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PROJECT UPDATE

- Two Collaborating Organizations have officially come on board to lead new sub-projects:
 - 1) Parkland Valley Sport, Culture & Recreation District
 - 2) Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan
- With the Canadian Hub for Applied and Social Research (CHASR), we conducted a survey to gather valuable information about the general public's knowledge of dementia. More results will be shared soon.



Yorkton Public Library staff members Brenda Wong & Amber Harvey with Evaluation Coordinator Akram Mahani at the Yorkton Public Library.

MESSAGE FROM THE PROJECT TEAM

This fall we continued working on project activities through online platforms and limited socially distant meetings. Our project's new Evaluation Coordinator, Akram Mahani, spent some time learning about the Yorkton area from a few community members at local organizations. You can read more about Akram's role with the project on page 2.

In November our project's team members presented at two important virtual conferences: the University of Saskatchewan's *Older Adults Webinar Series* on November 4th and the *2020 RaDAR Summit* on November 9th. Both presentations provided an opportunity to share updates on project work and connect with others in a virtual setting.

A needs assessment is currently underway, led by Parkland Valley Sport Culture & Recreation District, to help determine the direction of future sub-projects to be led by community organizations. More details about the needs assessment and environmental scan are on page 2.

Wishing everyone a safe and healthy holiday season,
Backbone Management Group, *Dementia Supports in Rural Saskatchewan*

MEET DR. AKRAM MAHANI, EVALUATION COORDINATOR

Akram is a researcher with a wide-range of empirical interests and experiences. Her research background spans across multiple public health, health promotion, health policy, and health services research areas.

For several years, Akram's research has focused on multi-sectoral collaboration for improving population health. Her research has also engaged family caregivers caring for older adults in communities. Multi-stakeholder engagement and integrated knowledge translation are fundamental to her research.

In her new role as the Evaluation Coordinator, she will provide overall development, coordination and analysis for the evaluation components of the project.



Dr. Akram Mahani,
Evaluation Coordinator, *Dementia Supports in Rural Saskatchewan*
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NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROJECT

Parkland Valley Sport, Culture & Recreation District (PVSCRD) has been selected as the first Collaborating Organization to lead a project within *Dementia Supports in Rural Saskatchewan*. In October, PVSCRD launched a needs assessment project to determine which businesses, community services, and programs could be enhanced or created to promote inclusion of people with dementia and their caregivers. Marilyn Bader is conducting an environmental scan and needs assessment of business sectors, services, and programs in the PVSCRD district.

A variety of research techniques are being used to compile data during the needs assessment, including literature/online reviews, interviews, focus groups, and surveys to measure the gap between the current situation and the desired outcomes.

If you are interested in learning more about the needs assessment please email Marilyn Bader.



Marilyn Bader,
Project Facilitator, PVSCRD
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FEATURED RESOURCE

Find out more about the characteristics of a dementia friendly community and sign up to become a Dementia Friend to help make Saskatchewan a more supportive, inclusive and accessible place for people affected by dementia.

www.DementiaFriendlySaskatchewan.ca

