

October 2022 Newsletter

October 1, 2022

Innisfail & Area Family Day Home Society



October is Fire Safety Month!

This year, Fire Prevention Week is happening from October 9th to 15th. Although **BIG** shiny fire trucks & police cars are often exciting for some children, but encountering those Community Helpers in uniform who operate these vehicles can spark uncertainty— even fear. To support your child with emergency preparedness & strategies to help your child feel comfortable around Community Helpers, consider opportunities to naturally teach. This may include recognizing Community Helpers in the community, having a conversation about their roles in the event of an emergency & positive exposure, such as visiting your local fire or police station.

Fire Prevention Community Events

Innisfail: Pancake Breakfast- Innisfail Fire Station on Saturday, October 15th (9:00 AM to 11:00 AM)

Olds: Open House— Emergency Services Building on Wednesday, October 12th (6:00 PM to 8:00 PM)

Other Communities: Stay tuned to our Social Media for any additional event announcements!



Children's Resource!

Take the Fire Safety Pledge!

TAKE THE PLEDGE

Fire won't wait. Plan your escape: **THE HOME ESCAPE PLAN**

SPARKY'S MATCH GAMES

Check out www.sparky.org for games, videos & activities!

“Fire Won’t Wait, Plan Your Escape”

In the event of a fire, seconds matter!

Check out these tips to assist in the development of your families Home Escape Plan

Escape Planning

- Walk through your home with family to identify multiple exits. Its recommend to have at least 2 exit routes from every room.
- Dedicate someone to assist children, pets & anyone who may require support to get out of the home safely.
- Identify a meeting spot outside that’s a safe distance away from your home & ensure your street address is visible

Smoke Alarms

- NFPA recommends testing your smoke alarms at least once per month.
- Ensure everyone knows the sound & how to respond to it.
- Install a smoke alarm on each level of your home & smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years
- Replace batteries every 6 months or when it makes a chirping sound

Don't forget to practice your Home Escape Plan & ensure everyone knows how to contact 9-1-1 or your local emergency number.

Society News

Happy Birthday!

Aspen L Lonny K
 Ana O Nate G
 Emily K Liam D
 Nixon W-M Zhavia V
 Hanlen L Madden M
 Bodie S Carson L
 Emslie D Jordyn L
 Walker B Aria E
 Hadleigh J

**Office will be
 Closed
 October 10th
 for
 Thanksgiving.**

Happy Anniversary:

Donna Brouwer
 2 years
*Thank you for making a
 difference!*

Welcome to:

Abigail Travers
Penhold



Brain Story Certification & Theory-to-Practice



With the support of the Government of Alberta and in partnership with the Palix Foundation, the Association of Early Childhood Educators of Alberta (AECEA) is excited to provide ECEs with an opportunity for continued professional learning on the scientific

underpinnings of early brain development and the important role ECEs play in brain development in the early years. The professional learning will be free to take and Early Childhood Educators will be reimbursed for their time spent learning.

The Alberta Family Wellness Initiative (AFWI) has developed an online course to make Brain Story science available to professionals and the public.

aecea.ca/brain-story-certification-theory-practice-ecce

Updated Family Day Home Standards



Children's Services has announced that updates to the Licensed Family Day Home Standards have been made. These updates cover a range of topics, from management of records and early childhood education certification requirements,

to health and safety updates and clarifications regarding the age ratio in individual programs.

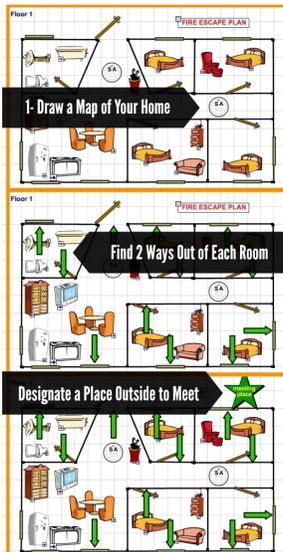
The updated Licensed Family Day Home Standards will come into effect on October 1, 2022. Children's Services

has indicated that they will share more info on the changes in advance of that date.

All our educators are asked to attend a team meeting on October 3, 2022 at 7:00pm to review these changes.

How to Create a FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

PREPARED-Housewives



Fire Drills & Evacuation Plans—Standard 10B

Educators are required to practice a monthly fire drill and test the alarms to ensure they work. The dates of these tests must be recorded.

The purpose of drills are to familiarize everyone on how to evacuate safely, and where to meet outside of the home.

When practicing a fire drill, it is encouraged that the smoke detector be rung, as the children need to be familiar with the sound of the smoke detector. Prior to the fire drill it is important to prepare the children for the evacuation by talking with them and sharing

what the expectations are for behaviour and actions.

Educators are required to share with their clients the evacuation plan for their home, and families must be made aware of the meeting spot and relocation spot when they register.

Professional Development Funding

The Government of Alberta, expanded access to professional development to all certified early childhood educators (ECEs), including Educators working with a licensed family day home agency.

All ECEs will be able to access up to \$1500 per year, April 1 2022 to March 31 2023, for post-secondary coursework that leads to a higher level of certification. Educators will also receive up to \$500 to attend approved workshops and conferences.

Release time will now be available to ECEs so they

can be paid while studying, completing postsecondary coursework and attending approved workshops. Release time will be paid as follows: ECEs attending approved post-secondary course work will be eligible to receive a flat rate of \$800 per course, to a max of two courses per fiscal year. ECEs attending approved workshops are eligible to receive \$17.50 per hour (up to 45 hours per fiscal year).

Educators can connect with the Agency, who can contact the Alberta Government to see if the

workshop, conference, or post secondary course is approved for funding prior to applying.

Buyer Beware: *It is important to be aware of courses advertising online, for a fee, stating they will support the operation of your family day home. Not all courses offered are recognized by the Alberta Government, and the course may not support the Standards for Alberta Family Day Homes. In fact, some of the trainings they advertise as a fee for service, you may already receive for Free with the Agency.*





**INNISFAIL & AREA
FAMILY
DAY HOME
SOCIETY**

— Established in 1983 —



**Alberta
Approved
Family
Day Homes**

Outdoor Play is Important in the Fall & Winter

The temperature is slowly dropping and snow will soon start to fall, but that does not stop day homes from going outdoors in the fall & winter.

Children need fresh air and exercise daily. Day homes will consider the wind chill and shorten the time outside or decide to stay in if it gets colder than -15/-20 °C with wind chill. That means children must be prepared with splash/snow pants, warm boots, warm mittens that cover their wrist, neck warmers/scarves, and a warm hat. Talk to your day home about leaving a spare pair of snow pants and mittens at their house to make going outside easier for everyone.

“There’s no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing” ~ Swedish & Norwegian saying.



Curriculum Corner: Playing with Leaves!



As adults, freshly fallen leaves could mean more impending yard work & a reminder that winter is soon approaching. For children, the sight of HUGE piles of multi-colored leaves can spark excitement & wonder. Playing in leaves is the perfect natural opportunity for children to utilize their Gross Motor skills by jumping, rolling their bodies around & throwing armfuls of leaves high into the air. A single leaf can provoke inquiry & conversations about varying colors, textures, shapes, different types of trees & even why leaves change color then fall to the ground.

Leaf Inspired Activities

- Go on a leaf hunt
- Leaf sensory bin
- Observe leaf symmetry
- Create a leaf collage or wreath
- Leaf printmaking
- Create leaf rubbings
- Use leaves as Loose Parts
- Bury objects in leaves (ie: treasure!)
- Slide into a BIG pile of leaves
- Use leaves as paint brushes
- Create a leaf labyrinth



Visit [ifdhs_mentor](#) on TikTok for more ideas!

Happy
Thanksgiving



October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 <i>Office Open until 6:30pm</i> <i>Team Meeting 7pm</i>	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Thanksgiving</i>	11	12	13	14 <i>Office Closed 3pm for Staff Training</i>	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 <i>No School</i>	22
23	24	25	26 <i>Month End Paperwork Due by 8:30 am</i>	27	28	29
30	31 <i>Halloween</i>				<div data-bbox="1486 1356 1969 1523" data-label="Complex-Block"> <p>Innisfail & Area Family Day Home Society 5713—51 Avenue Innisfail, AB T4G 1R4 403-227-2767 innisfaifdh@shawbiz.ca www.ifdhs.com</p>  </div>	



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Lest We Forget

November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>Office Open until 6:30pm</i> <i>Team Meeting 7pm</i>	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 <i>No School</i>	11 <i>Office Closed Remembrance Day</i> <i>No school</i>	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 <i>Month End Paperwork Due by 8:30 am</i> <i>No School</i>	26
27	28	29	30	<div data-bbox="1465 1323 1953 1502" data-label="Complex-Block"> <p>Innisfail & Area Family Day Home Society 5713—51 Avenue Innisfail, AB T4G 1R4 403-227-2767 innisfaifdh@shawbiz.ca www.ifdhs.com</p>  </div>		