

There was a notable changing of the guard within Envision Counselling & Support Centre during Tuesday's annual general meeting held in Estevan.

The night marked the end of an era as after six years with the organization, Chair Jessica Morland and Vice-Chair Vic Wiebe each retired following the community group's meeting.

Morland joined Envision in 2009 while teaching in Midale. Morland thought about leaving the board after moving to Carnduff the following year, but was encouraged to stay on by former Executive Director Patt Lenover-Adams.

Since then, Morland has been a dedicated member of Envision and served as the Chair for the past few years. During her time, Morland has seen Envision grow from a small, almost hidden-away organization to a provincial leader when it comes to helping individuals and families dealing with abuse and violence.

"We've really gone through a branding process over my time here, and that's been a huge change," explains Morland. "It feels like we've gone from kind of a 'Mom-&-Pop' thing to a really professional organization."

Vic Wiebe works out of the Weyburn location and will be retiring to pursue opportunities with other community groups in the southeast.

One of only a handful of males involved with Envision, Wiebe has been a strong supporter since before he joined the group in 2009.

Like Morland, Wiebe has also seen the organization grow exponentially during his six years of membership. Not just in the numbers of people who utilize the valuable service, but considering the different programs now being promoted to the southeast community.

"For me, the highlight of my time is seeing the agency progress from when it was the Violence Intervention Program to becoming a Family Service Agency," explains Wiebe.

"It still with family violence, but it also deals with the front end of the problem and addressing the first signs of trouble that emerge."

Envision member Tami Scott will take over for Jessica Morland as Chair of Envision. Meanwhile, Jay Pierson replaces Vic Wiebe as Vice-Chair.

Envision is becoming a tremendous role model as an organization in Saskatchewan. They have expanded from Estevan and Weyburn to serve Carlyle and the surrounding rural communities.

And most recently, part-time hours have been made to serve Oxbow with the possibility of opening a full-time office in the community.

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