

November  
2018

S.P.A.N.



# Newsletter Title

NAME OUR NEWSLETTER! A big THANK YOU to all who participated!

S.P.A.N.'s newsletter needs a name. Here are the names that have been submitted:

- \* **Spanabananagram**
- \* **The Monthly Dispatch**
- \* **Sharing is Caring**
- \* **Span Spam**
- \* **Span Space**
- \* **The Round Up**
- \* **The SPAN Spammer**
- \* **The SPAN Report**
- \* **SPAN News**



Which name do you like best? Here's your chance to vote! The name with the most votes wins! You can:

Email Charmaine and tell her your vote at [cemartell@spanet.ab.ca](mailto:cemartell@spanet.ab.ca).

Write down your vote and put it in the ABIN mail box at the main office.

FIND OUT WHAT THE NEWSLETTER NAME IS IN DECEMBER!



Trina and Allison attended the ACDS Annual General Meeting on October 30, 2018. This provided us the ability to learn what the priorities are for the upcoming election for the Disability sector and connect with other agencies with regard to different lobbying strategies that can be used throughout the upcoming election. The evening topped off with a wine and appetizer social event which was attended by many MLA's and the Minister of Community and Social Services. We took the opportunity to talk with Honorable Sabir about some of the struggles

that we are facing in terms of working with individuals who have addiction and mental health issues in addition to their PDD diagnosis, safe working conditions for staff and to advocate for better wages.

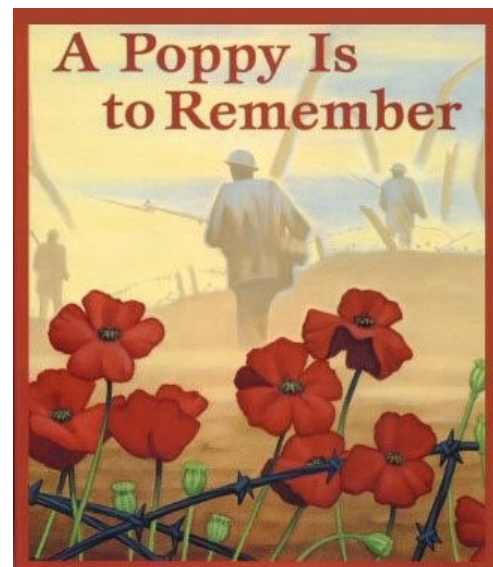
## In Flanders Fields

By: John McCrae

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.





## What Is a Concussion?

A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury—or TBI—caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or by a hit to the body that causes the head and brain to move rapidly back and forth. This sudden movement can cause the brain to bounce around or twist in the skull, creating chemical changes in the brain and sometimes stretching and damaging brain cells.

## Concussions Are Serious

Medical providers may describe a concussion as a “mild” brain injury because concussions are usually not life-threatening. Even so, the effects of a concussion can be serious.



## Accreditation is coming!!!

Our Accreditation date is set for May 2019. Committees have been formed and are underway. The four main areas that we are focusing for Accreditation this year are:

**Standards review and success committee.** This committee is reviewing the Accreditation standards and matching it to our existing policies and if a policy is missing or does not appear to meet the criteria of the standard they request it to be reviewed by the policy committee. In the New Year this committee will be responsible for attending staff meetings and meeting with staff to talk about the successes that have occurred in the various program areas.

**Policy review committee.** This committee is responsible for reviewing and proposing changes to SPAN's existing policies and developing new policy if it is needed. This is done by referring to the Accreditation Standards and reviewing new and existing legislations. The policies are then forwarded to the board for approval.

**Manual review committee.** This committee has been busy at work reviewing the manuals and ensuring that the practice and the processes explained in the manual are still consistent with the work that we do.

**Forms committee.** This committee has been tasked with reviewing the forms that are used throughout the agency. They will review all the forms to see if they are still relevant, if forms need to be discontinued and improving the overall efficiency of our forms.

Preparing for accreditation is a lot of work so team work is essential to ensure all the work is done on time, to ensure that we are providing the best services to the individuals that we support. Thank you to everyone for your work to date and we look forward to the hard work that is still left to tackle.



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*"Every leaf speaks bliss  
to me, fluttering from the  
autumn tree."*

- Emily Brontë

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### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Sunday November 4, 2018 set your clocks back 1 hour!**

**November 11, 2018 Remembrance Day  
Ceremony at the St. Paul Recreation Centre**

**December 1, 2018 SPAN Christmas Party**

**Don't forget to check ShareVision for training dates!  
Access Staff Council and Social Club meeting minutes by logging on to  
the SPAN Website at [stpaulabilitiesnetwork.ca](http://stpaulabilitiesnetwork.ca)**

**Please email submissions for December to [cemartell@spanet.ab.ca](mailto:cemartell@spanet.ab.ca)**

Leaves falling everywhere in the Novem-  
ber midnight moonshine.

~Jack Kerouac