

The LINK

October 2022



Happy Thanksgiving

“Be thankful for what you have; you’ll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don’t have, you will never, ever have enough.” – O.W.



What better way to show pride and support in a company than to wear the LINX name! If you are interested in purchasing some of our merchandise, please stop by the front desk at LINX to see our catalog. *Orders will be due by October 26th, 2022.* For easy access we will have our catalog posted very soon on our website! <https://www.linx.ngo/>



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Dates to remember:
October 10th – Office Closed

Purdys Chocolatier Seasonal Fundraising
October 24th to November 24th, 2022

Hearts and Heroes



Board Members

Ann Kurlovich – Chairperson
Nicole Murphy – Vice-Chairperson
Cortnee Brunet – Treasurer
Shannon Henry – Secretary
Cory Albert – Client Rep

LINX Bottle Pick-Up

Give us a call, and we will pick up your bottles and give you a charitable tax receipt for your donation!



You can now safely donate to LINX online at www.linx.ngo

#106, 5708 – 47th Street Leduc, Alberta T9E 6Z9 780~980~9423

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Executive Director Report

Hearts and Heroes

On February 11, 2023, LINX will be holding our annual “Hearts and Heroes” fundraiser. Hearts and Heroes honors the LINX family - its members, volunteers, employees, and supporters. We are all involved because we believe in the LINX program.

If you or your business are able to donate an item of value for our silent auction it would so greatly be appreciated. Due to COVID sensitivity and cross contamination, we will be unable to accept any second-hand items, or perishable goods. LINX appreciates all forms of support and thanks everyone for their consideration for supporting our event and the individuals we provide services for. Charitable donations receipts will be provided to auction items and all cash donations.

We would also like to extend you an invitation to join in our Hearts and Heroes event. Tickets can be purchased through www.linx.ngo/donate. Hope to see you there!

For any questions or to arrange for a donation pickup please contact Alisha, Katie, or Nicole.



Purdys Chocolatier!

It's that time of year again and we will be starting to take our Purdy's Chocolate orders soon! Orders can start being made on October 24th until November 24th! Below is the Link for our fundraiser

<https://fundraising.purdys.com/807902-95902>

Once you open this link it will ask you to join a campaign, add your email address. It will then direct you to a page to register and join our campaign! *We also posted Purdys information and our fundraising link on our Facebook page!* <https://www.facebook.com/linxconnect>

If you have any questions, please give us a call at 780-980-9423 ext 220



Day Program Report

As much as I would like to deny it, the weather is changing, and we are entering another Alberta winter season! When getting ready for your day at LINX, please ensure you are prepared for whatever Mother Nature decides to deliver...

- 🐾 Warm Jacket (and layers!)
- 🐾 Toque
- 🐾 Gloves
- 🐾 Proper Footwear (boots)

Even if you aren't expecting to be outside for very long, the schedule may change and Day Program Classes may have outings scheduled. There is nothing worse than missing out on an activity because you aren't dressed appropriately.

In addition to the cold weather, we have entered cold & flu season. The days of COVID isolations may be behind us, but LINX Policy 8.16 'Client Illness at LINX' states *"All clients who are exhibiting any signs of illness (not from a preexisting condition) will not be permitted into LINX facilities to work or receive services (excluding support homes and respite). They will be expected to follow current Alberta Health orders in place to determine when they are able to return. For any clients who start feeling signs of illness while receiving LINX services (excluding support homes), they will be asked to leave the premises immediately. Clients who live with their families or support homes/respite will require a contact that will be able to immediately answer the call from LINX and pick them up."* If you are feeling sick – stay home!

Residential Program Report

I am often looking for different kinds of staff. Casual Workers, Respite Workers, Outreach Workers, and/or Support Homes. When the clients at the day program see strangers come in the front door and head into Meeting Room 1 with me, they ask me if I am hiring new staff. If I answer yes, I am looking for... the most often asked question they want answered is "Can they Cook?" I have taken this to heart and made this a written component of all my interviews for the Residential Program. When clients come in and say guess what I made for supper with my worker, I can see their pride and excitement. Sometimes it is wings in their new air fryer and other times it is a tuna noodle casserole. Food is a major part of the Residential Program. We have some amazing staff that have incredible cooking skills. What are you cooking this month?

LINX Staff Anniversaries

Thank you to our wonderful LINX staff who have been with us a long time, a short time, and everything in between. We are nothing without you!

October	
Jessica	2021
Kayla	2021



Through Our Eyes

Through Our Eyes class had an opportunity to interview Leduc City Council member, Laura Tillack!

If Laura could have a magic button on her desk that brought whatever she wanted it would bring coffee, “because it is my fuel.” Her theme song would be the Wonder Woman theme song. People often wonder what education or training a person might need to be a city counselor. She told us there are no specific education or training requirements for the job of city counselor but there are some requirements of any potential candidate. You must live in the city of Leduc. You must be in good financial standing with no debts with the city. Laura’s main responsibilities as a counselor are to make sure the city budget runs smoothly and there is enough money to pay for the things we want, that there are enough services for everyone, and look into the citizen’s requests and make them feel that they are a part of the community.

When asked how she got into this line of work, Laura shared that she started by volunteering around the community, sporting events and getting a love for the community and felt this was the next step. The things that she didn’t know about the job was the amount of bylaws that we have to talk about, there’s a bylaw to change the name of the street, a bylaw for building and changing streets etc. Laura shared that she likes being invited to places in the community and collaborating to make the city better. Laura least enjoys the large amount of difficult reading involved in her position. She shared that she does not often read for pleasure due to the reading required for her job.

For leisure time she watches Star Trek or a good show. Laura’s favorite animals are her dogs, a shih tzu and a chihuahua.

Some of the issues Laura deals with as a counselor are resident satisfaction, maintaining the way things look around the city and the way the city does things. Laura was asked “How do you get motivated for difficult tasks?” She shared that she looks at the bigger picture, no matter what difficult thing is ahead, “You have to tackle it and get past it, you have to focus in and make it happen, I think that is my superpower.” Laura is not really sure where she will be in ten years. She enjoys being a counselor and has another 3 years left in her term, she is planning to continue working at her other jobs and being a counselor.

Being a counselor has affected Laura’s lifestyle when she is recognized at the grocery store or at personal events such as kids soccer games and people want to talk to her. She deals with this by setting clear boundaries by asking constituents to, “please email me so I can remember what you're saying and ensure that I receive the correct information.”

Laura suggests that if you are interested in being a member of city council be sure “you are very passionate about your city and you want to be there for every individual and help them create a place that is really beautiful, then go for it. If you get in great, if you don’t then it’s an experience, go for it.” On a personal note, Laura told us she likes to eat “Nachos, no onions no olives!! All the veggies and ground beef.” She has been looking into traveling to Africa, because she wants to see elephants in their natural habitat and experience the culture. “I have to save up for this, it will take me a while.”



Our “...of the month” club!

There are so many people who make our world a better place. So, we have decided they needed individual recognition. Please help us celebrate our Employer, Client, Day Staff, and Residential Staff of the Month. If you see someone in any of these categories that you would like to see recognized, please let us know!

Employer of the Month: Wendy's

Wendy's is new to the list of inclusive employers at LINX! Thank you for supporting LINX's mission!



Client of the Month: Gavin Weirmeir

Gavin has recently started at LINX and has brought a positive attitude with him! Gavin is flexible and ready for whatever his days bring. Welcome to LINX, Gavin!

- 🐾 What is your favorite animal?
Dogs
- 🐾 If your life was a movie, what would it most relate to?
Dinosaurs! Jurassic Park
- 🐾 What is one lesson you feel you have learned from LINX?
Writing resumes and job searching...and food studies!
- 🐾 How long have you been a client at LINX?
One month. I have been at LINX before to take a class about looking for work.
- 🐾 What type of music do you listen to? Everything
- 🐾 If you spent an entire day at a theme park, what would you do?
Rides! The log water one!
- 🐾 If you had one superpower, what would it be and why?
Strength! To save people



Day Program Staff of the Month: Jessica West

Jessica is one of LINX's follow up Job Coaches! She is professional, and kind to all of her peers and clients alike! Her supports are enthusiastic and engaging. She covers extra lunch duties and end of day whenever she can! LINX is lucky to have you, Jessica!

- 🐾 What is a typical workday like for you? I am usually on Follow Up so I visit clients at their worksites to see how their shifts are going, what kind of progress they're making on their goals, and if there are any supports LINX can provide to help them excel in their positions and grow as professionals.
- 🐾 What is your greatest achievement? My daughters are for sure my greatest achievements in life and what I am most proud of.
- 🐾 If you had one superpower, what would it be and why? It would be the ability to manipulate time, mostly so I could slow time down in those moments with people I love that I wish I could hang on to a little longer.
- 🐾 What advice would you give someone who is considering this type of job (or field)? My advice would be to be your authentic self always. This job requires trust and connection building with people, and I believe that personal authenticity is vital for this to happen.
- 🐾 How long have you been working at LINX? My 1 year anniversary at LINX is in October!
- 🐾 What is your favorite beverage? Water – I know that's an incredibly boring answer but it's true.
- 🐾 What type of music do you listen to? I'm a full-on country girl!
- 🐾 Who was your idol growing up? That would probably be my dad. I have always admired his ability to engage with anyone; he is always friendly, and everyone likes him. He has a fun, laid-back energy that I have always tried to emulate myself.



Residential Program Staff of the Month: Mike Phillips

Mike has been chosen this month as he answered the phone in the night and went to pick up an outreach client in crisis. I appreciate it so much when people answer the phone late at night. I am thankful when team members are willing to gather up the people we serve in a crisis situation. I am thankful you are on the team.

- 🐾 What is a typical workday like for you? I'm a warranty superintendent for a group of home builders in Edmonton. I drive around to visit homeowners and make sure they are happy with their homes.
- 🐾 What is your greatest achievement? Well, that's easy, my kids, but this month my greatest achievement will be conquering my ISP!
- 🐾 If you had one superpower, what would it be and why? I would like to have the ability to grant wishes.
- 🐾 What advice would you give someone who is considering this type of job (or field)? For myself, the clients at LINX always make me smile. We can impact individuals with a kind gesture or a wave hello. Such a rewarding career that keeps me humble, give it a go.
- 🐾 How long have you been working at LINX? Officially for 3 years, 1 month, 11 days and 7 hours.
- 🐾 What is your favorite beverage? I actually just switched to drinking tea 🍵. Gave up coffee...for real
- 🐾 What type of music do you listen to? Country, rock, and alternative.
- 🐾 Who was your idol growing up? I didn't really have one, I kinda blazed my own trail and managed to make it this far lol



LINX Employers

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- 🌻 Bone and Biscuit
- 🌻 Boston Pizza
- 🌻 Boys and Girls Club of Leduc
- 🌻 Brightpath Daycare
- 🌻 Canadian Tire
- 🌻 Century Mile Casino
- 🌻 City of Leduc
- 🌻 Connectivity Dance Studio
- 🌻 Co op Grocery
- 🌻 Days Inn and Suites
- 🌻 Daystar Church
- 🌻 Dollarama
- 🌻 Executive Royal Hotel
- 🌻 Flaman
- 🌻 From the Sole
- 🌻 Gateway Family Church
- 🌻 Jireh Centre
- 🌻 Leduc Arts Foundry
- 🌻 Leduc Estates School
- 🌻 Leduc Fellowship Church
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- 🌻 Leduc Rapid Bingo
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- 🌻 No Frills
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- 🌻 Staples
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- 🌻 The Hub
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- 🌻 Tim Hortons
- 🌻 WalMart
- 🌻 Wendys