Pilot Project Shows Great Promise!

Could you imagine going through life with unnecessary challenges? The prevalence of children with early mental health issues has been growing rapidly in Prince George. One of our programs has experienced an increase of 20% in related referrals over the last three years. While many of these children could be assisted given timely intervention, there have been few resources available to grapple with this growing problem.

In the spring the CDC, in conjunction with the Native Friendship Centre and Intersect Youth and Family Services, ran a very successful pilot of the Behavioural, Emotional, Social, Teaching (BEST) Program. The program was designed to assist children with early social/emotional issues.

During the eight-week pilot project, we saw substantial improvements in the child participants. The program included group work with both the children and their parents. The most rewarding part of the program was the knowledge that we were imparting life-changing, lifelong skills to the children that were able to participate.

We are now searching for funding, including working with our local MLAs, Pat Bell and Shirley Bond, to find the resources to run this program in the future.

The Child Development Centre thanks our Supporters

- Northland Chrysler for designating the Child Development Centre as the recipient of the recent Northland Golf Tournament.
- McDonalds and all other businesses that have supported the CDC’s recent silent auctions
- The Prince George Construction Association for supporting us through their golf tournament.
- J. R. MacMillan Construction built and raffled off a terrific fun and funky playhouse with ALL of the $1500 proceeds going to the Therapy Department
- Future Shop held their 2nd annual BBQ in memory of their former employee Doug Paquette. Proceeds totalling $1200 were donated the Child Development Centre’s ECE Music Program.
- We would like to thank OK Tire for thinking of the Child Development Centre to have a hotdog sale, and to everyone who came out!
- Windsor Plywood for having us out to hold a BBQ.

Notice of Annual General Meeting of Members

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the members of the Child Development Centre of Prince George and District Association will be held on Tuesday, September 25th at 5:30 at 1687 Strathcona Avenue, Prince George, BC (the Child Development Centre).

Come out at 5:00 (prior to the meeting) for a meet and greet with the CDC’s board members and staff. Food and beverages will be provided. The Annual General Meeting provides an excellent opportunity for you to hear what has happened at the CDC over the last year.

A big Thank You to Pace Realty, our Newsletter Sponsor

Pace Realty
(250)562-6671
www.pacerealty.ca
Daycare and Preschool News

The new line up for teacher changes in the classrooms is as follows:

★ Colleen and Donna will be teaching in the Young Explorers Preschool
★ Susan and Terri have moved to the Little Wonders
★ Patty and Billie will run the Rainbow Room daycare, 7:30-4pm
★ Iris and Maureen will remain in the Orchard Room daycare, 8:30-5pm
★ Karen continues to work in the Little Footprint multi age group daycare, 8:30-4pm

Did You Know?
The CDC has some of the best preschool and daycare facilities in Prince George!
These services are for children of ALL ABILITIES

114 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN OUR DAYCARE & PRESCHOOL CLASSES!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Experience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sharon</td>
<td>24 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donna</td>
<td>23 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iris</td>
<td>17 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terri</td>
<td>16 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colleen</td>
<td>12 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maureen</td>
<td>13 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Billie</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In May, the ECE department at the Child Development Centre received the Child Care Legacy Award from the Province of British Columbia. This award recognizes 40 years of outstanding child care services.

All of our classes have an open door policy. Parents, feel free to visit or call if you have any questions or concerns.

We are looking forward to a great year!

Are you looking at a way to give back to your community? Consider volunteering for the Child Development Centre (CDC). Volunteering for the CDC can provide a very satisfying experience, allowing you to use your skills and to build new skills while helping the region's children and their families. The CDC has many volunteering opportunities!

If you are interested in volunteering at the Child Development Centre, drop in and pick up a volunteer package, or download the volunteer form off the Child Development Centre website.
Speech Language Pathology News

We are looking forward to another busy fall providing speech therapy services. Speech and language groups for toddlers, young three year olds and children with severe speech sound errors will again be running. Children are chosen for these groups from the current caseload by their therapist.

We again have staff to go to community daycares and preschools to see children from families that may have difficulty accessing our services at the CDC. Besides Prince George, our therapists continue to travel to Mackenzie, McLeod Lake, Valemount, and McBride. A change for the coming year is that Darcy Russell will now be covering Mackenzie. She has experience in previous jobs doing outreach in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. Joan Beek will miss her clients in Mackenzie. Thank you to the communities in outreach for their support of the speech therapy service.

TIPS

- Be a good speech model. Speak clearly, naturally, and use correct speech sounds and real words.
- Read to your child often and start early—from birth.

Occupational Therapy News

The CDC is now offering occupational therapy services for school-aged children. There is a fee for this service. We are offering consultation, assessment and treatment of any challenges your child is having that makes it difficult for them to participate in activities of daily living in the home, community and/or classroom. Some examples of this include difficulties with handwriting, picky eating, organizational skills, and social skills. Contact Michelle Lawton in the OT department at (250) 563-7168 local 240 or michellen@cdcp.org for more

NEW SERVICE

The Child Development Centre is now offering occupational therapy services for school aged children.

Physiotherapy News

At the beginning of summer the CDC wished former Chief Physiotherapist Llaesa North a Happy Retirement. We would like to welcome our long time therapist, Lynn Bergmann into her new role as our Chief Physiotherapist!
Dates to Remember...

The Child Development Centre will be closed the following dates:

- September 21st: CDC Pro-D Day
- October 8th: Thanksgiving Day
- November 12th: In lieu of Remembrance Day
- December 14th: Kris Kringle Luncheon
- December 21st: Preschool Family Christmas Party
- December 25 & 26: Christmas Day & Boxing Day
- January 1st: New Year’s Day
- January 2nd: Planning Day — Daycare/Preschool closed

Preschool Christmas break is from December 21st—January 2nd.


Fall Outdoor Activities

Fall is an excellent time to spend time outdoors, enjoying the beautiful colors and brisk weather. Here are some fun activities to enjoy with your children.

GO ON A NATURE WALK

Allow the children to pick up objects from nature such as rocks, bark, grass, leaves, nuts, etc., and put them into their bags to take home. As you walk along, encourage your children to talk about what they see and hear in nature. Allow them to observe and ask questions. When you return, set out the art tools and let them create a collage of their nature walk.

FOLLOW THE LEADER

Playing Follow the Leader is a great way to get your children practising and trying different gross motor skills! Include jumping, crawling, climbing, moving in different ways, walking in all directions, etc. A variety of activities will help your children develop coordination and new skills for activity.

HOPSCOTCH AND SIDEWALK CHALK

Sidewalk chalk is a great activity to increase gross and fine motor activity at the same time. Making a hopscotch game is a great way to practice balance, coordination and jumping skills. Help can be made with making the lines. Even making faces and fun drawing in

Has one of our staff members gone above and beyond to help you and your child? Please let us know so we can recognize them!