



PARTNERS FOR CHILDREN

FALL 2021

Yukon Baby App is Getting an Upgrade.

Supporting new families is worth the cost!

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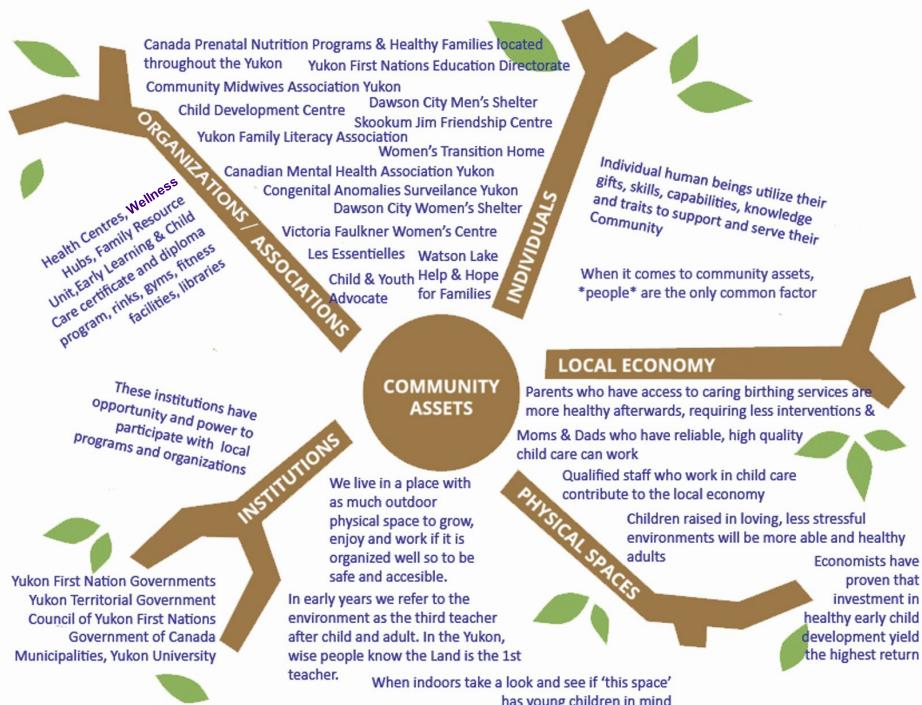
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THE APP IS BACK... NEARLY!

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

-Margaret Mead, American Anthropologist
(1901-1978)



Katie Swanson

partners for children

contact information

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Email: ContactUs@partnersforchildren.info

Mail: Partners for Children

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Y1A 2Z6



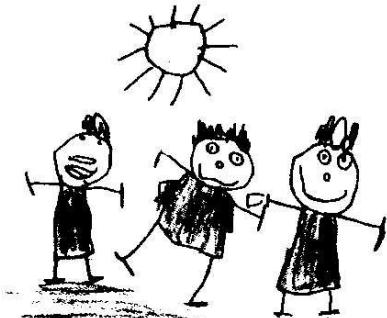
You may request a PDF version of this newsletter by emailing newsletter@partnersforchildren.info or checking our website: www.partnersforchildren.info

You may also request to have it mailed by Canada Post.



Coordinators: Kate Swales, Rebecca Fenton

Copy Editor: Leslie Peters



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The views expressed herein are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official policy of Partners for Children, NHEHD Yukon or the Public Health Agency of Canada.



Community Websites

Autism Yukon

www.autismyukon.org

Child, Youth and Family Treatment Services

<http://www.hss.gov.yk.ca/cats.php>

Child Development Centre

<https://cdcyukon.ca/>

Department of Education Early

Learning and Childcare Unit

<https://www.yukon.ca/en/early-childhood-learning-and-programs>

Early Learning and Child Care Program

<https://www.yukonu.ca/programs/early-learning-and-child-care>

Family Law Information Centre

<https://yukon.ca/en/family-law-information-centre>

Fetal Alcohol Society Yukon

www.fassy.org

Hospice Yukon Society

www.hospiceyukon.net/

LDAY Centre for Learning

www.ldayukon.com

Network for Healthy Early Human

Development

www.NHEHDYukon.org

www.partnersforchildren.info

Recreation & Parks Association of the Yukon (RPAY)

<http://www.rpay.ca>

Skookum Jim Friendship Centre/Traditional Parenting Program

<https://skookumjim.com/programs/>

Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre

<http://www.vfwomenscentre.com/>

Volunteer Yukon

<https://www.volunteeryukon.ca/>

Inclusion Yukon

<https://www.inclusionyukon.org/>

Yukon Child and Youth Advocate

www.ycao.ca

Yukon First Nations Education

Directorate (YFNED) Early Years

www.yfned.ca/earlyyears

Yukon Literacy Coalition

www.yukonliteracy.ca/

Yukon Public Libraries

<http://yukon.ca/en/libraries>

Yukon Territorial Government COVID-

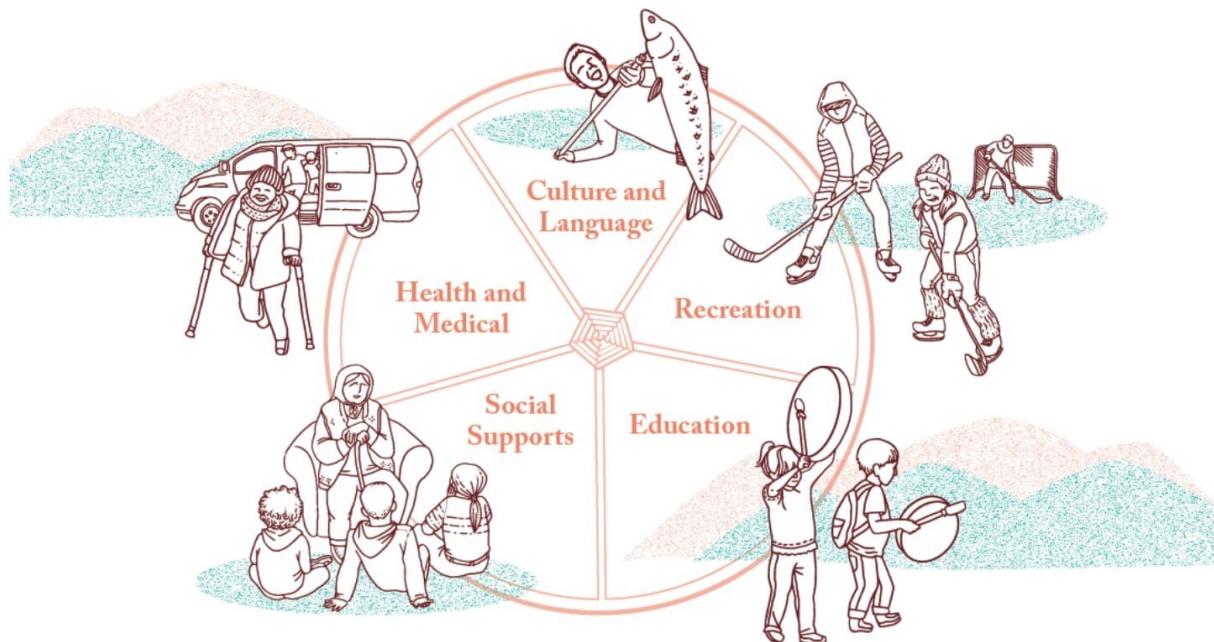
19 information

[https://yukon.ca/en/covid-19-information](http://yukon.ca/en/covid-19-information)

Partners for Children

JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE

a better future starts today



Jordan's Principle ensures First Nation children receive the services they need.

Step 1. Connect

A request for services can be made for an individual child or a group of children. You can make a request in two ways:

- Call the CYFN service coordinator toll-free at **1-833-393-9200** or email jordans.principle@cyfn.net. We will assist you through the referral process and help you understand the scope of services eligible through Jordan's Principle. Or,
- Email Indigenous Services Canada directly at sac.principaledejordanrn-nrjordansprinciple.isc@canada.ca.

Step 2. Provide Information

All requests for services will require:

- Name, date of birth, and status number of the child
- Service requested
- Estimated cost

Step 3. Submit the Request

The CYFN service coordinator will submit the request on your behalf to Indigenous Services Canada, and help you navigate the process upon approval.



Learn More:
cyfn.ca/services/jordansprinciple



Caregiver Skills Training



Autism Yukon

2021-
2022

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Do you know or have a child, 2 to 7 years 11 months of age, with autism or another developmental delay who has difficulty communicating and/or engaging with others? The virtual **Caregiver Skills Training (CST)** program may be a good fit!

Autism Yukon, in collaboration with McGill University, is offering a 9 week-long program that consists of weekly group sessions for parents, as well as three home visits.

This program is open to anyone in Yukon, Atlin, B.C., or Lower Post, BC., who has a stable internet connection. Autism diagnosis is not required.

THIS PROGRAM WILL FOCUS ON:

1. Helping children become and stay engaged
2. Shared engagement in daily routines
3. Understanding and promoting communication
4. Preventing and teaching alternatives to challenging behaviour
5. Teaching new skills and problem solving

If interested or for more information,
please contact Rebecca at
projectcoordinator@autismyukon.org



Parent-Child Mother Goose

A FREE group for caregivers and their little ones ages 0-5 yrs.

Thursdays, October 7 – December 9

Partners for Children, 108 Copper Rd

10:30 – 11:30am

Follow Partners for Children on FB and

Register on [EventBrite](#) or with your

Family Resource Unit Support Worker



Discover the power and pleasure of rhymes, songs, and stories.



Reduce your risk of infectious diseases.

Trust. Protect. #VaccinesWork

Talk to your doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or local public health office about the immunizations you and your family need to stay healthy.



Yukon Child and Youth Advocate Office (YCAO)

2070 – 2nd Avenue, Unit 19

Phone: 867 456 5575

www.ycao.ca

"Young people have a voice."





(Cliquez [ici](#) pour la version française)



(Cliquez [ici](#) pour la version française)



Autism Yukon

Autism Yukon's Info Booklets have been updated and are now available in French AND English!

Check them out at
<https://www.autismyukon.org/resources> or call 667-6406.

A poster for "Mamans papas et bébés en santé" (Mothers, Fathers, and Babies in Health). It features a pregnant woman's belly and baby feet. The background is a colorful geometric pattern.

Mamans papas et bébés en santé

Services confidentiels en français
Accès aux services d'une diététicienne certifiée
Soutien à l'allaitement
Repas-répis mensuels
Ateliers touchants la périnatalité
Prêt de tire-lait électrique
Réseau d'échange de vêtements de grossesse et de bébé
Accès à un centre de ressources (livres, DVD)

NOUVELLE ADRESSE
3089 3ÈME AVENUE À WHITEHORSE
867-668-2636

A poster for Project Lifesaver. It features a large black silhouette of a person's legs and feet. The text reads:

Autism Yukon and Yukon Search and Rescue present:

Is your loved one at risk of becoming lost?

Consider signing up with Project Lifesaver:
A frequency-based program to help find individuals with disabilities and/or dementia.

Call Autism Yukon to find out more . . . | 867.667.6406

Logos for Autism Yukon, Project Lifesaver, and Yukon Search and Rescue.



Mothering Your Baby

A group for moms with babies under the age of 1
Fall, Winter and Spring

Mothers and their babies are invited to join us for sharing, connection, information and fun! We'll discuss the ups and downs of new parenthood, our journey into our identity as a mother, our changing bodies, lives and relationships, and all that YOU want to talk about.

To register, connect with Partners for Children – 332.5990
or the Whitehorse Health Clinic – 667.8864



Learning Together



Looking for a fun activity to do daily with your young child?

Learning Together is a **free** early learning program for parents or caregivers and young children newborn to 5 years old to attend together. Enjoy play-based activities, crafts, snacks & more!

Join us at Elijah Smith Elementary School on school days.

Mornings: Indoor Fun 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Afternoons: **NEW! Outdoor Forest and Nature School**
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Please dress for the weather.

Due to COVID-19 protocols, please **pre-register** by calling the school at **667-5992** or online at learningtogetherelijahsmith.weebly.com

You can pre-register right up to the start of each activity, or select any days of the week in advance, Monday to Friday. Max is 10 adult/child pairs per session.

Come play and learn with us!

Yukon

Leslie's Book Shelf...

Quirky and common-sense books for Yukon children



Many Canadians have observed Orange Shirt Day for the last few years in honour of residential school survivors and the children who never returned home.

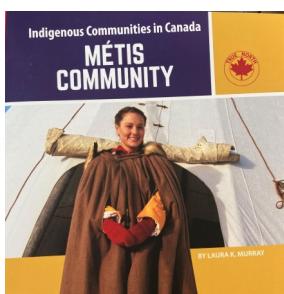
This year, Orange Shirt Day was officially a statutory holiday for the first time: National Truth and Reconciliation Day. To mark this overdue recognition of the trauma of residential school

history, the to-date uncovered graves of the missing children, and the desire for healing and reconciliation, I've chosen four Canadian books that will gently educate children and promote healing.

I was born Precious and Sacred, written by Debra Abood of Vancouver Island, "takes simple pictures and words and uses them to illustrate and clarify some complicated issues: belonging within families and cultures, respect for both children and elders in the values they can teach us, and safety for one of our society's most vulnerable and most resilient groups of people: children.

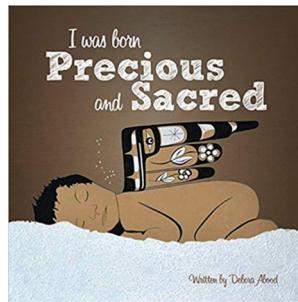
"Debora Abood draws on years of experience working with ... victims of trauma, to create an atmosphere of non-judgemental invitation to examine how ancient traditional teachings can point people from all cultures towards healthy recognition of human sanctity." Each

page illustrates a principle such as "My mind is precious and sacred." and ends with the words, "and this I need to know." The pictures are beautiful and promote "care and respect for others and for other ways of knowing."



(indigenouseducation.comoxvalleyschools.ca)

Finally recognized as a unique Indigenous culture, Métis Canadians are able to tell their stories with pride. ***Indigenous Communities in Canada: Métis Community*** is part of a larger series that contains over 40 children's books about individual Indigenous groups such as the Ojibwe, Salish and Tlingit nations.

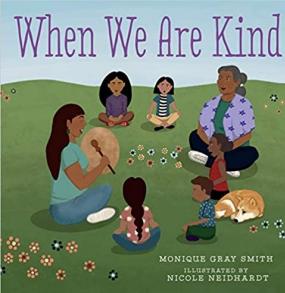


(www.beechstreetbooks.ca/imprint/truenorth/WBEE0001).

This book is full of history, pictures, current information and links to websites for those who want to find out more about the Métis.

When We are Kind is written by well-known Indigenous early childhood educator Monique Gray Smith and beautifully illustrated by Nicole Neidhardt. (<https://www.orcabook.com/When-We-Are-Kind-Digital-Class-Set-LicenP4934.aspx>)

This book is, in my opinion, a most artfully crafted children's book that manages to weave Indigenous culture, early childhood best practice, and explanations of the abstract in concrete terms into a super enjoyable children's book that doesn't feel preachy at all.



When We Are Kind



In fact, it feels as if the heart has been cleansed and comforted after reading it. The first few pages contain sentences that begin with "I am kind when..." and give examples of children doing kind things for people, animals, the environment and themselves (self care). The second half of the book contains sentences that begin with "I feel..." and then finish with words such as "joy, happy, respected, comforted" etc., giving examples of how it feels to receive kindness.

Reading this book encourages us to determine to continue to work hard at becoming better humans. After reading this book, Shelagh Rogers of CBC Radio fame, said this:



"People are moved by her [Monique Gray Smith]: moved to tears, moved to action. With every fibre of her being, she advocates for a new narrative for Canada."

Of course the story of the orange shirt must be part of this day. ***Phyllis' Orange Shirt***,

Continued on pg. 15.



Yukon CPNP Programs

Canadian Prenatal Nutrition Programs (CPNP) are funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and can be tailored to meet individual community needs.



The CPNP Programs use many different modalities: Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies, Traditional Parenting Programs, Lunch and Learn, Nutrition Heroes, walking clubs and more. CPNP programs support **pregnant parents and parents with young children**. This time of life can be one of the most difficult, tumultuous, transitional, and rewarding times in a person's life. A time when people need support!

The programs offer support in a number of ways: free drop-in lunches; a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere; 1:1 nutrition consultation; nutrition supplements; information and skill building sessions; fun prenatal and postnatal physical activities; breastfeeding support; encouragement to choose healthy lifestyle choices; opportunities for personal development; and opportunities for parents to build their support network through community referrals, and of course, meeting other parents!

There are nine CPNP sites throughout the Yukon. That's right! Support for pregnant families and new parents is available at four sites in Whitehorse. There are also sites in Teslin, Carcross, Dawson City, Watson Lake and Ross River.

Each program welcomes pregnant parents and parents who have babies. Whitehorse welcomes families with babies up to one year old. Dawson has extended its program to include families with children up to two years, and Carcross welcomes families with children up to three years, as does Ross River. If you are pregnant or just had a baby, or if you know someone who is pregnant, consider a visit to your local CPNP site. They would be happy to see you!

In Whitehorse:

Healthy Babies, Healthy Futures at Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre: contact 667-4134 or

cbynwhitehorse@northwestel.net

Skookum Jim Friendship Centre:

contact sjfcprenatal@northwestel.net

Mamans, Papas et Bébés en santé at Les EssentiElles: Contact 668-2663 x 820 or

pcnp@lesessentielles.ca

Teen Parent Centre: contact 667-8336 or

teenparentcentrecpnp@gmail.com

In Dawson City: (867) 993-5149 or

cbynawhitehorse@northwestel.net

In Carcross: (867) 821-4251 and ask for the health & wellness department.

In Teslin: (867) 390-2532 ext 371 or jodi.jules@ttcteslin.com

In Watson Lake: (867) 536-2125 or wlcpcnp.capc@gmail.com

In Ross River: amandamarymac1@gmail.com

Eating delicious food together is a big part of what happens at CPNP sites. If you are struggling to afford healthy food, please reach out to your CPNP Coordinator. If you have questions about discipline or your relationship with your children, CPNP Coordinators will help you to find the answers in a non-judgmental environment. They can help, or they will find someone who can!

CPNP at Victoria Faulkner Women's Centre

Healthy Babies, Healthy Futures cooks up yummy, healthy treats weekly.



From the kitchen of:

Healthy Babies, Healthy Futures

Healthy Babies, Healthy Futures is a community-based program that provides support to improve the health and well-being of pregnant women, new mothers and babies facing challenging life circumstances.

Pregnant or new mothers can participate in this program, and be a part of this special community, until their child turns 1 year old. Weekly gatherings with other new moms, meals, guest speakers and many other offerings take place on an on-going basis. Space is limited and all women are asked to register. Twice Weekly lunches are held Monday & Thursday from 10 am - 12pm.

Contact us by phone at (867) 667-4134 or by e-mail at cpnp@vfwomenscentre.com

Dairy - Free Gingerbread Cake

This wonderfully spiced cake is even better when enjoyed the next day! Great to make a batch & cut into squares for a quick on the go snack.

Prep: 30 minutes
Total: 1 hour 5 minutes
Yield: 9 servings

Ingredients:

*	3/4 cup	boiling water
*	1/2 tsp	baking soda
*	2/3 cup	molasses
*	3/4 cup	sugar
*	1-2/3 cups	whole wheat flour
*	2 tsp	ground ginger
*	1 tsp	ground cinnamon
*	1/4 tsp	ground nutmeg
*	1/8 tsp	ground cloves
*	1/2 tsp	baking powder
*	1/4 tsp	salt
*	1/3 cup	vegetable oil
*	2	eggs



Instructions:

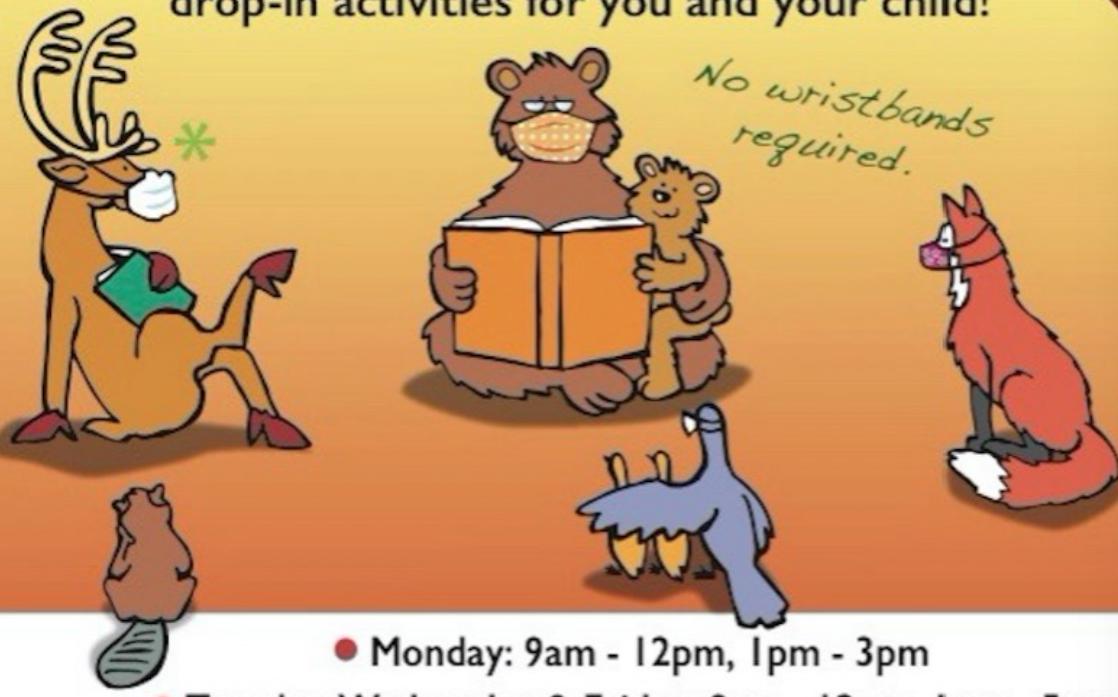
1. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Grease a 9-inch square pan.
2. In a medium mixing bowl, stir together boiling water and baking soda. Add molasses and sugar, whisking until well combined and sugar has dissolved.
3. In a large mixing bowl, combine flour, ginger, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, baking powder and salt.
4. Whisk vegetable oil and eggs into the molasses mixture, then slowly add wet mixture to dry ingredients until thoroughly blended.
5. Pour batter into prepared pan. Bake for 30-35 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the centre comes out clean.
6. Cool for 5 minutes, then run a knife around the edge of the cake. Cool on wire rack for 1 hour, before turning upside down to remove from pan.
7. Cut into squares and enjoy!



Family Literacy Centre

(Upstairs in the Canada Games Centre)

FUN, FREE, COVID-SAFE
drop-in activities for you and your child!



No wristbands
required.

Come
visit!

• Monday: 9am - 12pm, 1pm - 3pm

• Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 9am - 12pm, 1pm - 5pm

• Thursdays: 1pm - 5pm • Saturdays: 10am - 2 pm

(Closed for lunch on weekdays, 12-1pm)

- Stay home if you are sick
- Practice physical distancing
- Sanitize hands frequently
- * The Yukon Chief Medical Officer strongly recommends the continued use of masks in indoor public spaces.



For more information, call
668-8698 / 668-6535

Yukon Family Literacy Centre
 @yukonfamilyliteracycentre

Fall hours run from
Sept. 7th - Dec. 22nd, 2021
Closed October 9, 11, & November 11

www.yukonliteracy.com



**Family
Literacy
Centre**

For more information, call
668-8698 / 668-6535

f Yukon Family Literacy Centre
o @yukonfamilyliteracycentre

All programs are based on child-adult participation.

MORNINGS

Monday (9 am-noon) Drop-In & Free Play; plus Books with Baby: (10-11am) Read, sing & enjoy the world of board books.

Tuesday (9 am-noon) Drop-In & Free Play

Wednesday (9 am-noon) Groove & Move! Engage with music! Have fun & dance!

Thursday Reserved for Group Use Call 668-8698 to reserve for your literacy-based group.

Friday (9 am-noon) Drop-In & Free Play

Saturday (10 am-2 pm) Drop-In & Free Play

AFTERNOONS

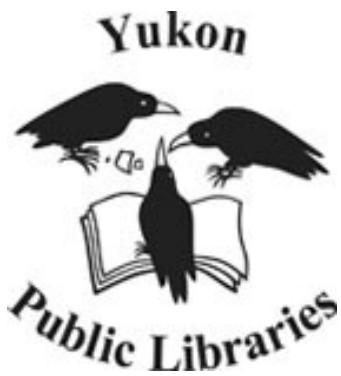
Monday (1-3 pm) Story Time & Drop-In Free Play

Tuesday (1-5 pm) Story Time & Drop-In Free Play

Wednesday (1-5 pm) Story Time & Drop-In Free Play
plus *Paint!!Paint!!* (Painting activities of all kinds)

Thursday (1-5 pm) Story Time & Drop-In Free Play

Friday (1-5 pm) Story Time & Drop-In Free Play plus *Rock, Paper, Scissors!* (Crafting with nature and simple tools)



Yukon Public Libraries aim to provide books, audiovisual materials and other resources to meet the needs of Yukoners of all ages.

Libraries also provide fun and informative programming, safe, healthy, breast-feeding-friendly community spaces, library tours and room rentals.

Yukon Libraries:

Beaver Creek Community Library
 Burwash Community Library
 Carcross Community Library
 Carmacks Community Library
 Dawson City Community Library
 Faro Community Library
 Haines Junction Community Library
 Mayo Community Library
 Old Crow Community Library
 Pelly Crossing Community Library
 Ross River Community Library
 Tagish Community Library
 Teslin Community Library
 Watson Lake Community Library
 Whitehorse Community Library

Picture (above): From Yukon Public Libraries' Facebook page: Isabelle Pringle Library Librarian Linda and her pups spread the word about story time at the Carcross Community Library one summer. Follow Yukon Public Libraries Facebook page for the latest updates.

Literacy This Week



We are a society of people dedicated to improving the quality of life of all Yukoners. We do this by building the foundational skills required for lifelong learning; acknowledging that we are all adapting to an everchanging world.

Indoor Sensory Play

Stuck inside with your children on a dreary day? Have no fear; the Literacy Coalition is here! Everything you need to make a dull day around the house delightful can be found right in your own home. What's the secret, you ask? Sensory Play! Simply put, sensory play is any activity that stimulates our senses. If your child can see, taste, or hear what they are doing, that's sensory play.

When we invite our children to use their senses – no matter what their age – we invite them to explore cause and effect, make new connections in their brains, build their physical abilities, and so much more. Sensory activities are very engaging, and great for keeping children occupied.

Here are some ideas for quick, easy, and fun sensory activities you can do at home:

For toddlers: Tabletop Water Tub

This activity is so easy to prepare, a toddler could do it!

To start, fill any type of bowl, tub, or container with water and place it in a convenient spot for both you and your child (like the kitchen floor). If you want to minimize mess, put a large towel underneath! Add a handful of household objects, like a wooden spoon, a magnet, a sponge – anything too big to swallow and fun to get wet. Set your child on the floor in front of the tub, and voilà!

If you're feeling fancy, add a little non-toxic soap or food colouring to the water.

For preschoolers: Tabletop Toy Washing

Turn your tabletop water tub into a toy washing station. All you need is a plastic toy that's safe to wet, mild soap, washable markers, a washcloth or toothbrush, and a drying towel.

First, have your child get the toy dirty by covering it in marker, paint, or anything else that leaves a mark but can be washed off. Then, wash the toy in the tub of water. When it's clean, dry it with the towel. That's it!

To make it extra fun, wash a toy doll or action figure, and pretend you're giving baby a bath!

For "big kids": Tabletop Slime!

This foolproof, non-toxic slime recipe is safe for skin and works every time! Place finished slime in an air-tight container and store for a rainy day.

Ingredients:

- 1 Oz bottle or ¾ cup of Elmer's Clear Glue
- ¼-1/3 Cup Water
- 1/2 tsp Baking Soda
- 2 Tbsp+ Contact Solution (must contain boric acid)
- 1-3 drops food colouring
- Small bits like glitter, paper clips, sand, etc. Get creative!

Instructions:

- Mix glue and water in a bowl
- Add food colouring and stir
- Add baking soda and mix thoroughly
- Pour in your "small bits" and mix
- Add contact solution and stir for 5 full minutes
- If the slime doesn't thicken, add another tbsp of contact solution and repeat step 5
- Knead your slime with your hands until it stops sticking to your fingers
- Your slime is ready.

Enjoy!

Yukon Literacy Coalition

Suite 207, 100 Main Street, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2A8
Ph: 867-668-6535 **Web:** www.yukonliteracy.com
Email: yukonliteracy@yukonliteracy.com



Community Spotlight: CYFN and PFC Collaborate

Manitoba Métis Facilitator Kelleen Blouin helped to train First Nations Nobody's Perfect workshop attendees.



written by Phyllis

Continued from pg. 9.

Webstad and illustrated by Brock Nicol, tells the orange shirt story in a format that has been adapted for 4-6 year-olds. Phyllis was a girl who attended residential school. Her grandmother, attempting to celebrate Phyllis' first day of school, had bought her an orange shirt, but when she arrived at school, the nuns took it away. This is a good book for introducing the topic to children, but, be sure to include some discussion.

When I read this book to children, I gently answer their questions honestly without giving them information that they are not ready for developmentally. This book could be triggering for young children with experience with the foster care system, as they may not be old enough to differentiate between being taken into care and residential schools. Tell this story with caution, but don't avoid it, as the truth should be told.

Hold our precious children tight as you read these books!

This fall, Partners for Children was thrilled to be invited to assist the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN) to provide a workshop to certify Indigenous attendees to provide the Nobody's Perfect Parenting Program in their communities. Partners for Children's Jo Lukawitski and Kelleen Blouin planned the workshop, and Kelleen provided rich information detailing how to include cultural

Left: A workshop attendee tries out Cree hoop dancing.

philosophies, stories and activities into the program. They scheduled hands-on time to practice as well!

Haines Junction Provides Outdoor Summer Program

By Laura Gorecki, Haines Junction Romp n' Run Coordinator

The Haines Junction Romp n' Run program typically offers indoor programming and playtime from September to June for kids 5 and under and their parents or caregivers. This summer we kept the fun and wiggles going by doing some outdoor exploring.

Each week we went to a new location in the Haines Junction area for activities and connected to our outdoor world. We had ten sessions from June until the third week of September with a month-long pause during the Covid- 19 outbreak.

Some adventures included sand painting at Pine Lake beach, scavenger hunts and exploring nature's colours in the Alsek valley, singing songs at Kathleen Lake and in an amazing local garden with stunning views, hiking to a meadow overlooking the St Elias mountains to watercolor paint, making nature bracelets while walking a forested trail and even swimming in a heated outdoor pool that a local family generously shared with us. Even though the mosquitos were out to get us, all of our littles and adults enjoyed getting together for this outdoor fun.

Pictured,top: In the Alsek Valley.
Bottom: outdoor painting





PO Box 2703
Whitehorse, Yukon
Y1A 2C6
Phone: 867-456-8182
Fax: 867-393-6374
Toll Free: 1-866-835-8386

**Child Development Centre Outreach Schedule
September – December 2021**

September	
7	Carmacks
8	Carcross
9	Teslin
7-9	Dawson City
16	Haines Junction
20-22	Old Crow
20-24	Faro & Ross River
21-23	Mayo & Pelly Crossing
23	Teslin
26-29	Watson Lake

October	
4-6	Dawson City
6	Carcross
14	Teslin
19	Carmacks
19-21	Burwash/DBay/Beaver Creek
21	Haines Junction
26-28	Faro & Ross River

November	
4	Teslin
9	Carmacks
10	Carcross
15-18	Watson Lake
18	Haines Junction
23-25	Old Crow
23-25	Mayo & Pelly Crossing
30 - Dec 2	Dawson City

Dec	
7	Carmacks
8	Carcross
9	Teslin
16	Haines Junction

For further information, please call 867-456-8182 or 1-866-835-8386

Michelle King – Program Coordinator; michelle.king@cdcyukon.ca



Child Development Centre

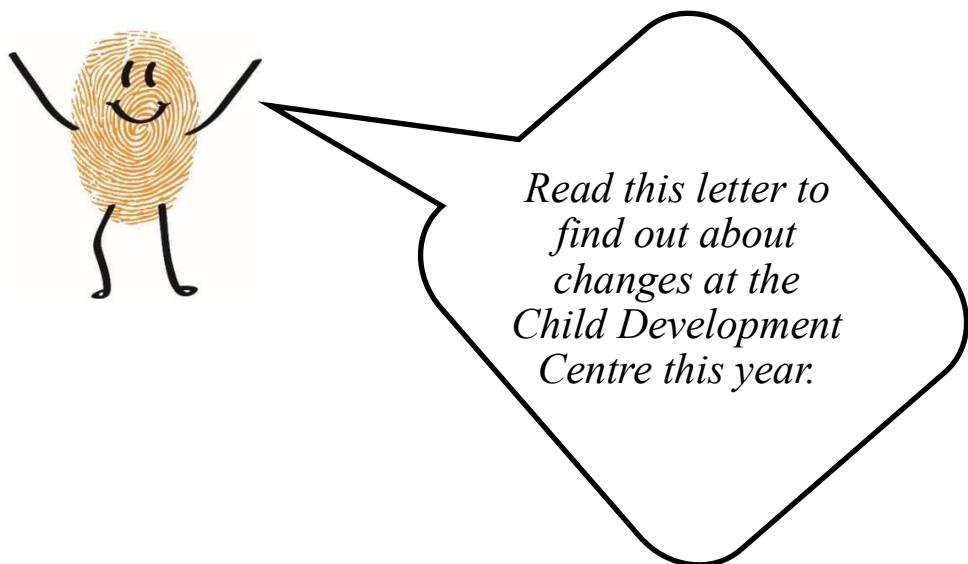
It has been a busy and bumpy start to the programming year at the Child Development Centre. Many of you may have heard in the news that mold was discovered in the Child Development Centre building during some summer renovations and we will not be able to work from the building this year. Thankfully, we have a team of dedicated therapists who got straight to work and figured out how to connect with families despite having no building to work in! We have continued to meet with families in their homes, childcare centres or via Zoom and phone. Outreach trips are in full swing with 10 trips planned to Yukon communities in September alone.

Meanwhile, the management team has been working with Yukon Government and our community partners to figure out alternative locations so that we can minimize disruptions to early intervention services. Many community organizations have come forward offering space and asking how they can help. Particular thanks to Autism Yukon and Learning Disabilities Association of Yukon who have provided spaces for our therapists to work with children and families during the month of September while we sorted out longer term solutions.

There is no one space that meets our needs with such short notice, but we have secured three different locations for our programming this year.

- Our therapeutic preschool program re-opened on September 13 in a new location at 509 Alexander St.
- Yukon Government has provided office space for many staff in the Industrial area.
- We look forward to moving into a suite in Northern Vision Development Place sometime in October. This will have space to welcome children and families for therapy visits.

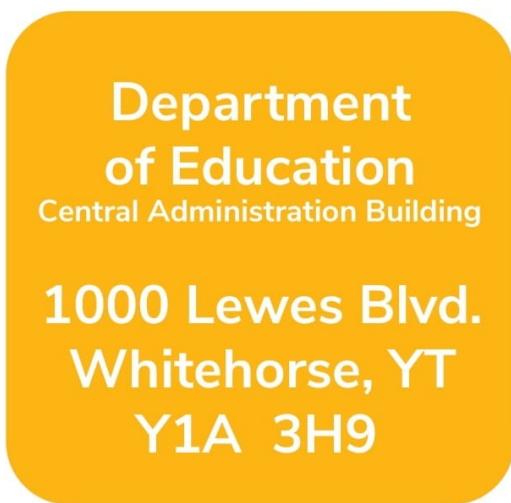
We often hear the saying that "it takes a community to raise a child". The last month has shown just how committed our Yukon community is to supporting our children. Big shout out to our resilient and hardworking staff, as well as the support from Yukon Government and many community partners! If you have questions about your child's development, please get in touch. We are here to help!



Department of Education Early Learning and Child Care Unit

We moved!

The public office for the Early Learning and Child Care Unit is now located at:



We are open during regular business hours:
Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (excluding statutory holidays).

Questions?

You can drop by in person, or contact us via:

Email:
EarlyLearning@Yukon.ca

Telephone (Whitehorse)
867-667-3492

Website: yukon.ca/en/early-childhood-learning-and-programs

Toll-Free Telephone (communities)
1-800-661-0408 (ext. 3492)



Universal Child Care in Yukon

The Yukon Universal Early Learning and Child Care Funding Program is based on 3 key principles: affordability, quality, and accessibility.

Our universal child care model is possible due to collaboration between the Government of Yukon, the Government of Canada, Yukon First Nations, and early childhood education program operators, educators, and partners across the Yukon.

As a parent, what does this mean for me and my family?

The cost-saving benefits of universal child care are available to every Yukon family accessing licenced child care spaces. Families with children enrolled in programs full-time automatically save up to \$700 per child per month, and no action is required to realize these savings. Part-time attendance is pro-rated.

As a program operator, what does this mean for my business?

There is significantly more quality and improvement funding available to early learning and child care programs. For example funding is available for: start-up cost assistance, quality learning resources and supports, salary costs for specialized educators who work with children with individualized needs, and professional development opportunities.

As an early childhood educator, what does this mean for my career?

Fully-qualified early childhood educators in the Yukon now have the highest minimum wages in Canada. We are working to provide greater flexibility and access to post-secondary professional learning opportunities for both current and future early childhood educators.

How can I get more information or access funding?

The Early Learning and Child Care Unit is here to help. Contact us for more information.



Head, Heart and Hands

A **FREE** program for caregivers with children aged 0-5 yrs old.
Preference will be given to newcomers to the Yukon and Canada.



Join us for a combination of **Parent Child Mother Goose** and **Nobody's Perfect** programs.

Head: Learn stories, songs, rhymes and positive parenting tools

Heart: Bond with your baby and other parents and caregivers

Hands: Share practical parenting tips and work through challenges together

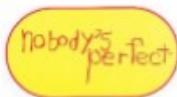
6 sessions: Wednesday, October 6th to November 10th, 2021

11am – 1pm at Partners for Children, 108c Copper Road

Transportation and lunch will be provided.

Register on [EventBrite](#)

Covid-19 prevention and safety measures will be in place for this group.



YFNED starts an early childhood program

Families can receive weekly visits and connect with elders.

THE EARLY YEARS

Let's start at the beginning



LOVE BUILDS BRAINS

The Early Years supports young families during the most important phases of their child's development to ensure parents have the tools they need to be their children's first and best teachers.

The Early Years program builds on community strengths and cultural context to enhance parenting capacity and early learning opportunities. This results in better child health, well-being and learning outcomes at school and in life.

Participants have access to:

- An assigned Early Years Visitor to walk beside you through pregnancy and first few years of your child's life
- Weekly one-on-one visits
- Early Years drop-in Family Room for sharing, reading, playing, beading, and more
- Elder-facilitated sharing circles
- Topic-specific workshops

Who can participate?

The Early Years is available to Indigenous moms, dads and caregivers with children from 0-5 years old living in Whitehorse and the communities of Na-Cho Nyak Dun First Nation, Selkirk First Nation, Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation, and Ross River Dena Council. The program recognizes that a child's primary caregiver can be a grandparent, auntie or other family member. All are welcome.

Early Years Yukon is a partnership between Yukon First Nation Education Directorate and the Martin Family Initiative.

Please contact us at:

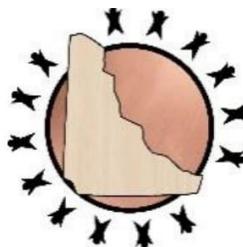
(867) 667-6962 ext.123

earlyyears@yfned.ca

www.yfned.ca/earlyyears

Or drop-in to our office:

207 Black Street, Whitehorse, YT, Y1A 2M8



CYFN's Family Preservation Services

Family Preservation Services is a department of the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN) that focuses on providing support to Yukon First Nations and Indigenous families. The Family Preservation team is available to help you navigate Yukon Government's complex Family and Children's Services system and support you in times of need.

We recognize that Yukon First Nations and Indigenous families, extended families and communities are in the best position to make decisions about their children and youth. Alongside Yukon First Nations and Indigenous parents, families, children and youth, CYFN's Family Preservation Services team will work with you in a respectful way, building on your strengths to achieve your goals.

Client Services:

Our friendly team is here to help and support you. Our Family Preservation Case Workers and Family Support Workers can help you in various ways, whether you require support for visitation and access, at meetings or court, or finding housing or transportation. Do not hesitate to reach out!



Mary Billy Smith and grandson Greg Smith (CAFN)

Cultural Programming:

Connection to family, community and culture is fundamental for Yukon First Nations and Indigenous families and children and youth in care. Our programming can help guide and support you in making these important connections. Our Family Preservation Programming team hosts cultural programming year-round, including: traditional medicine making, drum making, ice fishing, salmon smoking, tanning and canning, tufting, painting, and dry meat making. We also organize summer and harvest family camps. These events are instructed by Yukon First Nations knowledge keepers and Elders. If you know children and youth in care who would like to participate in these monthly

Cultural Connections events, reach out and come join the fun!



Call us at **867-393-9200**

or **1-833-364-0509**

Or email us at **family.preservation@cyfn.net**

'Lifetimes' - from the Hospice Yukon Lending Library

How can we help children make sense of something as big and shocking as death? When a relative, friend or pet dies - or even an insect - young children often have many questions about death. Books are a wonderful way to start these important conversations, answer their questions, and wonder together.

'Beginnings and Endings with Lifetimes in Between' is one of our favourite picture books for young children. It explains the cycle of life and death through simple text and beautiful images that even very young children can engage with. It can be shared with children at any time - not just in times of loss.

It can be comforting for children to understand that the cycle of life - birth, living, and eventually

death, happens for every living thing on the planet. This lovely book explains the cyclical nature of life and death for animals, plants and people. Butterflies, flowers, birds, ants, fish, trees, rabbits and people; they all have a lifetime. And no matter how long or how short that lifetime might be, all lifetimes have a beginning, and an ending, with living in between. Understanding this natural pattern can help children normalize and make sense of what can otherwise seem big and overwhelming.

"There is a beginning and an ending for everything that is alive. In between is living.

All around us, everywhere, beginnings and endings are going on all the time.

This is true for all living things. For plants. For people. For birds. For fish. For Trees. For animals. Even for the tiniest insect.

Nothing that is alive goes on living forever. How long it lives depends upon what it is and what happens while it is living.

There are lots of living things in our world. Each one has its own special lifetime."

Engaging children on the topic of death may seem daunting or difficult, but it is one of the best things we can do to prepare them for the inevitable losses they will experience in life.

Hospice Yukon offers a variety of programs and services to support caregivers understand how children grieve at different ages and stages, and what we can do to help them express their emotions.

Visit us on our website, or in person, to learn more about the books and programs we have to support you and the children you care for.

Kids Grief Counselling

Kids Grief Support Groups

Lending Library

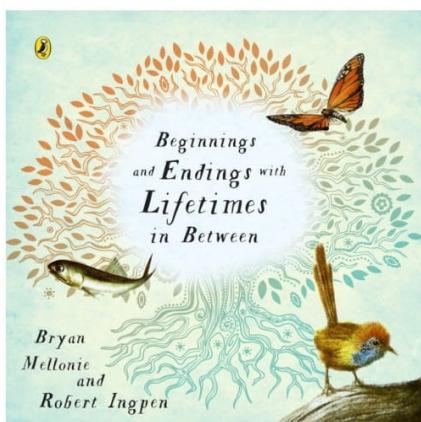
Professional Support

Public Education

409 Jarvis Street

Tel. 867-667-7429

www.hospiceyukon.net





NHEHD Yukon stays true to its mission.
Email coordinator@partnersforchildren.info for more information.

Using the huge amount of scientific information that describes healthy early child development, we create small projects to meet our purpose.

**One important project is simply spreading the message that babies matter and are most important.
They are our future and our hope.**

"How are the children?" could be the first words from you as a neighbour or coworker.

**Become a NHEHD!
Join the
Network for Healthy Early Human Development!**

nhehdyukon@gmail.com

*Using
community &
scientific
knowledge*

**help
facilitate
projects**

**with a diverse
network of
people and
organizations**

**Result:
through
community
participation, all
Yukon's children have
the best start in life.**