

North Edmonton Family Day Home Agency

Educator News June 2020



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2020 Statutory Holidays

Wednesday July 1 Canada Day Monday September 7 Labor Day
 Monday August 3 Heritage Day Monday October 12 Thanksgiving Day
 Wednesday November 11 Remembrance Day

If you plan to take additional days off, you need to let families know in writing, at least two weeks in advance, of your planned absence. This allows back up care to be arranged.



City of St Albert Signage

Community Playgrounds Are Now Open

NEFDHA strongly discourages Educators from using community playgrounds at this time due to the potential risk of transmission of the COVID-19 virus. If you do choose to use your community park, parents must be made aware, and need to give their written permission for their child to use the equipment.

The Government of Alberta - Written Guidance for Playgrounds. Published May 16, 2020 (alberta.ca/BizConnect)

To ensure the safety of children, families and communities, individual should take precautions when visiting playgrounds. Using playgrounds have some risks. Children may find it difficult to avoid touching their eyes, nose, or mouth. This can lead to the spread of the virus to playground equipment, other children, and other families. Check with your municipality to determine whether or not playgrounds are available for use. Playground users must comply with the **gathering restrictions** and maintain **physical distancing** of 2 meters between individuals not from the same household.

COVID-19 Risk Mitigation

Individual Actions & Precautions.

- Those who are sick or have **symptoms** related to COVID-19 must not use playgrounds.
- Encourage children to avoid sharing toys or sports equipment and limit contact with individuals outside of their household or cohort family.
- Clean and disinfect toys and sports equipment prior to and after use.
- Caution should be taken around playground equipment.
- Practice proper hand hygiene.
 - Wash your hands frequently.
 - Refrain from touching your face with unclean hands.
 - Carry and use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol content immediately before and after using playground equipment.
- Consider limiting children and other members of your household to only visiting that are close to your home. This will help limit the number of people your family may come into contact with.
- Maintain physical distancing and the limit congregating with other people when entering and leaving the playground and supervising children playing (e.g. paths, benches, picnic areas).
- Individuals should maintain physical distancing when returning to vehicles or homes.

Actions & Precautions for Municipalities and School Divisions

- Drinking water fountains should be shut off.
- Ensure garbage bins with removable lining are available. Consider checking these frequently.
- Signage should be posted to remind users of **gathering restrictions** and **physical distancing requirements**.
- Consider limiting access to playgrounds to those who live in the immediate neighbourhood.
- Consider limiting capacity at playgrounds to allow for two-meter distancing. Post signs to remind the users of capacity restrictions.



Father's Day Celebrations Around The World

Surprisingly, the dates of the celebration of Father's Day are not the same everywhere. The customs and traditions differ from one country to another. With the earliest record of Father's Day found in the ruins of Babylon, one can easily understand the fact that Father's Day has been celebrated for centuries. The Countries, where the Catholic Church were of significant influence on the culture and society, Father's Day is celebrated on St. Joseph's Day (March 19).

However, a more secular celebration, which is not associated with any religion, is followed in recent times to reflect the increased diversity of the people who live there. There are times when the Dads get a little lucky and enjoy Father's Day goodies more than once every year! Indulging the sweet daddies with breakfast in bed; gifting out cards, flowers, chocolates, neckties, shirts, electronic gadgets, stationery items; games and various other activities, get-togethers mark Father's Day to strengthen the bond between a father and child and are the traditional way of celebrating Father's Day not only in U.S. but also, all over the world in the recent times.

Father's Day is celebrated with enthusiasm and gifts galore to reflect on the invaluable role and contribution of fathers in the family. People honor their father and express gratitude for his love and affection on Father's Day. As a Father's Day tradition, people in US and Canada, along with their Dads, pay tribute to grandfather, stepfather, foster father, uncle or men who plays the Father figure role in their lives. The tradition of celebrating Father's Day in Canada has been influenced from US. People in Canada too wear roses to express gratitude and love for their father as their US counterparts. The event is popularly observed as a time for family reunion as well, with children staying away from families coming together to celebrate the day with their fathers and other loved ones; Paying tribute by giving out donations in the name of their fathers or by performing acts of service; Dining out. Business in restaurants and eating joints witness a huge rush on the occasion.

Several clubs, schools and cultural societies in United Kingdom and Ireland, Australia, South Africa organize Father's Day parties and get-togethers and provide people an opportunity to celebrate the day in a wide scale to stress the importance of Father's role in the development of the family and the society as a whole. The effort to spread a sense of responsibility and devotion to fathers are also made besides, children who in turn are encouraged to pay full attention and respect to their father.

The occasion in Australia is celebrated privately in households. Breakfast meeting for families is also a common affair of Father's Day celebrations in Australia.

Many in South Africa go out for picnic, fishing or just for a meal in restaurant.

Celebrating Father's Day is a new concept in India and highly influenced by the U.S. celebrations. It is perhaps not even a decade old. The idea of honoring fathers has been appreciated by Indians as well to a large extent like all other countries. The event is marked by expressing gratitude for fathers. Father's Day celebration in India takes place in the same way as in UK or US though in a limited way. Awareness about Father's Day festival is much greater in metropolitan cities and bigger towns due to the greater exposure of people to the western cultures and is fast catching up with people in smaller towns and cities of India as well. The idea is to instil noble values and principles in children to pay due respect to the elders especially dads and understand the importance of a family.

However, the popularity of Father's Day has also led to an extensive commercialization of the event. According to critics the rigorous marketing campaign has spoiled the noble idea of honoring fathers on Father's Day as many observe the day by performing the mere formality of presenting gifts to dad. Others, on the other hand see the positive side of commercialization and consider that it has helped to spread awareness and the significance about the day for children to honor their fathers.

Here's wishing all the wonderful fathers out there a perfect Father's Day. May you be blessed with a life of contentment, peace and happiness forever. For our life wouldn't have a purpose to strive and excel without their support and secure guidance. https://www.theholidayspot.com/fathersday/around_the_world.htm

Family Day Home - Standard Review

Standard 4C: Outdoor Play Space



The provider must ensure that children have access to an outdoor play space:

If the outdoor play space is a part of the provider residence, it must be securely enclosed. (Or the provider has an Agency-approved exemption); or If the outdoor play space is not part of the provider residence, it must be within a safe and easy walking distance.

The Agency is reminding Educators that it is your responsibility to maintain current documentation as required by the *Alberta Government Standards Manual for Family Day Homes and NEFDHA*. **The Standards Manual can be found in the front of your Agency binder.** Failure to maintain current documentation will result in closure of your home until documents are made current and a copy is received at the Agency.

- ✚ Educators must make the agency aware if there are renters in your day home, or a separate basement suite with the same mailing address as you. We require a Police Security Clearance and an Intervention Record Check for each person over the age of 13 years.
- ✚ Educators need to always maintain current Home/Renters/Vehicle Insurance. Standard 1: Insurance Coverage (Family Day Home Standards Manual for Alberta). Proof of your insurance needs to be forwarded to the Agency prior to expiring. A copy is kept on your file. *It is also important that your insurance provider(s) are aware you are caring for children in your home and/or are driving with children if applicable.*
- ✚ All documentation that is sent to you that asks for your signature or a parent/guardians signature needs to be returned back to the Agency in a timely manner.
- ✚ First Aid, Police Security Checks, and Intervention Record Checks need to also be maintained and sent into the Agency prior to expiring.

Congratulations!

The following Educators are celebrating their anniversaries with NEFDHA in June.

Thank you for your gift of CARE.



Barbara Smith	20 Years
Gul Bano	4 Years
Azhar Borno	4 Years
Sarah Singer	3 Years
Helen Zeru	2 Years
Santa Basnet	1 Year
Betiel Ghezai	1 Year
Monika Kumar	1 Year
Margit Parti	1 Year
Fouzia Tabassum	1 Year

Are you an Educator who is Re-Opening or do you have children starting care?

If you are opening your day home, or if you have new or returning children coming into care please complete and send into the agency the following forms:

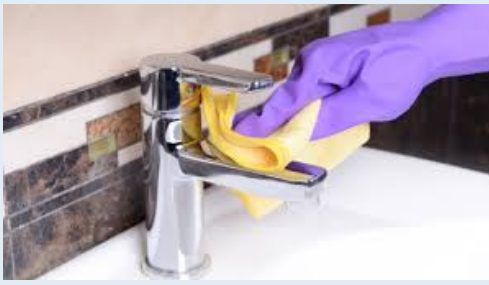
Forms were emailed to all Educators on April 18, 2020.

Returning Educators Check List Form - Please complete the Agency's requirements for re-opening your day home during COVID-19. *All Family Day Home Educators wishing to return from a leave of absence will be required to comply with applicable health and safety legislation. This includes all Standards within the Child Care Licensing Act and Childcare regulations.*

Appendix A Screening - Questionnaire for children. This screening form should be filled out just prior to a child coming into care. Filling in out the night before a child comes into care will give you the best information as to a child's health.

If you, or anyone in your family is sick you must close your day home as per AHS protocols. If a day home child becomes ill or anyone in their family is ill AHS protocols are also implemented.

NEFDHA Illness Policy – Zero Tolerance for any illness in your home. ***Please discuss with new and returning parents, the Zero Tolerance for illness policy.***



AHS Cleaning & Disinfecting during COVID-19

TWO Step Process - Clean & then Disinfect all frequently touched hard surfaces.

General Cleaning

https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/covid-19-relaunch-guidance-daycare-out-of-school-care.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3PlgVhqzOvOWHLwFWdkZzaSn9xBrRB_MhagclvJjv6dcMBXclM2JHuuWxE (May 23/2020)

- Increase daily cleaning and disinfection of common areas and surfaces. Pay particular attention to doorknobs, light switches, railings, gates, washrooms and other high touch surfaces.
- Cleaning refers to the removal of visible dirt, grime and impurities. Cleaning does not kill germs but helps remove them from the surface. Clean with soap and water.
- Disinfecting refers to using chemical to kill germs on surfaces. This is most effective after surfaces are cleaned. Both steps are important to reduce the spread of infection.
- Alternatively, you can make a 1000ppm bleach water solution by mixing 20 ml (4 teaspoons) of unscented, household bleach with 1000 ml (4 cups) of water. Ensure the surface remains wet with the bleach water solution for 1 minute.
- Be sure to take the appropriate precautions when using chemicals for cleaning and disinfecting. Consult the product's Safety Data Sheets.

Bleach and water needs to be made fresh everyday as light breaks down the effectiveness of the solution. Do NOT use when children are in the area as the solution is toxic when WET. Label your container with the contents.

Contact your consultant if you have any questions.

As an Educator, you have the responsibility to maintain the health and safety in your home through the practices YOU implement. Follow AHS guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting.

Teach health & safety practices to children and share information with families.

Serving and Preparing Food

- Educators must not allow self-serve or family-style meals.
- Educators and children need to practice hand hygiene at appropriate times. For that educator, before and after preparing meals or snacks. For every one before and after eating.
- There must be no common food items. (e.g. salt and pepper shakers, ketchup bottles, water jugs, and juice bottles.)
- The Educator should serve Meals/snacks in individual portions only.
- Utensils should be used to serve food items [not fingers].
- Where possible, children should practice physical distancing well eating.
- No activities involving children participating in food preparation is allowed.

It's time to
check your outdoor
Emergency Bag.
Remove the winter gear &
add warm weather items.
Ideas: wipes, hand sanitizer,
sunscreen, bug spray,
water bottles, & snacks.
**Have All Parents sign the
Summer
Permission Form.**