



North Edmonton Family Day Home Agency

Parent E-News July 2021



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2021 Statutory Holidays

Monday August 2 Heritage Day Monday Sept 6 Labour Day Monday Oct 11 Thanksgiving
Thursday Nov 11 Remembrance Day

The Family Day Home Program in Alberta is now the *Government of Alberta Licensed Family Day Home Programs.*

Approved Family Day Homes in Alberta will now be LICENSED PROGRAMS. Private day homes cannot apply to become licensed day homes.

NEFDHA is in the approval process for our license. Part of the approval process has been to develop a “Program Plan” which identifies the policies, procedures and practices in place to ensure the Government of Alberta’s Day Home Standards are met. Once approved the Program Plan will be made shared.

Annual Assessments

Consultants completed their Educator’s annual assessments in June. The assessment sets goals and identifies training for the year. Information is gathered over the year by the consultant and educators complete a self-assessment, which assists in completing the review and helps in the development of new individual goals.

Self-assessments identify the training completed, successes, identifies challenges and targets areas the educator has identified as professional development and personal goals for the next year.

Consultants take into consideration the educator’s self-assessment, completion of previous goals, completed training, professional development and compliance of the Day Home Standards of Alberta, which are monitored monthly and documented on the educator’s profile. Any feedback from parents is added to the assessment and is a part of developing goals and individual training.

In 2021 we are adopting a new process where you will have more of an opportunity to share information on your satisfaction, and level of care.

The goals and training identified are discussed with the educator with specifics on how to complete goals and a timeline in which to complete or implement the goal.

Educator Profiles

Educator Profiles are updated monthly and contain current information about the family day home:

- Numbers of persons living in the home
- Numbers and ages of children in care.
- Special menu restrictions are listed.
- If the home is a non-smoking/non-vaping.
- Pets are listed.
- Date of the last consultant visit.
- Program history for the past 12 months that includes Compliance and non-compliances for the day home standards.
- Remedy dates for non-compliance are identified.
- List of incidents that have occurred in the previous 12 months.
- Complaints reported in the previous 12 months.
- Visitation by Children’s Services are listed.

Parents/guardians may request to see their educator’s profile.

Colleen Wettlaufer

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This information comes from the Family Day Home Standards Manual for Alberta page 7.

Educators must provide evidence that they are meeting the standards as identified in the Standards Manual for Alberta.

Matters to be considered by providers of child care programs.

All child care programs, including licensed family day home agencies and individual family day home programs, shall take into consideration the following matters as well as any other matter they consider relevant:

- (a) Children should be encouraged in having care and play experiences that support their development and learning;
- (b) The child is to be protected from all forms of physical punishment, physical and verbal abuse and emotional deprivation;
- (c) Diversity in:
 - (i) The background and circumstances of children in the program and their families, including those who may be experiencing social or economic vulnerability, and
 - (ii) The abilities of the children in the program is to be respected and valued;
- (d) The child's familial and Indigenous or other culture, social, linguistic and spiritual heritage are central to the child's safety, well-being and development;
- (e) Care of the child must be appropriate to the child's mental, emotional, spiritual and physical needs and stage of development;
- (f) Involvement and engagement of parents supports accountability of child care program, monitoring of child care programs and maintenance of a good quality child care programs.

Time Sheet - Signing Changes

Educators and Agencies are required to meet Standards that are found in the *Day Home Standards Manual for Alberta*. In the Standards Manual, *Standard 2*, talks about the Children's information records, it is stated "Daily attendance details including arrival and departure times (parents should initial the child's arrival and departure times as a security measure for the transfer of responsibility between the parent and educator);

When signing the time sheet;

- Parents sign the time sheet on the very first day of the month.
- Parents initial daily – when child is in care
- Parents sign the time sheet weekly



You Are Invited to Attend a Free Webinar

Building Blocks to Literacy

This workshop will look at the stages children go through before they become readers and writers. Parents and caregivers will be able to identify the stage their child is in and participate in fun hands-on activities with their child.

This webinar is for Educators and Parents

Zoom information will be provided.

Date: **Saturday July 10**

Time: **10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

Limit of 50 persons

Presenter: **Kristin Dmytriw with the Centre for Family Literacy**

To Register call the Agency at 780-478-3376

Consultants will be returning to in-home visit in July. Masking is required.

Educator's Training Opportunities for June/July



June Webinar Training Children as Engineers: Creators and Problem Solvers"

In this webinar Educator's got up close and had the opportunity to see what engineering looks like for children and learn what their role is in supporting the creators and problem solvers!



First Aid Re-Certification. In both June and July the agency has provided an opportunity for educators to recertify if their first aid is going to expire. We are very fortunate that one of our staff members, Tammy Deal, is a certified First Aid Instructor and offers recertification classes regularly.

Alberta's Early Learning and Care Framework



Agency staff completed a six-week course introducing us to Alberta's Early Learning and Care Framework called "Flight".

Flight, is a guide that provides holistic goals and dispositions for learning to help us document, make children's learning visible, and reflect on our practice and the ways we can further support children.

Flight will be introduced to Educators and parents in the next few months.

Educator Appreciation Day

The Agency designated June 9, 2021 as Educator Appreciation Day. While COVID did not allow us to celebrate together, we took the opportunity to thank our educators for their dedication to the field of early childhood! Educators all received a small gift from the Agency. Those celebrating a special anniversary 5, 10, 15, or 20 years, received a monetary award as well as a certificate stating years of service.

Special Anniversaries

5 Years

Riffat Elahi, Azhar Borno, Memona Gul, Nasrin Iqbal, Gul Bano, Hyunsook Kim,

10 Years

Amina Mohamed, Sajida Shahzadi, Easmin Haque, Shazia Parveen, Zahida Memon.

15 Years

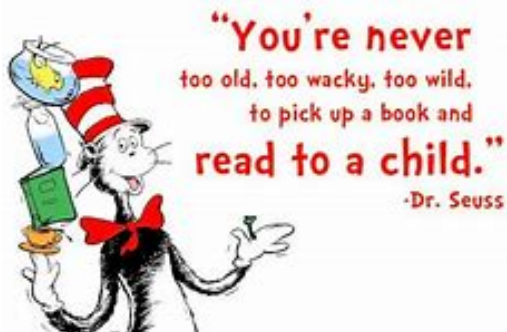
Ada Camminatore, Tina Tesfagaber. Maha Mouallem, Salene Ledger

20 Years

Mihret Gebreamlak.

Educator's who enrolled in a Post-Secondary Early Childhood Course in 2020 also received Recognition. Educators received a monetary award and a certificate.

Rajwinder Bal, Memona Gul, Vy Nguyen, Candice Ball, Ma Teresa Santos, Karuna Pathak, Elham Ismail, Leah Elumba, Isatou Secka, Sarfraz Akhtar



Family Day Homes and the Alberta's Stage 3 - Open For Summer

Day homes have now moved into stage 3 of the Alberta re-opening plan. There are more relaxed protocols for masking but we do ask that you continue to mask and distance at pick up and drop off times. This recommendation is to help protect children, as those under the age of 12, have not had the opportunity to be vaccinated.

Your educator will continue to ask if you have completed the daily health screen prior to coming into her home. The checklist was updated in May and I have attached the link below if your educator did not forward a copy to you. Keep a copy of the Alberta Health Daily Checklists handy so you can complete the screen prior to leaving your home.

- ✓ Complete the Health Screening before leaving home.
- ✓ If anyone is testing, isolating (even with a negative test) or COVID positive in your home your child may not attend the day home until the isolation period is completed.
- ✓ Wearing a mask is strongly suggested.
- ✓ Maintain two meters or 6 feet from others.

Thank You For Your Support.

<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/56c020ed-1782-4c6c-bfdd-5af36754471f/resource/2a97f697-7c2b-40cc-9679-de087115171e/download/covid-19-information-alberta-health-daily-checklist-2021-05.pdf>

This summer all Educators are invited to Participate in a Summer Reading Challenge July 1 to August 6

Talk with your Educator to see if your children are participating.

When reading is introduced to very young children they often read earlier and do



better in school compared to children who are not exposed to early literacy. It is important to start reading, rhyming, singing, and talking to a child from the time they are born. This will greatly influence a child's literacy and language development.

All children who participate will receive a prize. There will also be a random draw of 3 prize packs.

Children of all ages enjoy being read to!



Facts About Canada



- Canada, originally from Iroquois name 'kanata' which means settlement or village
- **Official Languages:** English, French
- **National Anthem:** O Canada!
- **National Colours:** Red and white
- **National Symbols:** Maple leaf, red and white flag, maple tree (national tree), beaver (national animal). A second national animal was added in 2002, the Canadian Horse, aka Cheval Canadien
- Canada is the second-largest country in the world.
- Canada has approximately 3 million lakes. There is a beach known as Wasaga beach and it is the longest freshwater beach in the world.
- Canada is the first country in the world to embrace diversity and adopt a policy of multiculturalism. There are over 250 ethnic origins in Canada.



Fun Facts

- The Hawaiian Pizza was invented in Canada.
- Poutine originated in Quebec somewhere around the 1950's. It's a mix of French Fries topped with cheese curds and gravy.
- Canadians consume more mac and cheese than any other country in the world. Kraft is the favourite.
- There are more doughnut shops in Canada per capita than any other country.
- Canada is known as the home of large animals like the moose and grizzly bear, but it is also home to about 55,000 species of insects and about 11,000 species of mites and spiders.



10 Tips for Reading Aloud with Children

by NYPL Staff January 22, 2021

- 1. All reading is good reading.**
- 2. Find a comfortable space to read together.** The love of reading is built around our cultural connection to books and hearing stories. Being in a cozy environment while reading will help create those loving connections.
- 3. Slow down.** It takes time to process what's happening on the page. You can pause on a page to look more closely at pictures before turning the page.
- 4. Ask and answer questions together.** If you come across a word or concept your child doesn't know, ask them what they think it means. And if you don't know, it's OK to say that! Explore unknowns together: these moments are opportunities to discuss the book and what is happening in connection to the world around us and capitalize on curiosity.
- 5. Be yourself.** You don't have to be an entertainer while you're reading a great book! This is especially true when reading one-on-one with a child. The bond already exists and the moment is special because it is your voice.
- 6. Read ahead!** Rhythm and meter are part of the magic of storytelling; so a little pre-reading can make a big difference. Flip through the pages before you start so you know what happens in the story and can check that it's appropriate for your audience and moment. This will help you identify key moments for social-emotional learning.
- 7. Embrace wordless picture books.** Books without words are an opportunity for you and your child to invent a new story each time. Wordless picture books are also a great opportunity to think and talk about what is happening—and to predict what will happen next!
- 8. Don't worry about age or grade level.** Even if a book isn't entirely age-appropriate or seems a little advanced, you can still try reading different parts of it each time.
- 9. You don't have to finish a book.** Don't make reading a chore! If your audience is running around or not interested, come back to it later or ditch it entirely!
- 10. Make reading aloud part of your routine.** This is especially valuable for our littlest ones, who crave structure for comfort and early learning. Make bedtime or tummy time a good time for reading. Plus, if children see *you* reading, you're modeling great reading behavior that sets the foundation for future readership.