

North Edmonton Family Day Home Agency

Educator News November 2019



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12704 - 101 Street Edmonton, AB. T5E 4E5 – Office - 780-478-3376 - Fax 780-478-3423 - nefdha@hotmail.com

Accreditation

Did you know . . . We currently are going into our second year of accreditation and as an accredited program we have a commitment to meet the accreditation standards at all times. Accreditation promotes excellence in child care. Accredited programs are subject to unannounced status verification visits. Other programs that were accredited just before us have recently been visited.

2019 Statutory Holidays

Monday	November 11	Remembrance Day
Wednesday	December 25	Christmas Day
Wednesday	January 1 2020	New Years Day

If you plan to take additional days off to extend a long weekend, you need to let parents using care know in writing at least 2 weeks prior to your planned absence so they can arrange backup care.

Remembrance Day ~ November 11



Remembrance Day marks the anniversary of the official end of World War One, November 11, at 11am, 1918.

A two-minute silence is held at 11am on November 11th, to remember the people who have died particularly in and since World War One.

National Child's Day ~ November 20th



National Child Day is celebrated in Canada on November 20 in recognition of our country's commitment to upholding the rights of children and two historic events: the 1959

signing of the UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child and the adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989.

2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child sets out the rights of children with 54 articles that provide us with a solid road map of what is needed to raise healthy and happy children and youth. www.nationalchildday.ca

Children have the right to be heard.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=178&v=7kSZ6KwsxTM

On November 20, to coincide with National Child Day, the Alberta Child and Youth Advocate launched a video to promote the rights of children and youth. The film was video taped in Edmonton, Alberta and was produced locally by PlanIt Sound.

Ways to Celebrate National Child Day

Children are our most precious resource and should be celebrated every day!

November 20th is a day set aside to remember that our children need our love, respect and nurturing in order to reach their full potential. It is a day to celebrate with the children in care and their families. It is important to think about how we all impact their individual growth and development.

Have visible each child's "I Am Special" posters or books. Highlight each child's family, culture, language, writing, work, talents, hobbies and interests. Allow children to have a voice in the weekly program plans. Display photos of children engaged in activities and have toys, games, puzzles that represent each child's backgrounds. Read children's favourite books, serve their favorite foods, have a P.J. party,

Cook or bake together. Play a favourite game with the children. Send books or toys to children in need. (Operation Christmas Child program is coming up or you could donate to Santa's Anonymous, and as well as many other charities whose focus is under privileged children.)

Make a documentation panel to highlight how you celebrated National Child Day.

**A person's
a person,
no matter
how small.**
Dr Seuss



“Children are not the people of tomorrow, but people today. They are entitled to be taken seriously. They have a right to be treated by adults with tenderness and respect, as equals.” ~ Janusz Korczak

Building Positive Relationships with Families

When you collaborate and establish positive relationships with families, to gain parents trust and respect as you interact with their child. Parents will feel comfortable talking to you about any concerns they may have about their child and value your opinion. When you build positive relationships with families it is important to remember that they are more likely to actively participate in events or experiences and become more involved in your programming and planning.

Ideas to help build positive relationships with families:



Create a welcoming environment - It is important to allow families to come into your home, ask questions, and to participate and explore activities you provide the children. You can provide explanations about the activities and why they are a part of your program. Point out their child's projects or displayed art they have created. Documentation Panels and photos are a great way to show the activities and projects their child has been a part of.

Have open communication – It is so important for you to have open communication with parents about their child's development. Parents need to know what is happening with their child in your home so if you have any concerns about a child's development or behaviour you need to discuss it with parents. Finding the right time to talk with parents is important which may not always be at the door. It may mean an evening phone call or a face-to-face meeting at a scheduled time. It is the educator's responsibility to build up the lines of communication. This may include, newsletters, personalized notes, emails, texts, communication books, and phone calls.



Create a communication centre, a visually appealing bulletin board - This will allow you to share general information with all families about your daily program, menus, parent information, and your daily schedule. Add photos, art work and up coming events and celebrations to the board. Keep the board visually appealing and do not stack papers or clutter the board so it cannot be easily read.

Arrange social events ahead of time – You might identify a calendar of events at the beginning of the year that you plan to hold throughout the year. As the day nears, post more information about the up coming event. This gives families advance notice and is especially helpful if they need to rearrange work schedules. Events ideas; Pizza Night, Mother's Day special event, Father's day special event, Grand Parent's Day, Family BBQ, cultural celebrations, picnic, pot luck, Christmas dinner/concert, Art Gallery night to name a few. You might even plan fieldtrips ahead of time, (Zoo, fire hall) or if you are booking a special program to come to you, (Zoo to You, or the Activity Bus)



Encourage parent input into your program and planning - When parents tell you about events that take place in their child's lives, it is important to document and acknowledge the event. Ask questions and learn more about it, and then try to add it to your program. This input from parents is a great way to share, and celebrate individual cultures and diversity. It is also a great way to contribute to each child's development. When information gathered from families is used in the program it builds a teaching partnership.

Invite family members into your program – Parents, Aunt's, Uncles, Grandparents, and other family who have something unique or special to share. For example you might have a grandparent or senior who enjoys baking come into your program to bake with the children.

Always document when a family shares information with you. When you have an event take pictures and create a special documentation panel about the event. Children love to see photos of themselves and their family.

November - Consultant Visit

- This month consultants will be completing the Government Consultant Check list – All areas of your home will be checked, including areas that are off limit areas to the day home children.
- With the change of seasons, Fall/Winter, Educators often change their daily schedule. Please submit your fall/winter schedule to your consultant or send it in with your November time sheet.
- Home Storage and Organization training will be brought out to you in November. Please return the **completed training** for review at your January 2020 visit.



You can show respect every moment of everyday.

Teach, Practice, and Model with children;

- the Golden Rule (treat others how you wish to be treated)
- turn taking and sharing
- Random Acts of Kindness
- saying “please” and “thank you” and “excuse me”
- not tease, but encourage each other
- being patient with yourself and others when a mistake is made
- what good manners are
- good table manners
- every effort not to gossip
- being courteous toward everyone

workshops



A Taste of NEFDHA Educator Pot Luck Promoting Cultural & Diversity!

Date: Saturday January 4, 2020
11:00 AM– 1:00 PM

Location: Woodcroft Community Centre
13915 – 115 Ave.

Watch for more information!

To Register Call the office at 780-478-3376

November 30th

The North Central Coalition will be presenting a workshop for parents and educators on Resiliency – Watch for up coming Details on the Facebook Sharing Page, on the website and via email !!



Fall emergency bags should be packed and handy?

EMERGENCY bags should contain items that would keep everyone comfortable if you could not return to your home. If you had to evacuate your home, you would not stop to put on shoes or grab coats, so having hats, mittens, a blanket, and socks are items that would be good to have in the bag. Some great additions to your bag is a copy of your emergency cards, and a few snacks.

We strongly suggest everyone wear indoor shoes or slippers.



As fall arrives so does cold and flu season. Flu shots are now available at many pharmacies, public health centres and some doctor's offices. Now is a good time to review your illness policy with parents. Discuss when children need to be excluded from care.

Review your hygiene practices. Hand washing and disinfecting are the best way to prevent the spread of germs. Toys and play materials will need to be cleaned frequently, even daily, if you have sick children in your day home.

Up Coming Workshops for 2020

Finalized Dates and Times will be posted in up coming newsletters.

- January 4 - A Taste of NEFDHA workshop
- Taxation
- Story Park/Documentation workshop
- Mini Conference
- Child Invite workshop

Cancelling a Workshop After Registering

A MINIMUM of 24 Hours written or verbal notice is required by the Educator in order to cancel your participation in a workshop. Calling in the afternoon the day prior to the workshop is not sufficient notice.

This allows us to call Educators on the wait list. It also allows us to accurately set up, and prepare needed materials, and purchase snacks.

Educators will be charged a \$10.00 cancellation fee if appropriate notice is not given.

Self-checking, Are you meeting the Standard?

Standard 3: Relationships with families are supportive and respectful. Quality child care programs engage in family-centered practices with children and parents which contribute to positive environments that support children's learning and development. Parents must be able to participate in the child care program, visit the program anytime, and form relationships with the child care professionals. Equally important, parents need to be informed about the day-to-day experiences that take place in the child care program and be confident that their children are important to the program and child care professionals who care for them.

3.2 Child care programs implement clear, simple practices that promote communication and regular exchange of information with families.

- a. Provide opportunities for families to share and exchange information with the child care program. – *Meet with parents and encourage families to share about their family life, culture and celebrations.*
- b. Provide families with a clear intake and orientation process before their children begin care.
- c. Promote regular communication between the family and program. – *use communication books, notes, emails, texts, newsletter, and verbal communication. Keep all communication as proof of regular communication.*
- d. Provide opportunities for families to be involved in programming for their children. – *ask families how they would like to participate, encourage in put on programming, parents are a resource. Document information shared.*
- e. Consult with families about proposed policy/practice and program changes that may affect them.
- f. Implement a social media policy that defines monitoring and intention, and meets the program's outcomes.
- g. Protect the confidentiality of children and their families.

3.3 Child care programs support families through parental involvement, sharing of resources, and providing information regarding additional supports for their children.

Indicators

- a. Invite parents to participate in field trips and/or off-site excursions with their children.
- b. Invite parents to spend time in the program. Have parents come in to read, cook, share a hobby of theirs.
- c. Provide opportunities for families to develop relationships with each other. Celebrate together, have a picnic or Winter celebration with families! Document.
- d. Provide information to families about programs and services offered by other community & social organizations.
- e. Act a facilitator for families in locating, contacting, and accessing specific supports for their children.
- f. Share information about a child only with parental consent.

Standard 4A:

Family Day Home Educator - Residence

The residence must be in good repair. Space must be adequate to accommodate the following:

- windows in every room used by the children;
- adequate ventilation;
- clean, comfortable surroundings; and
- sufficient space for developmental activities of children in care.



Maintain Your Furnace

Call us the perfect line!

To ensure your **NATURAL GAS FURNACE** is in a safe working condition, you are required to have an inspection completed

every two years by a qualified heating professional. The Agency does require written verification of the inspection. You can book a **FREE** inspection through ATCO gas. Call - 780-310-5678

Furnace cleaning does not necessarily mean the company doing the cleaning has completed a full furnace and hot water tank inspection. We do recommend your furnace be cleaned yearly to keep it in good working condition, but this is optional. If the company doing the cleaning only cleans your furnace you will need to have an inspection completed.

If you have questions about cleaning vs inspections please contact your consultant.

Congratulations!

The following Educators are celebrating anniversaries with NEFDHA in November.

Thank you for your gift of CARE.

Salene Ledger	13 Years
Rizwana Qureshi	13 Years
Sajida Shahzadi	9 Years
Tamalika Rahman	8 Years
Yasmeen Ebraheem	7 Years
Sana Ghaffar	7 Years
Tony Ayri	6 Years
Hanna Tekleab	5 Years
Elham Ismaeil	3 Years
Karuna Pathak	1 Year