



PARKLAND C.L.A.S.S.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

www.parklandclass.org

403-347-3333

info@pclass.org

WHO WE ARE

Our Mission: "To improve the quality of life of children and adults with developmental disabilities through individual choice, dignity and rights."

Parkland Community Living and Supports Society is a registered non-profit society that provides services for children and adults with developmental disabilities. We are located in Central Alberta with partners in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, as well as partnering in international initiatives promoting the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities.

We are accredited through the Canadian Accreditation Council (CAC) and hold designations as, Specialized Needs Service Provider, Indigenous or Cultural Service Provider, and Mental Health Service Provider.

Since 1963, Parkland C.L.A.S.S. has served hundreds of families and individuals with developmental disabilities to pursue their chosen lifestyle in the broader community. We deliver numerous programs within six service areas:

1. Parkland School
2. Children's Services
3. Residential Services
4. Adult Day Programs
5. Arctic Services
6. International Services

Parkland C.L.A.S.S. focuses on enhancing the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities who choose us to serve them. We strive to empower the people we serve, measuring success by the goals they set and achieve as they pursue their lives.

This Annual Report outlines the agency's recent accomplishments in each program and service area.

Acknowledging and supporting diversity is central to our value system.

In support of Parkland C.L.A.S.S.' Mission Statement, the following values serve as a reference to guide the Board of Directors and all agency staff in the development and delivery of community services:

- a) Citizenship which is based on the principles of individual value and worth, individual rights, and equality, which recognizes the physical, mental, social, and spiritual needs of individuals with disabilities;
- b) Choice, which empowers individuals to make real choices about real options in life, including where they will live and what they will do;
- c) Support which implies that every individual, regardless of their disability, is entitled to receive those technical, personal, and financial supports which are necessary to live as independently as possible within the community; and
- d) Equality of Opportunity ensures that individuals have equal access to those aspects of life that are often taken for granted, including, wherever possible, an education, employment, their own homes, friendships, and social interaction with others.

Parkland C.L.A.S.S. has worked with the Individuals that we serve and their Guardians to achieve the level of inclusion and support they request and have rightfully come to expect. Parkland is committed to building on the past decades of work focusing on positive community attitudes and the promotion of rights that have enabled individuals with disabilities to achieve lives of inclusion, choice and the everyday opportunities many take for granted within their communities.

PARKLAND COMMUNITY LIVING AND SUPPORTS SOCIETY 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

PARKLAND CLASS PROVIDES
SERVICES TO APPROXIMATELY

235

Children, adults
and families.

PARKLAND CLASS

HAS 8 DEDICATED

BOARD MEMBERS

The Agency delivers programs
in 6 service areas

Parkland CLASS incorporated as a
non-profit society in

1963

The Relax Crew

Social club has over

290

Community

members

PARKLAND
CLASS
utilizes a
staff base
of

620
employees

Parkland School

consists of 4 program areas:

Specialized Supports Program

Inclusive School Program

Complex Communications Program

Technology Program



President's Report	6
CEO's Report	7
Parkland School	8-11
Children's Services	12-15
Adult Services	16-20
Community Supports	21-22
Arctic Services	23
Parkland CLASS International	24

DON OSZLI

Parkland CLASS Board President

Parkland C.L.A.S.S. has had a busy year, and we, are pleased to highlight some of the initiatives that the organization has accomplished.

Parkland has focused on improving its infrastructure through upgrades to our technology, both in terms of programming and hardware. The past year has seen improvements and upgrades at Parkland School, new computer equipment in our homes, and technology upgrades within our administration programs.

Parkland partnered with several disability services sector colleagues to host the first annual Community Disability Workers Appreciation Week during May 22nd to 28th. Red Deer's Mayor, Ken Johnston, was on hand to issue the proclamation and kick off the festivities held on Parkland's grounds. The event was a great success, with entertainment and participation from several Central Region Service Provider groups and an attendance of over 800 people.

The past year has seen Parkland effectively navigate community re-engagement post-COVID-19, and we have seen a resumption of many of our regular activities. Unfortunately, the PDD focus on "critical and urgent" has presented challenges in accessing the resources some individuals require to meet their goals. The focus on "critical and urgent," the lack of funding, and the general challenges that face Disability Services is a concern for Parkland C.L.A.S.S.' Board and has prompted us to meet with elected officials and share our concerns:

- Collaboration between Ministries to meet the needs of individuals that fall through the cracks.
- Removing the "critical and urgent" framework that has usurped the focus on quality of life and community inclusion. The outcome of "critical and urgent" negatively impacts individuals requiring service and compromises individuals' ongoing services and quality of life.
- The recent influx of dollars is appreciated; the past Minister Jeremy Nixon's commitment that it is not 'one-and-done' needs to be honoured, and the issue of not only the direct service costs but the indirect costs of running an organization need to be addressed as well if organizations are going to be viable over the longer term.

We assisted Inclusion NWT this past summer when they had to evacuate from Yellowknife due to the fires. Parkland has a long-standing relationship with our friends in the NWT, and we were pleased to be able to assist them in getting set up in Red Deer. It was summed up quite nicely by one of our guests when they suggested it become an annual holiday in the south.

Without a doubt, it has been a busy year with many positive outcomes as a result of everyone's efforts throughout all levels of the organization. We continue to pursue activities that support our individuals' and their guardians' aspirations and goals. The organization remains dedicated to lobbying the Government at all levels for those we serve and our employees. The Board will continue to advocate for inclusive services and equitable funding for our staff.

DAN VERSTRAETE

Parkland CLASS CEO

2023 has seen several key undertakings completed or well underway within Parkland C.L.A.S.S.;

- We implemented two new computer systems, SAGE and ADP, and a new internet-based phone system across the Agency.
- Implemented a succession planning system developed specifically for our sector.
- We are developing a new property management system for our homes, office buildings, Parkland School, and Relax Crew.
- We accessed a one-year grant that has allowed us to hire a staff trainer/ program developer; we are focusing on developing training materials and providing better access to onsite training.
- This year, we were very proud to partner with several of our colleagues and host the first Provincial Disability Service Workers Appreciation event in Red Deer, with our Mayor Present to open the ceremony. As an organization, we hosted numerous events over the week:
- The Kickoff multi-agency BBQ and Mayors Proclamation on May 22.
- An outdoor dance on May 24.
- Relax Crew Open House on May 25 with staff acknowledgements and tea.
- The Kindness Tree unveiling and deserts on May 26.
- Pancake Breakfast on May 27.
- Carnival Cinema movie afternoon on May 28.
- In addition, we passed out over 1500 home-baked cookies to our staff during day, evening and night visits to the group homes each day of the week.
- Parkland assisted Inclusion NWT this summer when the wildfires in the NWT forced our friends to evacuate. We were able to host the evacuees, and many lasting friendships developed as a result of the time spent with our Northern friends.
- Parkland School has added two new certificated teachers to their team and continues to update and move the school forward.
- Numerous updates were made to the School and the Portable Classrooms this summer, providing a bright and welcoming space for students and teaching staff.

Our staff teams have continued to innovate and develop strategies to manage the ongoing needs of our individuals despite challenges. I am always amazed at how creative and committed the Parklands team is, and I am delighted to see that our long-term staff numbers continue to grow. All of these initiatives are the result of our Board and staff's commitment to be innovative and responsive advocates for the individuals we serve as we focus our energy on how we can best meet their needs in our current and evolving world. Equally crucial for Parkland and our Board is to continue to advocate for our valued employees who make all our work possible. We will continue to advocate provincially, meet with our elected officials and participate in Provincial Committees like Continuous Improvement, Project Blueprint and Government Relations; which gratefully has supported additional funding for the sector and our very deserving employees.

PARKLAND SCHOOL

Trudy Lewis, Director

Monica Lawes, Principal

Parkland School is accredited by Alberta Education and works closely with local public and separate school jurisdictions, social services, and northern jurisdictions. Student educational goals are incorporated into individual program plans consistent with Alberta Education Programs of Study and assurance domains.

The past year has seen considerable progress as the Director and Principal have worked to execute the action plan developed with the support of Alberta Education. The Schools recent membership with AISCA has proven to be an excellent resource and support in this undertaking. Parkland C.L.A.S.S.' Board is committed to ensuring a quality Alberta Education-compliant program for those Parents and Children who are unable to obtain the supports they desire in the regular school system.

Parkland School has four main program areas: the Specialized Supports Program, the Inclusive School Program, the Technology Program and the Complex Communications Program.

SPECIALIZED SUPPORTS PROGRAM

The Parkland School Specialized Supports Program provides academic education, life skills training and physical support to students with multiple disabilities. The program addresses the student's speech, physical and occupational therapy, communication, hearing, vision, behaviour modification, sensory integration, and medical needs. Ten (10) full-time students were served in 2023, ranging in age from 6 to 17 years.



Accomplishments and Outcomes:

PRIMARY CLASSROOM	SECONDARY CLASSROOM
A certificated teacher was hired for the classroom and teaches Mathematics to Primary and Secondary students.	A certificated teacher was hired for the classroom and teaches English Language Arts & Literature to Primary and Secondary students.
The new curriculum from Alberta Education is being utilized to educate all students.	The students receive instruction in the 7 domains set out in the new curriculum (English Language Arts & Literature, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Art & Music, Physical Education & Wellness and Wellness Plus (Prioritized life utilization skills).
All 5 classrooms now have certificated teachers leading the classroom from 8:45 am through to 3:00 pm, under the direction of the Principal, Monica Lawes.	

INCLUSIVE SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Parkland School - Inclusive School Program focuses on student-centric concepts of education, socialization, and essential living skill development. All classes promote academic, personal, and physical development. Certificated teachers are responsible for academic learning and evaluation of all students. The Inclusive School Program is delivered both within Parkland School and within the community on a regular basis. In 2023, eighteen (18) students were served, ranging in age from 9 - 19 years.

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

JUNIOR CLASSROOM	SENIOR CLASSROOM
Occupational Therapist updated students' sensory plans.	Welcomed a student transferred from the Junior classroom who settled into his new classroom very well.
ADVANCED CLASSROOM	
Welcomed a new student into the classroom who took some time to learn the procedures and proper socialization skills. Good improvement was seen by year's end.	
LANGUAGE/READING CLASS	MATH/FINE MOTOR CLASS
Theme units each month were successful and enjoyed by all students.	IPP goals were modified and resulted in more positive outcomes for the students.

SNACK CLASS	SENSORY PROGRAM
Was changed to Snack Skills Training, where staff and students worked side by side to make simple snacks themselves. The change was successful and thoroughly enjoyed by all classrooms.	Welcomed our newest consultant (OT) from Aspire to oversee the sensory plans, update the existing and create new plans for new students in the future.
PRE-VOCATIONAL	TRANSPORTATION
Returned to the Thrift Store for practical experience in the community.	Students were successfully transported all year by Action Bus and our own bus.
ENROLLMENT	TECHNOLOGY
<p>We welcomed 4 new students, bringing enrolment up to 27 (after graduating 6 students last term)</p> <p>1 in Primary Classroom</p> <p>2 in Junior Classroom</p> <p>1 in Advanced Classroom</p>	<p>New smartboard was purchased for the Advanced Classroom</p> <p>Advanced smartboard moved to multipurpose/staffroom (still works for some applications)</p> <p>Purchased a LUMO Interactive Display unit, which is on back order and we are still waiting for it</p> <p>Only approx. ¼ of the students showed enjoyment with the virtual reality system, so we will be discontinuing that in the next term.</p>
STAFFING	ALBERTA EDUCATION
<p>2 Certificated teachers hired in summer/23</p> <p>All aides were retained through the restructuring process</p> <p>All staff participated in an Open House on June 29th. Board members, parents, and office personnel were shown through the school, observing all our unique programs and renovations.</p>	<p>Alberta Education was appreciative of all the work put into the restructuring process and we are continuing to work toward full compliance with the new requirements</p> <p>The Action Plan continues to be a central focus as we move forward.</p>

TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

The purpose of the Parkland School Technology Program is to enhance academic classes and improve the students' capabilities in the areas of English Language Arts & Literature, Mathematics, and Science. Smartboards, laptops/desktops, iPads, and the LUMO maximize the students' learning abilities through increased attentiveness and motivation. In 2023, 27 students were served.

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

Students enjoy the use of LUMO and learn academics through numerous apps that they can engage with in a playful manner.	The laptops in the Advanced classroom are providing many students with skills that will follow them past graduation.
---	--

COMPLEX COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM

The Parkland School Complex Communications Program uses computer systems, iPads, Gemini technical devices, eye gaze boards, picture schedules, photo cards, choice boards and switches to develop communication skills for students with communication issues. In addition to developing alternative communication skills, students access innovative software, hardware and other technologies to advance living skills. Students ranged in age from 6 to 19 years.

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

We welcomed the Provincial L.I.S (low incidence) team to see several students.
She will continue to consult next term.
Students are recovering from the Covid-19 restrictive practices (masking of staff) where we saw a definite decline in expressive language skills.



CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Shauna Mayes, Director

Children's Services provides support to families and children with developmental disabilities through a variety of programs and services. Supports are delivered in the community and in the homes of families and proprietors.

Children's programs conform to the Canadian Accreditation Council of Human Services. Services are delivered under the direction of families, guardians, and the Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority. The Agency also delivers Children's Services under the authority of various aboriginal band councils and Territorial Government agencies from the NWT and Nunavut. Parkland C.L.A.S.S.' Children Services include the Family Support Program, the Children's Residential Programs, the Children's Relief Program, and the Supported Home Placement Program.

FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Family Support Program provides in-home assistance for families to cope with and manage their child's unique needs. The program provides families with support staff, in-home parental relief, childcare, behaviour supports, and community involvement activities. In 2023, 21 children, and their families, were served.

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

This year's referrals have included children who have Children Services (formally Child Intervention) involvement. These situations have families in which the parent has a disability or their own mental health challenges, in addition to their child's disability.	The Program Coordinator has taken courses this year on Introspection for young children, co-regulation, understanding developmental disabilities and sexual missteps, and beyond supervision. These courses assist in supporting the families through the consultation hours funded in the program.
The Family Supports caseload has increased from 3 early last year to (15 to 21) families. Contracts are three to six months.	

SUPPORTED HOME PLACEMENT PROGRAM

The Supported Home Placement Program (SHP) allows children with disabilities to live in the home of an individual caregiver or family. These children require out-of-home placement for a variety of reasons, including school attendance, family breakdown, chronic illness, or high behavioral needs. The program provides accommodation combined with the family support and nurturing that is provided by a caregiver. Children can grow and experience success in a safe and healthy environment that is conducive to their skill development, personal empowerment and full participation in their home, family, and community. In 2023, 19 children were served in the Supported Home Placement Program.

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

One child graduated public school with a certificate. She attended Graduation and is seeking employment. She is approved for PDD Funding and is approved for AISH funding.	One teen was able to participate in a Healing Circle with a past proprietor.
One young lady celebrated a coming of age ceremony.	One child attended Treaty Days on Montana Reserve.
One child attended Cultural Camp for three days on Samson Reserve.	One child went to Cultural Camp west of Rocky Mountain House for 5 days.
We have licensed 2 new homes over the past year.	We have 6 homes attending Pre-PRIDE training.
We have 2 children that are in the transition process of turning 18. 1 will qualify for PDD supports and 1 will not qualify and be funded through TAP and/or KCWS.	One teen completed a counsellor in training course through the YMCA and was 1 of 3 youth invited back to volunteer over the summer with sports camps.
One youth travelled to Rome and spent 3 days touring the sites then went on a Cruise stopping in the following ports along the way: Cartagena Spain, Canary Islands x 3 ports and then trans Atlantic crossing to Tampa Florida where they went to Disney World for 3 days.	1 youth went to Denver Colorado for a girl's trip shopping for graduation items (shoes etc.).
2 youth have traveled through BC and the one also went to Manitoba and Ontario.	4 youth have started or are in various stages of Orthodontic care which includes retainers and braces.

9 children either currently enrolled with To the Stars Occupational Therapy and Wellness (OT and Psych) or have completed this past year in Lacombe.

5 children that are accessing play therapy through Winn Rietema ICST, MA, MAR Certified Psychotherapist Karameon Counselling Services in Lacombe.

CHILDREN SPECIALIZED BEHAVIORAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Specialized Behavioral Support Services have been part of the children's program since 2004. The program provides support to children who experience behavior challenges, their families, and frontline staff. Behavioral Supports are provided through the completion of formalized assessments, staff training, family support, and the development of positive behavioral support strategies. The primary program objective is to increase and enhance the quality of life of the child while increasing opportunities for success.

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

Visual Supports Training for Children Supported Home Placement Program.	Increased face-to-face training and problem solving with proprietors.
Provided strategies for co-regulation (for example, calming cards and breathing exercises).	Created and distributed Proprioception and Sensory Regulation resource booklets.
Created cultural language visuals (Cree).	Offered resources and tools to support parents and teach social skills, empathy, etc. (Ex: A-ha Parenting, Autism Awareness, Visual Tool Share, Twinkle Symbol Tutorial and App, Educational Videos).

CHILDREN'S WELLNESS PROGRAM

The Children's Wellness Program has been in existence since 2000 and was primarily created to provide specialized on-site supports to medically fragile children.

These services may be in the form of hands on assessment and implementation of care, telephone triage, case consults, coordination and referral, medication reviews, and facilitation and participation in care planning with physicians and psychiatrists, nurse specialist, dieticians, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, and other specialties. Procurement and management of Parkland C.L.A.S.S. stock medical equipment is a function of the Nursing Department. Staff education and training, as well as ensuring best practice in current policy and procedure, are also a strong focus.

The primary program objective is to maintain or increase quality of life for individuals in service by optimizing health and functioning, focusing on preventative health strategies and minimizing the impact of chronic conditions or disease. All individuals access this service.

The nursing coordinator continues with all medical training, examples being agency medication administration, Ergonomics training, and individual-specific training such as epi-pens, and insulin administration.

ADULT RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Renee Tiffin

Adult Services Director

Nancy Doucette

Adult Residential Services Manager

Residential Services provides a variety of direct supports based on the needs of individuals. Living arrangements include agency operated community homes that offer 24 hour shared living arrangements with two or three individuals; proprietor homes where individuals receive 24-hour support in a family home; or apartments of individual's themselves with specialized supports based on need. All Adult Residential Services conform to the accreditation standards of the Canadian Accreditation Council of Human Services (CAC).

Residential programs are operated under the direction of the families, guardians, and individuals who are receiving services, Persons with Developmental Disabilities Central Alberta, and other government authorities or agencies as appropriate. Residential services are provided through Parkland CLASS' Adult Residential Program, the Adult Proprietorship Program, and the Individual Life Styles (ILS) Program.

ADULT RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

The Adult Residential Program provides housing and accommodation, combined with 24-hour personal support staff. The resulting service supports individualized homes and inclusion within the community. Single-family homes are most often established with three individuals sharing the cost of both accommodation, groceries, utilities and staffing. The individual's needs are met while independence, personal empowerment, and participation within their home environment are maximized. In 2023, the program supported 94 adults with various needs.

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

4 individuals passed away in this last fiscal year.	3 new individuals came into service.
We had two individuals transfer to new services this year.	We have experienced ongoing challenges retaining and recruiting supervisors.
We have had increased challenges with individual funding due to DS mandate of 'critical & urgent'.	<p>Scheduling:</p> <p>We have hired a permanent team member to work on scheduling and shift coverage, reducing the demand for service coordinators.</p> <p>We have piloted float positions, which have been successful in assisting with shift coverage.</p>

INDIVIDUAL LIFE STYLES (ILS) PROGRAM

The Individual Life Style Program (ILS) provides support to adults who do not require live-in support. Individuals generally live on their own in an apartment or basement suite. Staffing for ILS individuals ranges from (13) thirteen to (168) one hundred sixty-eight hours per week. In 2023, 3 adults were served in their own homes.

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

<p>A new individual has transitioned from Residential to ILS in June 2023. The staffing team is now full.</p>	<p>We are experiencing ongoing challenges negotiating with Disability Services (DS), due to DS's mandate focusing on critical and urgent.</p>
---	---



ADULT PROPRIETORSHIP PROGRAM

The Adult Proprietorship Program allows adults with disabilities to live in the home of an individual caregiver or family. This service provides accommodation, friendship, and support from a caregiver in a family oriented or roommate environment. In 2023, 17 adults with various disabilities were served.

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

Started 1 new service which provides respite only; this was initiated to solve an unmet need within the sector.	Ongoing struggle with overall recruitment for both full time support as well as respite providers. (i.e. Still recruiting for a new service referral that came in April 2022)
Mandatory training continues to be a challenge, COVID-19 played a large role in this.	



SPECIALIZED BEHAVIOURAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Specialized Behavioural Support service provides support to adult individuals who experience behavioural challenges, as well as their families, and their frontline staff. Specialized Behavioural Supports are accomplished through the completion of formalized assessments, staff training, family support, and the development of behavioural support strategies. The program's goal is to increase and enhance the quality of life of the individual.

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

Tracked house or individual specific training using the Behavior Contact Log Database.	Developed Sensory Tool Kits that were loaned to the individuals to trial.
Offered Sensory and Proprioception Workshops to promote the value of sensory tools and strategies.	Offered resources and tools to support individual's communication needs (example: SEE ASL, Tap to Talk, Twinkle Symbol Tutorial App, Educational Videos).
Provided strategies for co-regulation (example: Calming cards and breathing exercises).	Facilitated timely Risk Assessment in response to high risk situations within the agency.
Increased face to face problem solving and communication with the teams (example: Individual specific training, Wellness Facilitations, Trauma Informed Care).	



ADULT HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAM

The purpose of the Adult Health and Wellness Program has been to provide specialized on-site support to individuals requiring nursing intervention and support within the Adult Programs. The goal is to allow medically fragile individuals the ability to continue to live in their homes and achieve an optimal balance in terms of health management, illness prevention and community inclusion as opposed to needing a medical-focused model.

These services may be in the form of hands-on assessment and implementation of care, telephone triage, case consults, coordination and referral, and medication reviews. The services also involve facilitation and participation in care planning with physicians, psychiatrists, nurse specialists, dietitians, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, and other medical specialties. Procurement and management of Parkland C.L.A.S.S. stock medical equipment is a function of the Nursing Department.

Staff education and training, as well as ensuring best practices in current policy and procedure, are a strong focus of this program.

The primary program objective is to maintain or increase the quality of life of individuals in service by optimizing health and functioning, focusing on preventative health strategies and minimizing the impact of chronic conditions or diseases.

All individuals in Adult Services access the “Adult Wellness Program.”

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

227 staff members were trained and the coordinator restructured medication administration training for the agency.	176 staff trained in hands-on emergency PRNs.
368 staff have been trained in Injury Prevention and Safe Individual Handling.	Increased number of referrals for community services.
Revamped storage of medical equipment.	Communicating with medical professionals to present resources about Parkland services.

COMMUNITY SUPPORTS PROGRAM

Renee Tiffin

Adult Services Director

Community Supports programs are alternatives to full-time employment and generally focus on individual goals directed at accessing generic community activities and services promoting community inclusion and participation. Supports are also provided for group activities which foster the development of friendships and peer relations.

Community Supports programs are provided in the community as well as through an agency-operated facility, the RELAX Crew Clubhouse. These programs operate under the direction of families and/or guardians, Individuals in service, and in collaboration with PDD, Central Region. All Community Supports Programs conform to the Accreditation Standards of the Canadian Accreditation Council of Human Services (CAC). Community Supports Programs include the Community Bridging Program and the RELAX Crew Program.

COMMUNITY BRIDGING

The Community Bridging Program provides support to individuals to facilitate out-of-home community activities that are based on the individual's likes, interests, and abilities. The program provides a structured alternative to employment if desired, or it supplements the individual's lifestyle. Personal supports are provided so that individual needs are met and community participation is maximized. In 2023, 42 adults were served in the Community Bridging Program.

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

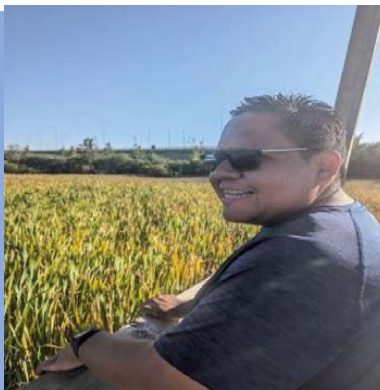
Introduced new transportation options within the Bridging programming to meet an identified shortfall due to limited resources and funding).	Numerous individuals have obtained volunteer placements in the community (thrif stores, RD Food Bank, dog walking, Mama's For Mama's, as well as volunteer placements within Parkland C.L.A.S.S.).
--	--

RELAX CREW

The RELAX Crew Social Club is a Member elected and directed social, leisure, and recreational organization which gives members increased opportunities to develop and expand friendships with other individuals who have common interests. This outcome is achieved as individuals participate in a variety of leisure, recreational, and social activities or experiences. In 2023, 299 adults were served; 109 individuals were from Parkland C.L.A.S.S., 161 were affiliated with various Central Alberta service providers, and 29 had no affiliation.

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

<p>With the RELAX Crew program running once again, both programs have linked together well and the coordinators have eased into balancing their time between the two programs.</p>	<p>The RELAX Crew has increased their volunteer placements in the community as well as in Parkland CLASS.</p>
--	---



ARCTIC AND INDIGINEOUS SERVICES REPORT

Shauna Mayes, Director

Parkland C.L.A.S.S. is very active in the development and delivery of services for adults and children with disabilities from the Northwest Territories, Nunavut Territory, and our numerous other Indigenous partners. These services include residential placements, adult and children's proprietorships, ILS placements, and training at the request of the Funder.

Currently, we serve 5 Adults from Nunavut, 12 Adults from NWT, 20 children from Kasohkowew, 16 Cree individuals in adult services who are originally from O'Chiese, Maskwacis, and Sunchild reserves.

Accomplishments and Outcomes:

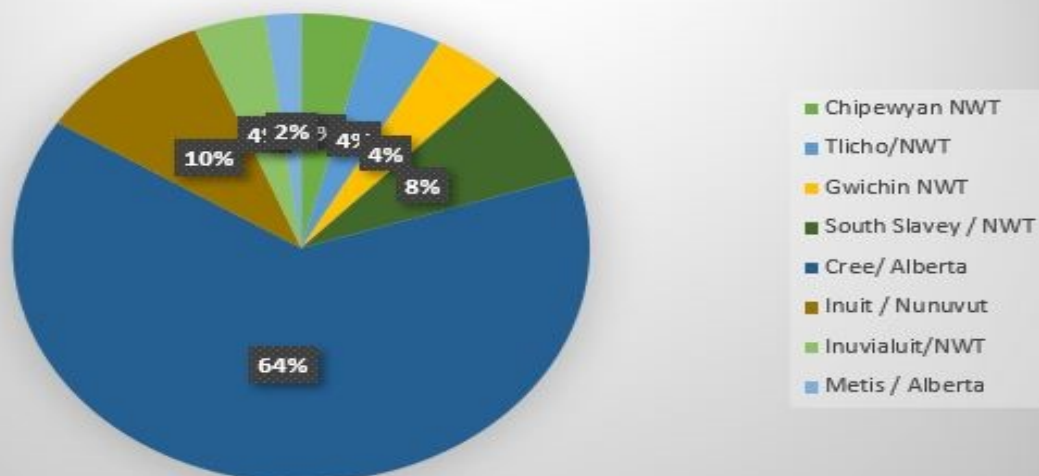
Parkland has a contract from Yellowknife for a youth residential program that has capacity for growth.

Two young adult cousins from Nunavut were placed in a Red Deer group home and one of the men's adult sisters has been in services with us for many years, they are able to resume family contact and share activities together in this community.

Parkland CLASS was asked by Inclusion NWT to help in the evacuation of 21 Supported Living clients and their staff for the period of August 18 – September 10, 2023. Agency staff picked up all the evacuees from the airport and transported them and their staff to the Relax Crew to be included in a dance.

Our friends stayed in hotel accommodations for the weekend and moved into our homes the following Monday. This provided the time to get the homes ready so the individuals were transitioned painlessly. The evacuees left Red Deer on September 10, 2023, and were very appreciative of Parkland CLASS support.

Indigenous Demographic



PARKLAND INTERNATIONAL

Dan Verstraete

In support of the Agency's charitable mandate, Parkland CLASS is a recognized international NGO with the goal of advancing the status and rights of adults and children with intellectual disabilities and their families in developing nations. The organizations' international activities are addressed through the delivery of formal conference presentations and workshops, combined with direct involvement at the local, regional, and national levels, typically within South America. However, Parkland CLASS is not limited to one geographic location.

Parkland was not involved in any international initiatives in 2023.

