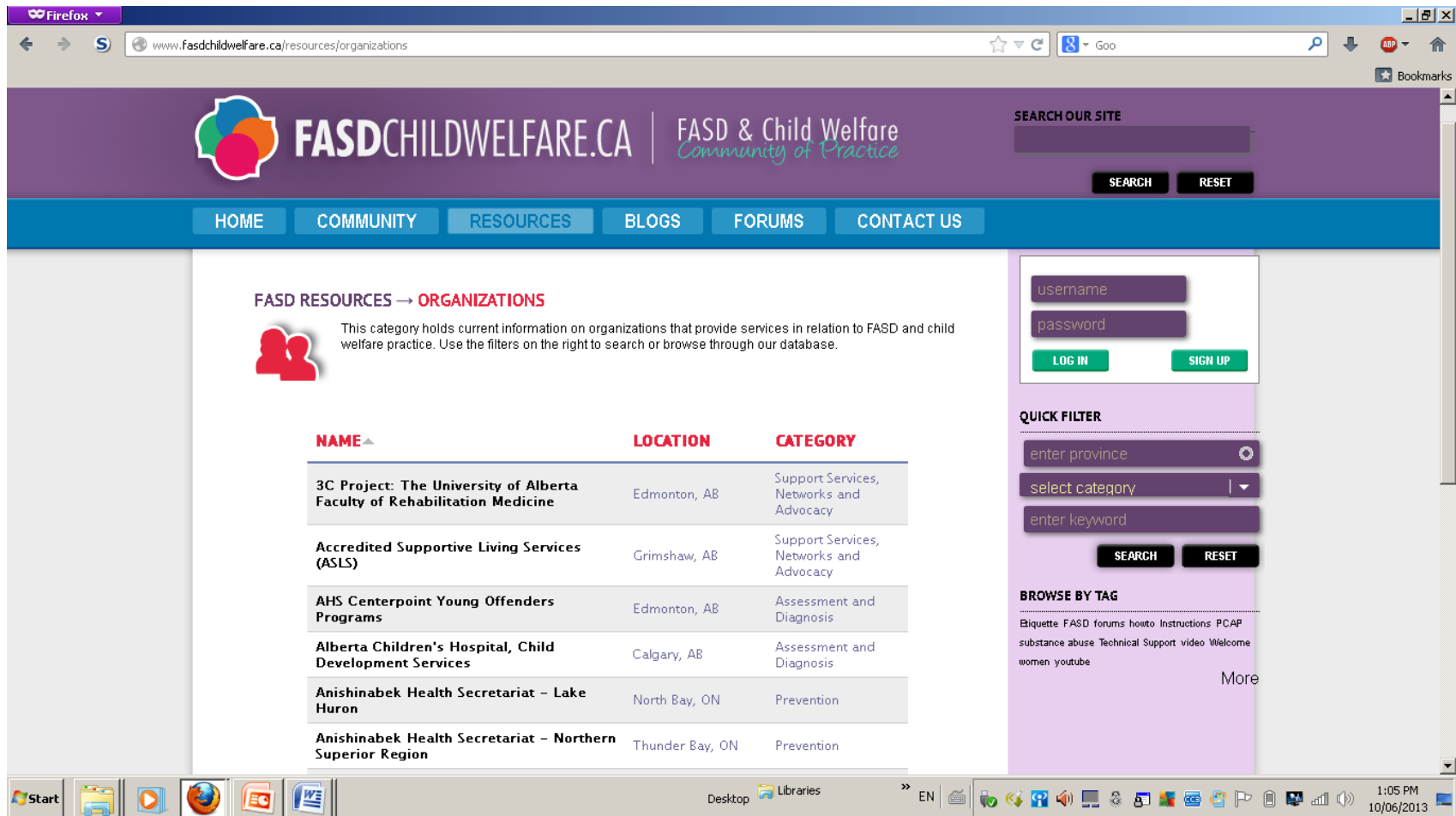
This broad based category provides links to training opportunities, conferences and other related online resources.

**RESEARCH**

This category is intended as a platform to share innovative research on FASD and child welfare practice and to facilitate collaborative knowledge exchange and partnership.

username  
password  
LOG IN SIGN UP

# Resources: Relevant Organizations Database



The screenshot shows the website [www.fasdchildwelfare.ca/resources/organizations](http://www.fasdchildwelfare.ca/resources/organizations) in a Firefox browser. The site has a purple header with the logo and navigation tabs: HOME, COMMUNITY, RESOURCES, BLOGS, FORUMS, and CONTACT US. The main content area is titled "FASD RESOURCES → ORGANIZATIONS" and includes a description: "This category holds current information on organizations that provide services in relation to FASD and child welfare practice. Use the filters on the right to search or browse through our database." Below this is a table of organizations. To the right of the table are sections for "QUICK FILTER" (with fields for province, category, and keyword) and "BROWSE BY TAG" (with a list of tags and a "More" link).

NAME	LOCATION	CATEGORY
3C Project: The University of Alberta Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine	Edmonton, AB	Support Services, Networks and Advocacy
Accredited Supportive Living Services (ASLS)	Grimshaw, AB	Support Services, Networks and Advocacy
AHS Centerpoint Young Offenders Programs	Edmonton, AB	Assessment and Diagnosis
Alberta Children's Hospital, Child Development Services	Calgary, AB	Assessment and Diagnosis
Anishinabek Health Secretariat – Lake Huron	North Bay, ON	Prevention
Anishinabek Health Secretariat – Northern Superior Region	Thunder Bay, ON	Prevention

**QUICK FILTER**

enter province

select category

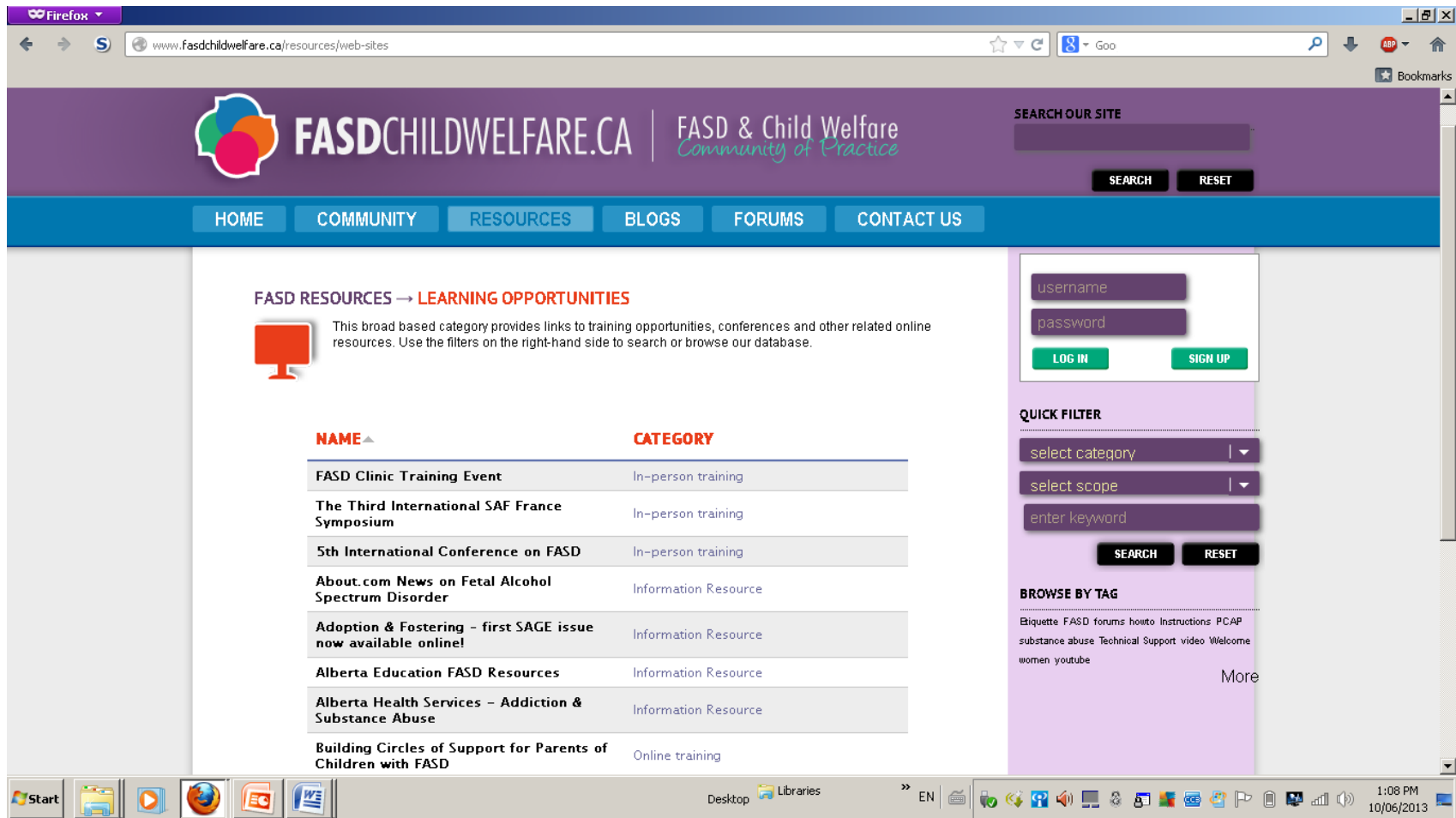
enter keyword

**BROWSE BY TAG**

Etiquette FASD forums howto Instructions PCAP substance abuse Technical Support video Welcome women youtube

More

# Resources: Learning Opportunities



The screenshot shows the FASDCHILDWELFARE.CA website in a Firefox browser. The page features a purple header with the site logo and name, a search bar, and a blue navigation bar with links to HOME, COMMUNITY, RESOURCES, BLOGS, FORUMS, and CONTACT US. The main content area is titled "FASD RESOURCES → LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES" and includes a brief description of the resource category. A table lists various training and information resources. On the right, there is a login section and a quick filter sidebar.

**FASD RESOURCES → LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

This broad based category provides links to training opportunities, conferences and other related online resources. Use the filters on the right-hand side to search or browse our database.

NAME ▲	CATEGORY
FASD Clinic Training Event	In-person training
The Third International SAF France Symposium	In-person training
5th International Conference on FASD	In-person training
About.com News on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder	Information Resource
Adoption & Fostering – first SAGE issue now available online!	Information Resource
Alberta Education FASD Resources	Information Resource
Alberta Health Services – Addiction & Substance Abuse	Information Resource
Building Circles of Support for Parents of Children with FASD	Online training

**QUICK FILTER**

- select category
- select scope
- enter keyword
- SEARCH
- RESET

**BROWSE BY TAG**

Etiquette FASD forums howto Instructions PCAP substance abuse Technical Support video Welcome women youtube

More



# Resources: Research


Firefox | www.fasdchildwelfare.ca/resources/research

**FASDCHILDWELFARE.CA** | FASD & Child Welfare  
*Community of Practice*

SEARCH OUR SITE  
  
SEARCH RESET

HOME COMMUNITY **RESOURCES** BLOGS FORUMS CONTACT US

**FASD RESOURCES → RESEARCH LIBRARY**

 This category is intended as a platform to share innovative research on FASD and child welfare practice and to facilitate collaborative knowledge exchange and partnership. Use the filters on the right-hand side to search or browse our database.

NAME ▲	AUTHOR	YEAR
Directory of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Information and Support Services in Canada	Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA)	2005
FASD: Strategies not Solutions	Region 6 FASD Child & Youth Sub-Committee	2004
Resource List – Alberta Human Services	FACD	2013

username  
password  
LOG IN SIGN UP

**QUICK FILTER**

select audience | ▼  
select scope | ▼  
enter keyword  
SEARCH RESET

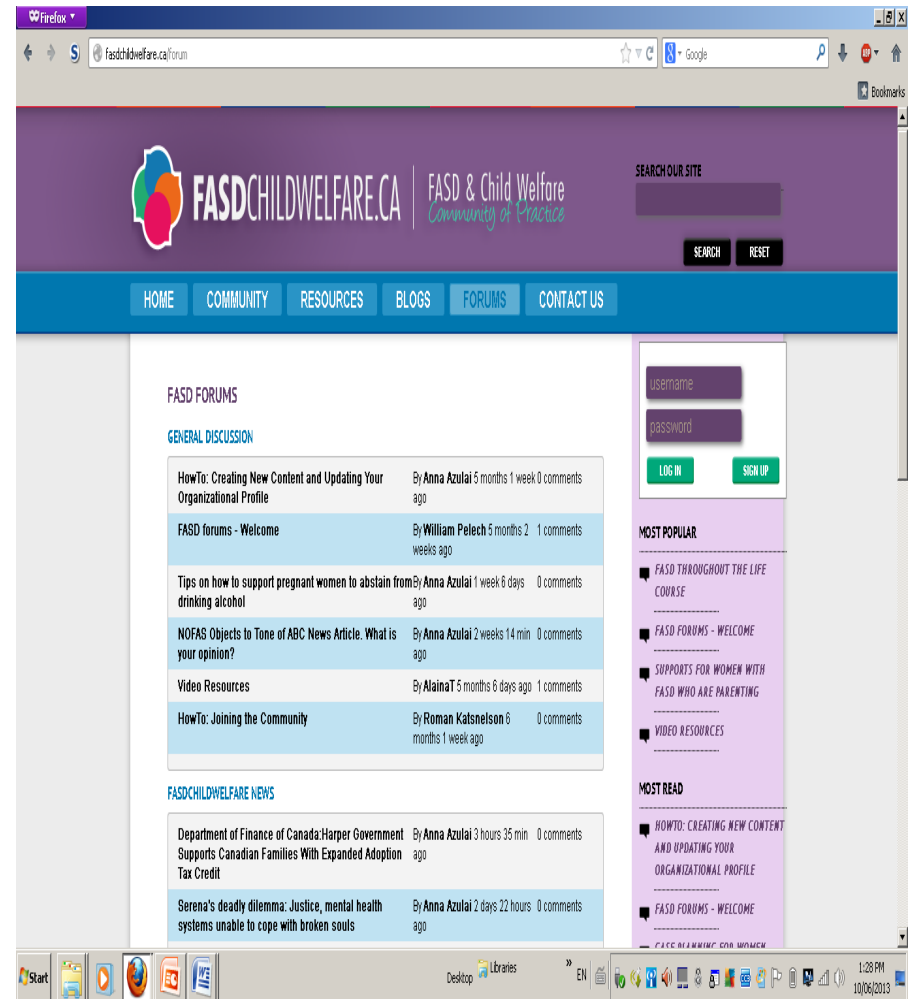
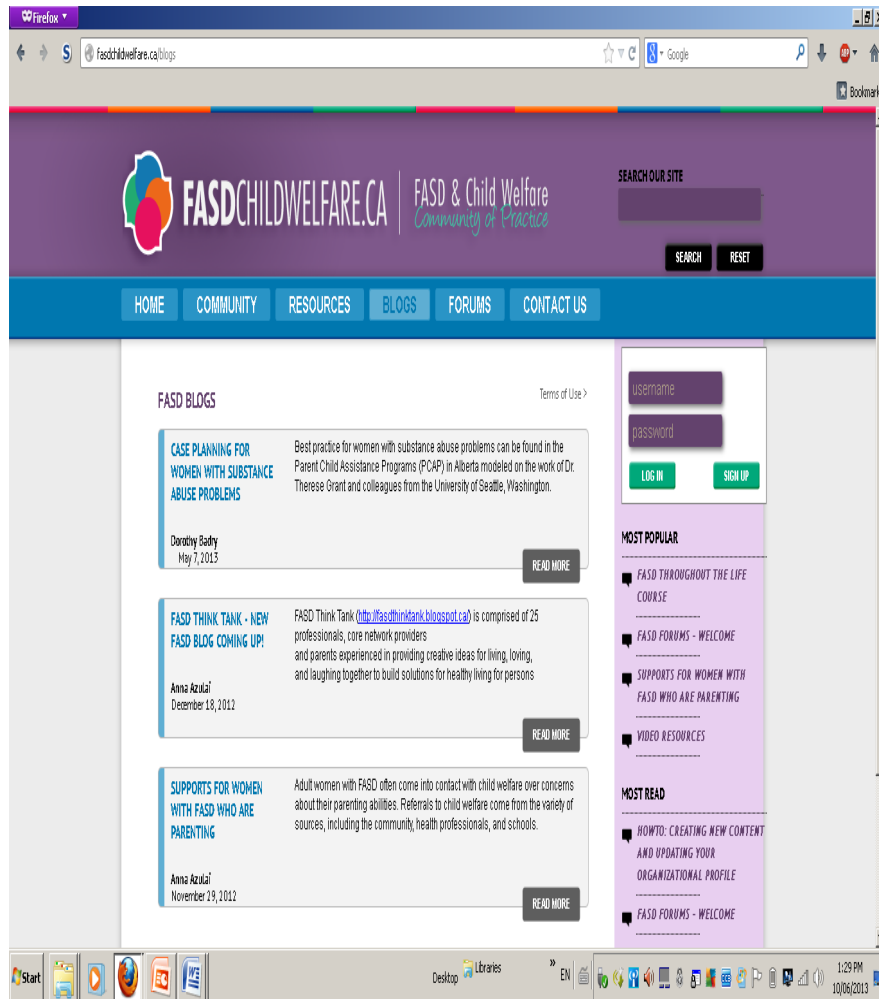
**BROWSE BY TAG**

Etiquette FASD forums howto Instructions PCAP  
substance abuse Technical Support video Welcome  
women youtube  
More

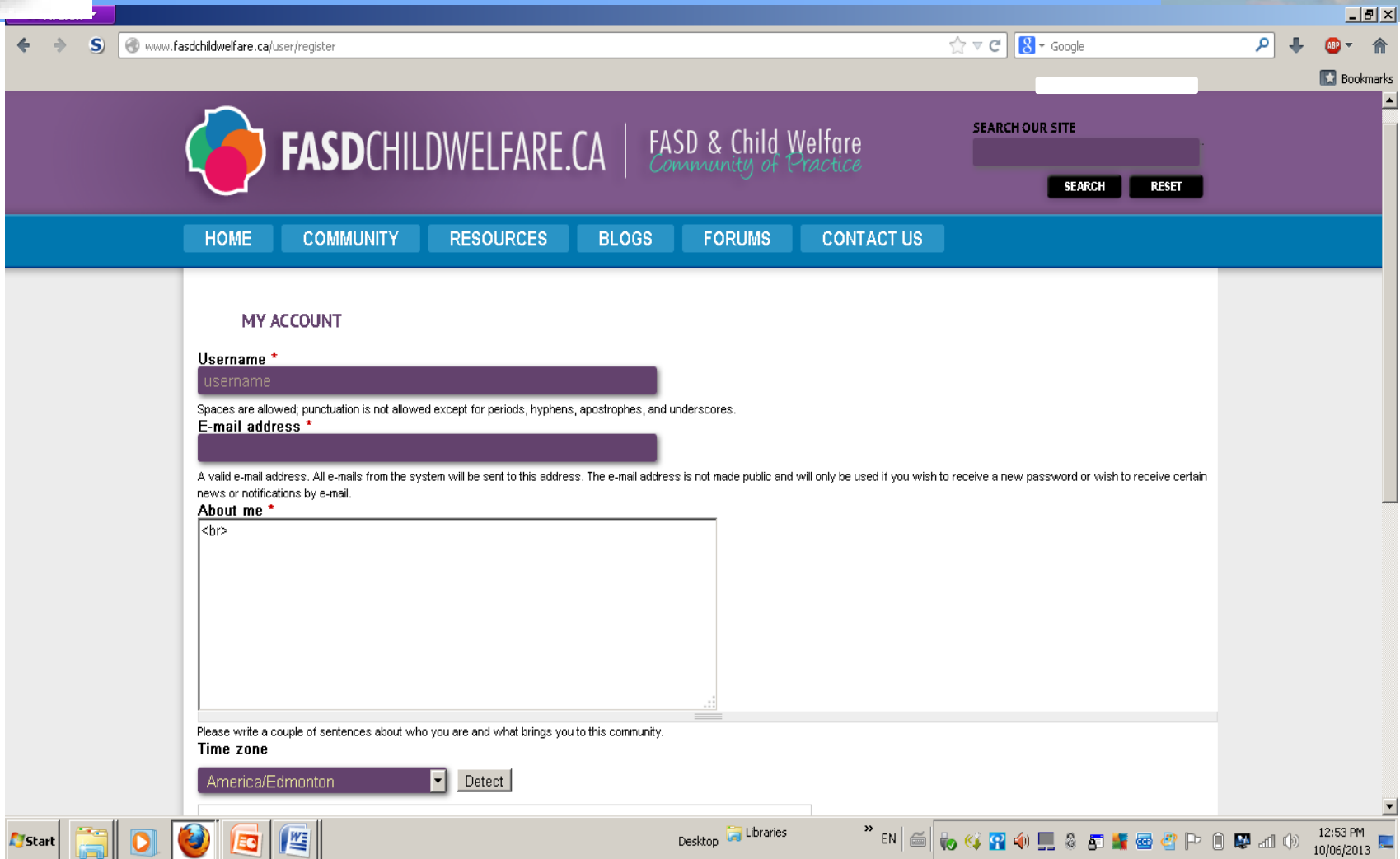
www.fasdchildwelfare.ca/content/directory-fetal-alcohol-spectrum-disorder-fasd-information-and-support-services-canada

Start | Desktop Libraries | EN | 1:12 PM 10/06/2013

# Blogs & Discussion Forums



# Becoming a Member: Signing Up



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [www.fasdchildwelfare.ca/user/register](http://www.fasdchildwelfare.ca/user/register). The page features the FASDChildWelfare.ca logo and the text "FASD & Child Welfare Community of Practice". A search bar is located in the top right corner. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: HOME, COMMUNITY, RESOURCES, BLOGS, FORUMS, and CONTACT US. The main content area is titled "MY ACCOUNT" and contains the following fields:

- Username \***: A text input field with the placeholder text "username".
- E-mail address \***: A text input field.
- About me \***: A text area with the placeholder text "<br>".
- Time zone**: A dropdown menu showing "America/Edmonton" and a "Detect" button.

Below the "About me" field, there is a prompt: "Please write a couple of sentences about who you are and what brings you to this community." The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several application icons, and the system clock displaying 12:53 PM on 10/06/2013.



# Becoming a Member: Signing Up




Firefox

www.faschildwelfare.ca/user/register

Please write a couple of sentences about who you are and what brings you to this community.


**Time zone**

America/Edmonton Detect



Dates and times throughout the site will be displayed using this time zone.

**Word verification**

 (verify using audio)

Type the characters you see in the picture above; if you can't read them, submit the form and a new image will be generated. Not case sensitive.

Create new account

Home | Blogs | Forums | Contact | Member Area | Login

(c) 2012 FASDChildWelfare.ca  
Web Presence by KRD

Start Desktop Libraries EN 12:54 PM 10/06/2013

*The system will send you an email that you have to confirm*





# Becoming a Member: HowTo Register Guide

The screenshot shows the FASDChildWelfare.ca website in a Firefox browser window. The address bar shows the URL [www.fasdchildwelfare.ca/forum/howto-joining-community](http://www.fasdchildwelfare.ca/forum/howto-joining-community). The website has a purple header with the logo and the text "FASD & Child Welfare Community of Practice". A navigation bar below the header contains links for HOME, COMMUNITY, RESOURCES, BLOGS, FORUMS, and CONTACT US. A search bar is located in the top right corner of the header.

The main content area is titled "HOWTO: JOINING THE COMMUNITY". It features a profile picture of a man and text indicating the post was submitted by ROMAN KATSNELSON on November 29, 2012. The forums section is "General Discussion".

The text explains that the site is a community of practice and that users need to become a community member first. It provides the following instructions:

- ✓ Click on the "Sign Up" button in the top right corner of the site.
- ✓ Fill out the required information on the "Sign Up" page. This includes:
  1. **Username** - you can pick any name you like. Remember that this is how the community will know you, so pick something appropriate.
  2. **E-mail address** - a login link will be sent to this address, so you need to have access to it in order to complete the process.
  3. An **"About Me"** section - describe yourself to others in the community, so that we can begin to get to know you.

The sidebar on the right contains two sections: "MOST POPULAR" and "MOST READ". The "MOST POPULAR" section lists:

- FASD THROUGHOUT THE LIFE COURSE
- FASD FORUMS - WELCOME
- SUPPORTS FOR WOMEN WITH FASD WHO ARE PARENTING
- VIDEO RESOURCES

The "MOST READ" section lists:

- HOWTO: CREATING NEW CONTENT AND UPDATING YOUR ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE
- FASD FORUMS - WELCOME
- CASE PLANNING FOR WOMEN


The bottom of the screenshot shows the Windows taskbar with the Start button, several application icons, and the system clock showing 1:02 PM on 10/06/2013.



# Contact Us: welcome@fasdchildwelfare.ca



Firefox | fasdchildwelfare.ca/contact

 **FASDCHILDWELFARE.CA** | FASD & Child Welfare  
*Community of Practice*

SEARCH OUR SITE

HOME COMMUNITY RESOURCES BLOGS FORUMS CONTACT US


### CONTACT

**Your name \***

**Your e-mail address \***

**Subject \***

**Message \***

**Word verification \***  
 [\(verify using audio\)](#)

Type the characters you see in the picture above; if you can't read them, submit the form and a new image will be generated. Not case sensitive.

Start | Desktop | Libraries | EN | 1:29 PM 10/06/2013



# What Can You Do?



- **Join Us!** By signing up to [www.fasdchildwelfare.ca](http://www.fasdchildwelfare.ca) you become part of the community of practice
- **Tell others!** about our community [www.fasdchildwelfare.ca](http://www.fasdchildwelfare.ca)
- **Post to our Blogs!** Share your ideas, stories, innovations, strategies and concerns by emailing to [bloggers@fasdchildwelfare.ca](mailto:bloggers@fasdchildwelfare.ca)
- **Post to our Forums!** Share and comment on related news, resources, ideas, important topics to think about on our Forums at [www.fasdchildwelfare.ca](http://www.fasdchildwelfare.ca)
- **Add your agency to our database!** [www.fasdchildwelfare.ca](http://www.fasdchildwelfare.ca)
- **Add new learning opportunity to our database!** Conferences, webinars, professional training, etc. [www.fasdchildwelfare.ca](http://www.fasdchildwelfare.ca)
- **Share related research article, book, or report!** Please email to [welcome@fasdchildwelfare.ca](mailto:welcome@fasdchildwelfare.ca)
- **Email us!** Share your thoughts and ideas about how to improve the website by emailing us at [welcome@fasdchildwelfare.ca](mailto:welcome@fasdchildwelfare.ca)



# References



- Ardichvili, A. (2008). Learning and knowledge sharing in virtual communities of practice: Motivators, barriers, and enablers. *Advances in Developing Human Resources*, 10, 541-554, doi: 10.1177/1523422308319536.
- Badry, D. & Pelech, W. (2011). *The Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Community of Practice: Promising Practices for Children & Youth in the Care of Alberta Children & Youth Services*. Final Report.
- Chudley, A.E., Conry, J., Cook, J.L., Loock, C., Rosales, T., & LeBlanc, N. (2005). Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder: Canadian guidelines for diagnosis. *CMAJ*, 172(5 supplement), doi: 10.1503/cmaj.1040302.



# References



- Government of Alberta (2013). *Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Alberta Cross-Ministry Initiative*. Accessed on May 28, 2013 at <http://fasd.alberta.ca/index.aspx>
- Popova, S., Stade, B., Lange, S., Bekmuradov, D., & Rehm, J. (2012). *Economic impact of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD): A systematic literature review*. Centre for Addictions and Mental Health.



# References



- Stade, B., Ungar, W.J., Stevens, B., Beyen, J., & Koren, G. (2007). Costs of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder in Canada. *Canadian Family Physician*, 53(8), 1303-1304, PMC1949252.
- Thanh, N.X., & Jonsson, E. (2009). Costs of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder in Alberta, Canada. *Canadian Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*, 16(1), 80-90.
- Wenger, E. (2001). Supporting Communities of Practice: A Survey of community oriented technologies. Retrieved from:  
[www.ewenger.com/tech/executive\\_summary.htm](http://www.ewenger.com/tech/executive_summary.htm)



Questions?



# Thank you!

For further information on the website or this presentation  
please contact

**welcome@fasdchildwelfare.ca**