

# July 2026 Newsletter

*Making a difference in the lives of children and families since 1983!*

July 1, 2026

## **Field Trips and Special Outings**

must have prior written consent from the parents/guardians and the Agency shall be informed when Educators are taking children off site for field trips and special outings.

Educators should ensure that:

- ◆ Safety rules are reviewed with children and volunteers prior to each trip/outing.
- ◆ Field trips to pools and lakes must have enhanced supervision practices – 1:3 minimum adult to child ratio, life jackets must be worn by the children at all times, and youth are never left to supervise younger children.
- ◆ Field trips to large bodies of water and fast-moving rivers are not recommended.
- ◆ Field trips should be age and developmentally appropriate for all children in attendance.
- ◆ Educators must be in the physical presence of all the children at all times when outdoors. *Volunteers are not to be left alone with the children at any time.*

It is important to note that parents have the right to decline fieldtrips and to request alternate care for that day.

Please reach out to the agency if you have any questions.

## **Community Connections: Puppet Picnics**

What a magical month it has been for our family day home programs in Springbrook and Penhold! This June, our community parks were filled with laughter, learning, and some very special visitors as we kicked off the first-ever Puppet Picnics!

These picnics offered a wonderful opportunity for our IFDHS programs to come together, enjoy the beautiful outdoor spaces, and strengthen our community connections.

The excitement started immediately as children proudly carried a favorite stuffy brought from home. The children loved introducing their furry friends to one another and, of course, to Chuckie the Ankylosaurus, who was without a doubt the star guest of the day!

The picnic blankets became space for the children to develop a

deep sense of belonging, sharing stories about their stuffies and practicing early social expressions of welcoming and friendship.

### **A Tale to Remember and A Taste of Magic!**

The children gathered around closely as Lindsay read a custom storybook created especially for these summer gatherings: *Chuckie & the Puppet Picnic*. Eyes widened as Chuckie navigated his own picnic adventures, but the magic didn't stop on the pages.

Bringing the story directly to life, the children got to try a real-world treat straight out of the book: Puppet Punch! Sipping on the special drink added a delightful sensory layer to the storytelling experience.

In line with exploring our environment as a co-teacher, the picnics also featured a captivating

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) experiment. The children became active researchers—hypothesizing, observing, and reacting with pure joy as they watched the science experiment unfold right before their eyes.

Thank you to all of our incredible educators and children in Springbrook and Penhold who made these days so memorable. Keep an eye out for more community adventures coming your way soon!





## INNISFAIL & AREA FAMILY DAY HOME SOCIETY

— Established in 1983 —



Alberta  
Approved  
Family  
Day Homes



### Happy Canada Day!

**Reminder**  
The Office is  
Closed July 1st

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### Office Summer Hours:

The agency will be  
open on Fridays  
8:30am—noon.  
Closed at noon.

## Society News

### Happy Anniversary to:

Happy Work Anniversary  
to:

Macartney Leischner  
1 year

Sheila Lindsay  
4 years

Destiny Hartel  
5 years

*Thank you for making a  
difference in the lives of  
the children and families  
you work with!*

**Do you have  
upcoming changes to  
your care needs this  
fall?**

Please talk with your  
Educator As Soon As  
Possible to discuss  
those changes, as  
they may or may not  
be able to  
accommodate your  
request.

If you need support in  
finding care, reach out  
to the office at  
403-227-2767

## What is SPICE-M in Program Planning?

SPICE-M stands for, Social, Physical, Intellectual, Creative, Emotional and Mental (or Spiritual). Early Childhood Educators are expected to develop their program plan with all of these areas in mind!

**Social Development** refers to how a child interacts with those around them and their ability to create and sustain relationships.

**Physical Development** refers to the development of your child's gross (large) and fine (small) motor skills.

**Intellectual Development** refers to your child's developing brain,

including language development! This includes the development of understanding of cause and effect (If I do \_\_\_ then \_\_\_ happens), the organizing of thoughts, feelings and ideas and their understanding of the world around them. Language development refers to your child's receptive (listening) and expressive (speaking) skills and their beginning understanding of words and print.

**Creative Development** refers to your child's ability to think creatively, use their imagination, create with various mediums of art and see the world not just for what it is, but for what it could be.

This could be through art, drama, imaginative play-the sky is the limit!

**Emotional Development** refers to your child's ability to regulate their emotions, "bounce back" from challenging situations and understand and process their emotions and the emotions of others.

**Mental or Spiritual Development** refers to the values a person has, your child's sense of fairness and empathy, and understanding the difference between right and wrong.



# July 2026



| Sun  | Mon | Tue  | Wed  | Thu | Fri   | Sat |
|--|-----|--|--|-----|---|-----|
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Innisfail &amp; Area Family Day Home Society</b><br/>                     5713—51 Avenue<br/>                     Innisfail, AB T4G 1R4<br/>                     403-227-2767<br/>                     www.ifdhs.com</p>  </div> |     |  | 1<br><b>Canada Day</b><br><b>Office Closed</b> | 2   | 3<br><b>Summer Hours</b><br>Office Open<br>8:30am—noon<br><br>Closed at noon  | 4   |
| 5  | 6   | 7  | 8  | 9   | 10<br><b>Summer Hours</b><br>Office Open<br>8:30am—noon<br><br>Closed at noon | 11  |
| 12   | 13  | 14   | 15   | 16  | 17<br><b>Summer Hours</b><br>Office Open<br>8:30am—noon<br><br>Closed at noon | 18  |
| 19   | 20  | 21   | 22   | 23  | 24<br><b>Summer Hours</b><br>Office Open<br>8:30am—noon<br><br>Closed at noon | 25  |
| 26   | 27  | 28<br><b>Month End</b><br><b>Paperwork Due</b> | 29   | 30  | 31<br><b>Summer Hours</b><br>Office Open<br>8:30am—noon<br><br>Closed at noon |     |

# August 2026



| Sun   | Mon  | Tue  | Wed  | Thu | Fri  | Sat  |
|---|--|--|--|-----|--|--|
| <p>Innisfail &amp; Area Family Day Home Society<br/>                     5713—51 Avenue<br/>                     Innisfail, AB T4G 1R4<br/>                     403-227-2767<br/>                     www.ifdhs.com</p>  |  |  |  |     |  | 1  |
| 2   | <p>3<br/> <b>Civic Holiday</b><br/> <b>Office Closed</b></p> | 4  | 5  | 6   | <p>7<br/> <b>Summer Hours</b><br/>                     Office Open<br/>                     8:30am—noon<br/>                     Closed at noon</p>  | 8  |
| 9   | 10   | 11   | 12   | 13  | <p>14<br/> <b>Summer Hours</b><br/>                     Office Open<br/>                     8:30am—noon<br/>                     Closed at noon</p> | 15   |
| 16  | 17   | 18   | 19   | 20  | <p>21<br/> <b>Summer Hours</b><br/>                     Office Open<br/>                     8:30am—noon<br/>                     Closed at noon</p> | <p>22<br/>                     Innisfail Lantern Festival<br/>                     3-11pm<br/>                     Centennial Park</p> |
| 23  | 24   | <p>25<br/>                     Penhold Discovery Night<br/>                     5-7pm<br/>                     Penhold Multiplex</p> | <p>26<br/> <b>Month End<br/>                     Paperwork Due</b></p> | 27  | <p>28<br/> <b>Summer Hours</b><br/>                     Office Open<br/>                     8:30am—noon<br/>                     Closed at noon</p> | 29   |
| 30  | 31   |  |  |     |  |  |