



# **Greetings from the LIFE Team**



#### Laurie.....

I am very excited about the continued learnings I have taken part in this year which includes the Person Centered Thinking training, the Star Raft training and a session provided by Bob Jones on organization renewal. I was also honoured to take part and present at the Canadian Conference on Developmental Disabilities and Autism, the Family Gathering and sharing information about ICOF for families on the support work we do.

#### Dana....

The ICOF Spring Fling Committee had another successful event on April 28th, 2017. The Committee was very happy with the turnout, food, music, photo booth, rainbow auction and opportunity to connect with friends and family. The ICOF Committee is already planning and excited for the next Spring Fling which will be held Saturday April 6th, 2019. It is an honour to be able to support the ICOF Spring Fling Committee and assist them to gain skills and grow each event they plan. Their excitement is encouraging for all!

#### Liz....

It was great to see so many of you throughout the year. I enjoyed meeting with ICOF employers and their support networks. Financials can often be fun! This year it was also terrific to be able to facilitate LIFE's Financial Knowledge Workshop series. We held workshops both in Winnipeg and Brandon with sessions that covered managing your finances, creating budgets, saving money, credit cards and online safety – just to name a few topics. I am excited to run the series again in 2019 and will keep you posted! Have a wonderful holiday season and happy New Year!

### Michelle....

This year, I had the pleasure in taking part of a three day Social Enterprise workshop where I learned how we might look to apply the social enterprise concept with some of LIFE's offerings. I also co-facilitated a presentation on innovative approaches to support network development at the

Canadian Conference on Developmental Disabilities and Autism. I enjoyed developing the content for the presentation and facilitating for a large crowd was a great experience. This upcoming year, I look forward to further developing the Options for Services program and to the exploration and development of a Community Guide position through grant funding.





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#### Laureen....

2018 was a great year at LIFE and I am excited to see what 2019 brings! Keep checking our website to see what we have planned for the New Year. It is a pleasure to work at LIFE and to be behind the scenes at the office! Happy New Year and much happiness for the upcoming year.

#### Shannon C....

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your warm welcome into the ICOF and LIFE family! I was lucky enough to meet many of you at the AGM this year as well as work first hand with seven employers. I was also given the opportunity to further my experiences this fall by completing the Personal Support Network Facilitation Course. I look forward to seeing everyone again this year at the AGM and wish you all a wonderful Christmas holiday and fantastic new year!

#### *Barb....*

In December, I stretched outside of my comfort zone by participating in a two-day workshop at the Winnipeg Transition Centre. The workshop provided instruction and practice in the Behavioural Method of Facilitation. This training opportunity equipped me with the tools, tips, and confidence to facilitate group discussions and training sessions more effectively in my role as a LIFE Resource Coordinator.

### *Amy....*

My favourite part of working at LIFE is working as a facilitator. I was very excited this fall to be able to develop my facilitator skills by participating in a 2 day Person-Centred Thinking workshop through Helen Sanderson and Associates. The workshop highlighted an assortment of tools that can be used to facilitate conversations that build towards person-centred support and empower people to build meaningful lives in community.

#### Shannon....

This year I was really excited that LIFE was asked to create and share a session on "A Meaningful Day" for an agency in the Eastman region. Over 30 Managers and Coordinators attended our sessions. What a positive 3 days spent working, discussing and sharing how to assist each person they support have a good life. It was a very meaningful 3 days!