



Providing a foundation for lifelong growth

January 2018 Parent Newsletter

**Happy
New Year!**

We hope that everyone had a wonderful and restful time over the Christmas season with family and friends! We are excited to start a new year with all of you!

Allowable days for January – 22

Please note that fees are due on or before Jan. 3, 2018

PLEASE ENSURE that you notify the agency of any change in contact information for you, or for your emergency contacts. It is very important that we are able to contact you in an emergency.

Occasionally, you may find you have a question or need clarification regarding agency policy or practice. Please feel free to call us anytime with questions, comments or suggestions. We strive to provide the best customer service possible, and welcome all feedback!

Winter Activities and Planning

Winter can be wonderful and warm, or cold and blustery! It's important to be prepared for all types of weather. Children are taken outside as part of developmentally appropriate programming every day, except in extreme weather conditions. Please ensure your child is prepared for all types of weather every day – snow pants, water-proof mittens, boots and warm hats will ensure your child has a warm and wonderful play experience outdoors!



This month's WOW Award draw was won by Sunita! Congratulations! Please be sure to let us know what great things your provider is doing for your child! All comments are entered into a monthly draw for \$25 gift certificate. Simply call us at 403-346-0888, or email us at nd@newdimensionsfamilydayhome.com to submit your comments!

Many Providers take children out to community destinations for various play opportunities. For all outings, it is agency policy, and a government requirement, that written permission be obtained from each parent prior to the trip occurring. There are four types of forms that your Provider may ask you to sign:

- Consent and Release – used for one-time community outings, such as the fire station, library, water park, etc.
- Neighbourhood excursion Form – this form gives longer term permission for regular outings, such as walks around the neighbourhood, local park trips, etc.
- School Transportation permission forms – completed for the school year where the provider will be transporting to and/or from school each day
- Highway Transportation Forms – completed for specific trips where highway travel is required. A copy of this form must be submitted to the agency prior to any highway travel.

Completed forms are kept on site in each family day home for future reference by the provider and any agency staff.

Parent Sharing Corner:

We understand that life is busy! If you have any great ideas that you could share with other parents, please feel free to forward them to us and we will include them in a future newsletter!



Did you know...?

Our Providers have been working on the development of Learning Stories for children in care. Learning Stories are a part of Alberta’s Early Learning and Child Care Curriculum – an innovative document that supports Best Practice in child care, based on the latest research world-wide. If you want to learn more about Alberta’s Early Learning Curriculum, the entire document can be found at:

<http://childcareframework.com/resources/Play,%20Participation,%20and%20Possibilities%20-%20An%20Early%20Learning%20and%20Child%20Care%20Curriculum%20Framework%20for%20Alberta.pdf>

“Play, Participation, and Possibilities: An Early Learning and Child Care Framework for Alberta frames curriculum meaning making that highlights the relationships and curriculum decisions shaping responsive practices in early learning and child care communities. It is a guide for early childhood educators to use in their everyday work with young children and their families in Alberta. It builds on early learning and child care frameworks that have been developed in other parts of Canada and around the world, in particular the New Brunswick Framework for Early Learning and Child Care—English.

The Alberta framework recognizes, appreciates, and values:

- ❖ The practice of relationships among educators, children, and families that make visible the uniqueness of each child care centre and family day home in Alberta.
- ❖ The co-constructed nature of early learning curriculum: recognizing the unique nature of learning in early childhood, educators make curriculum decisions “in the

moment,” extending play and learning through thoughtful reflection and dialogue with children, families, and other educators.

- ❖ The search for a shared professional language—a language that may cause pause, calling upon us to reflect deeply in order to make the values, principles, and goals that frame practice in early learning and child care clear to ourselves and visible to others. “

Makovichuk, L., Hewes, J., Lirette, P., & Thomas, N. (2014). Play, participation, and possibilities: An early learning and child care curriculum framework for Alberta. Retrieved from www.childcareframework.com