

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 PFC Contact Information
- 3 Community Websites
- 4 Partners for Children
- 6 Family Literacy Centre
- 7 Whitehorse Library
- 8 Child Development Centre
- 9 Healthy Babies, Healthy Futures, VFWC
- 10 Skookum Jim Friendship Centre Prenatal Nutrition
- 11 Skookum Jim Friendship Centre Prenatal Nutrition
- 12 ECE YT Autism Yukon
- 13 Picky or Fussy Eaters
- 14 Compassionate Parenting
- 15 Story Time—Library
- 17 Family Resource Unit
- 19 PFC Family Place Schedule
- 20 Romp N Run
- 21 Hospice Yukon
- 22 More About Partners for Children
- 24 NHEHDY



PARTNERS FOR CHILDREN SPRING | 2 0 2 5

Thank You!

Thank you so much to all of you that completed our survey. You provided us with some great information about challenges for parents of young children and gaps in services in the Yukon. You also provided some feedback on the services that we currently offer. We thought that we would share some of those.

"Great to meet other moms with same age babes. Very welcoming. Something to look forward to."

"Immeasurable and lifelong." (impact)

"Mother Goose has helped my child socialize and helped everyone in the family with diaper changing, transitions, boredom etc. Thank you!"

"A tremendous impact. It has given me the confidence to leave the house with my baby and to learn how to do life in this new way." "A place to meet new mama's and to meet each other exactly where we are at each day. It was great and my favourite group of the week. A very special group!"

> "It's made going through postpartum a lot easier. Don't know what it would have been like without all the programming."

"This organization has honestly been the primary support system for me during both of my maternity leaves. With my first, it was during COVID and Partners for Children was the ONLY programming we were able to experience, and it was a lifeline during an extremely isolating time, when my family couldn't travel to visit... Having returned to work, the weekend drop-in hours provide continuity for my children and for myself. It's not an exaggeration to say that in many ways, Partners for Children was lifesaving."

"It was a community that I really needed."

"There are few places in Whitehorse with such low barriers to access for parents of young children. It made me feel a part of the community, that I belong, and that me and my baby are welcome."

> More information about Partners for Children on page 22 and 23.



partners for children contact information

Cai Krikorian: 867-332-5990

Kathryn Grimmett: 867-332-9458

Email: contactus@partnersforchildren.info

Mail: Partners for Children 108C Copper Road Whitehorse, YT

Y1A 2Z6



Visit our website at

www.partnersforchildren.info

And follow us on Facebook and Instagram for all up-to-date information!



The Partners for Children newsletter is edited and produced through the Network for Healthy Early Human Development Yukon (NHEHD).

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

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Yukon https://yukon.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca

Child, Youth and Family Treatment Services https://yukon.ca/en/health-and-wellness/ mental-wellness/get-counselling-and-support -families-youth-and-children

Child Development Centre https://cdcyukon.ca/

Department of Education Early Learning and Childcare Programs https://www.yukon.ca/en/early-childhood-learning-and-program

Early Learning Program, Yukon University 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



Partners for Children www.partnersforchildren.info

Recreation & Parks Association of the Yukon (RPAY) http://www.rpay.ca

Skookum Jim Friendship Centre 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://yukonlibraries.ca

We are changing the name of our Family Resource Centre to

Partners for Children Family Place



108 Copper Road

Same great programming. Just a new name!

A place for parents and caregivers to:

- · share experiences;
- · ask questions;
- explore our resources;
- · learn about PFC and community programs; and/or
- · take a registered program.













Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to see our schedule.

More information on our website at

https://www.partnersforchildren.info/







partners for children

A draft of our Healthy Beginnings Guide can be found on our website and will be going to print very soon. The guide outlines services and programs available in Yukon for parents of children 0 to 6 years of age.





Armed to basile they bear becomes have

From Cai and Kathryn at Partners for Children

Cai's Mini Pizza Muffin Recipe

Preheat Oven to 400F

Mix ½ cup milk or cream ¼ cup pizza sauce 1/3 cup oil 1 clove fresh garlic crushed 1½ cups graded cheese 1 tbsp sugar Mix well

Add 1 cup gluten free flour (Bobs Red Mill) 1 tbsp baking powder

Spoon into greased mini muffin trays

Bake for 10 minutes, then reduce oven temperature to 325 and bake for 15 more minutes or until golden brown on top.

Kathryn's Blueberry Muffin Recipe

Preheat oven to 400F

In a bowl beat one egg.

Add 1/3 cup of sunflower oil, 1/3 cup of oat coconut cream, 1/4 cup of sugar, ½ tbsp of vanilla and mix well.

Add ½ tbsp of baking powder and mix in, breaking up clumps.

Add about half a cup of frozen blueberries and mix in.

Add a cup of Bob's Red Mill 1 to 1 gluten free baking flour and mix well until the batter is smooth.

Spoon into greased muffin tins.

Bake for 5 minutes at 400F, then turn the oven down to 350F and bake for another 10 minutes. After baking let rest for 2-5 minutes before taking out. Enjoy!

Songs

One little fish

There was one little fish,
Swimming in the sea,
"I'm all alone and need a friend," said she.
So she jumped up high,
and she dove down low,
and she swam and she swam,
Until she said "Hello!"

Now there's two little fish,
Swimming in the sea.
They're best friends like friends should be.
They dove down low,
and they jumped up high,
and they swam and they swam
Until they said, "Goodbye!"

I see the moon

I see the moon
And the moon sees me
Down through the leaves of the old oak
tree
Please let the moon that shines on me
Shine on the ones I love
Over the mountains, and over the sea
Back to the place that I'm longing to be
Please let the moon that shines on me
Shine on the ones I love.
I hear the lark that sings to me
Singing a song with a memory
Please take the song she sings to me
Back to the ones I love



CLOSED:

MONDAYS DROP IN 9 - 12 PM, 12:30 - 3:30 PM

EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA! 10:30 - 11:30 AM

HOP INTO EASTER WITH HOLIDAY THEMED STORIES, CRAFTS, AND SONGS.

DAD'S DROP IN 4:30 - 6:30 PM

JOIN US WITH OUR FRIENDS FROM THE FAMILY RESOURCE UNIT FOR DINNER, ACTIVITIES, AND MORE. ALL

TUESDAYS

DROP IN 9 - 12 PM, 12:30 - 3:30 PM

GROW GARDEN GROW! 10:30 - 11:30 AM

JOIN US FOR GARDEN-BASED ACTIVITIES THAT MAY INVOLVE SOME MESS.

WEDNESDAYS DROP IN 9 - 12 PM, 12:30 - 3:30 PM

COFFEE & CRAFTS 1:00 - 3:00 PM

LET THE KIDS PLAY WHILE YOU CRAFT AND ENJOY A FANCY TEA OR COFFEE.

THURSDAYS

DROP IN 12:30 - 3:30 PM

FRIDAYS

DROP IN 9 - 12 PM, 12:30 - 3:30 PM

SPRING IS ON THE WAY 10:30 - 11:30 AM

BRING YOUR KIDS AND DIVE INTO FUN SPRING-THEMED ACTIVITIES.

SATURDAYS

DROP IN 9 - 12 PM 12:30 - 3:30 PM

Our schedule for May is coming soon! Follow us on facebook and instagram at Yukon Family Literacy Centre for details.





VENTE DE LIVRES EN FRANÇAIS

Faites de la place sur vos étagères!

DANS LA SALLE DE RÉUNION DE LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE PUBLIQUE DE WHITEHORSE

Donnez ce que vous voulez.

Les dons recueillis seront remis à la Friends of Whitehorse Library (FOWL).



Do you have a child starting kindergarten in the fall? Read below for skills for your child to work towards to help them be ready for the school year.

Personal care routines

- · using the toilet
- washing hands
- · putting on and taking off outdoor clothes and shoes
- · opening and closing lunch containers

Social emotional

- · interacting with peers and adults
- asking for help for wants and needs
- · separating from parents and caregivers
- expressing and working through emotions

Learning

- following a routine
- being familiar with books
- sitting and listening to a story
- · following 1 to 2 step directions
- · participating in individual and group activities
- opportunities to use things like crayons, markers, scissors and glue

The Child Development Centre provides services to support children's development from birth to kindergarten.

We help answer your questions and provide therapeutic support in areas such as: movement, speech/communication, social-emotional behaviour, sleeping, eating, toileting and sensitivities (to sound or touch).

Our services are available to all Yukon children. You can contact us with questions - big or small about your children's development. All of our services are provided for free.

We travel to all Yukon communities.

cdcyukon.ca

info@cdcyukon.ca or 456-8182

WELCOME TO

Healthy Babies, Healthy Futures

You can access all these services for free when you register into the program:

Home visits: postnatal support

Breast feeding education & support

Join us for drop-in lunches
12-2 p.m. Monday &
Thursdays for guest
speakers & activities

Vitamin supplements, vouchers & car seats

Baby item lending library

Maternity & baby clothing exchange



Lending of hospital grade pump

Free dietitian Support

Wellness fitness & group activities

Pre + Postnatal education



THE VICTORIA FAULKNER
WOMEN'S CENTRE

Contact: (867) 667-4134 cpnp@vfwomenscentre.com

support



SJFC Prenatal Program

One of the longest running programs in Whitehorse 22+ years

For expectant parents & for those with babies up to 18 months old

Free Diapers & Wipes

Cook on site for lunches

Monthly Gift card/ Food box

Monthly educational and cultural programs

Rides for parents in need: medical appointments,

shopping, and programs

Skookum Jim Friendship Center



Call Ronda (867) 633-7680 ext 1006 or email prenatal@skookumjim.com



PROGRAM



Traditional Knowledge taught to our families

Learn harvest various animals, plants and landscapes, traditional medicines, homemaking, and on the land survival skills etc. from local Elders and Knowlege keepers, Elders in Training, other families.



Learn how to sew, bead and make patterns

Join us in our regalia and outdoor wear workshops for parents with kids 0-6 yrs old.



Come eat with us and learn, talk and laugh.

We offer various Drop-in Programs for parents, caregivers and youth. Bring your babies or young children, we can teach them as well





Plan for other projects that the goup is interested in learning

Personalized and Client-based programs are available





For more info contact our Traditional Parenting Coordinator, Temira Vance at traditional.parenting@skookumjim.com (867) 633-7680 ext 1005

JOIN US FOR A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS



LAST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH, 5:30-7:30PM

AT YAEP BOARD ROOM (2ND/BLACK STR)



for more info email us at eceyukon@gmail.com or find us online





Through advocacy, support, education and collaboration,
Autism Yukon is committed to fostering an understanding
and inclusive community for autistic and other neurodiverse
individuals.



Autism Yukon

Check out our programs and services at https://autismyukon.org/ or via the QR code

Picky Or Fussy Eaters





- Try serving foods your child doesn't like in new, original ways. For example, if your child insists that she hates spaghetti, try serving bow-tie pasta instead. Also, cutting vegetables in fun shapes may turn previously rejected vegetables into food that's fun to eat.
- Make the mealtime table a relaxed and positive environment, free of family conflict tensions and distractions (such as TV, toys or games).

One of the most common concerns of parents is a fussy or picky eater. Fortunately, most picky eaters do get enough to eat and continue to grow well. Here are some facts and tips to help parents attend to their picky eaters:

- Children need to eat frequently to sustain their high energy levels and keep their bodies growing. As a general rule, they should have 3 meals daily, and 2 wellspaced snacks.
- What's most important to the child's health and growth is not the quantity, but the quality of the food he/she eats. So be sure to put nutritious food in front of your child, without over-emphasizing portion sizes or how much is eaten.
- Because drinking too much liquid can lessen your child's appetite, limit liquid consumption to a total 3 to 4 cups daily. This will help ensure that your child is hungry enough to eat solid foods. Also, limit liquid intake in the hour or two before meals.
- Satisfy your child's sweet tooth by serving foods that are naturally sweet but nutritious – like fruit instead of candy or chocolates
- Snacks can be as important as regular meals in obtaining needed nutrients but don't allow your child to snack all day. This encourages a regular meal schedule, and avoids power struggles over when to eat. If your child doesn't eat much at one meal, he or she will probably eat more at the next.
- Handle frustrating situations with patience, a positive attitude, and firmness without being aggressive or emotional. Also, avoid struggles, don't force-feed, plead, bribe your child, or make him/her feel guilty.
- Try to present healthy foods in a positive light. Avoid placing foods into categories of "good" and "bad".
- Offer your child lots of opportunities to make his/her own food choices from a variety of balanced foods that you offer and give small portions, so as not to overwhelm your child with too much food.
- Try preparing and presenting rejected foods separately from other dishes. For example, if your child doesn't like carrots, don't put them on her plate or in the main dish. Instead, place them in a separate bowl on the table, and allow your child the choice of whether or not to have them.



Tips provided by Dr.Paul.com

COMPASSIONATE PARENTING

Routines & structure



Routines and structure build consistency and predictability.

- Consistent limits and predictable schedules or routines all provide a sense of well-being for the family.
- Make your expectations clear and your children will know what to expect. Their stress levels will be reduced and they will feel comfortable to not worry about what's happening next.
- Create morning, bedtime and other routines to make your week run smoothly. Bring everyone together with regular family rituals, such as games night or a special Friday meal. Predictability conserves your energy levels. Plus, if you are constantly reinventing your schedule, your children will feel unsettled.



Decide what is really important and what to let go.

- Your highest priority as a parent is probably for your children to be safe and to come to you if they have a safety concern. Pick your battles wisely. Maybe messy bedrooms aren't a big deal. Ignore small or annoying behaviours.
- Don't make demands that you cannot control. The last thing you want is to look powerless by making directives you cannot follow through on.
- You want your children to see you as a caring and respectful parent, not an annoying one.
- Remember, you can't make children obey, but you can build connection so that they will turn to you in need.

These are the ninth and tenth hints in the Compassionate Parenting – Lessons from our Forest Friends Booklet.

Created by Stace Burnard, Heather Dundas and Lara Bode.



WHITEHORSE PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS --

STORY TIME

WITH PARENT-CHILD MOTHER GOOSE FACILITATORS
MEREDITH AND RACHEL.

A free drop-in program for children and their caregivers at Whitehorse Public Library, 1171 Front Street (in the meeting room).

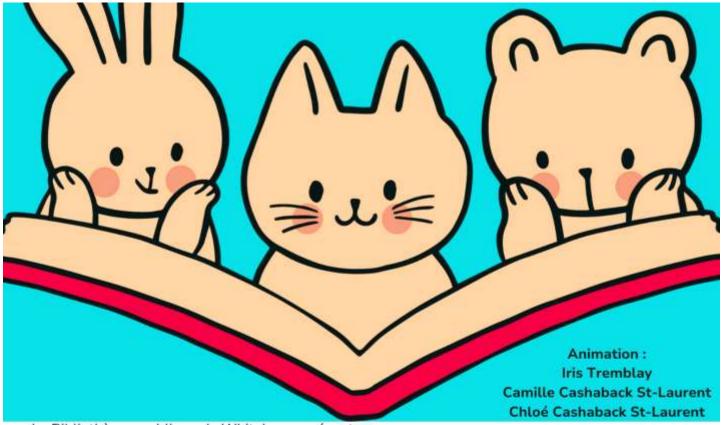
TUESDAYS 10:30-11:30 APRIL 15 - MAY 20, 2025

JOIN US FOR SONGS, RHYMES, STORIES AND FUN!

HEALTHY SNACK PROVIDED.

For more information call us at 667-5239 or go to yukonlibraries.ca/events





La Bibliothèque publique de Whitehorse présente

L'HEURE DU CONTE EN FAMILLE

Activité gratuite pour les enfants et les adultes qui les accompagnent à la Bibliothèque publique de Whitehorse, 1171, rue Front (dans la salle de réunion).

Aucune inscription requise.

LES SAMEDIS de 10 h à 11 h

15 février, 1er mars, 29 mars, 12 avril, 26 avril et 3 mai 2025

Venez vous amuser pendant une heure d'histoires, de rimes et de chansons!

Pour toute question, appelez au 867-667-5239 ou allez au yukonlibraries.ca/events (en anglais).





Positive Parenting Program: Young children ages 5-12

When: April 3: Developing good bedtime routines

April 17: Dealing with disobedience

April 24: Managing fighting and aggression

Time: from 10 am to 12 pm

Where: NVD space, 4201 4th Ave - Suite 330

What: A presentation and discussion group to provide positive parenting suggestions to support your children age 5 to 12. Facilitated by Family Resource workers for parents and caregivers. Refreshments provided. Registration required for each session.



For information, transportation and registration please contact Family Resource Unit: 867-332-1875 (voice mail or text) or 867-667-8755 (land line)

Presented on the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dūn First Nation and the Ta'an Kwāch'ān Council.



Positive Parenting Program: Young children ages 5-12

When:

May 7: Developing Bedtime Routines

May 14: Cooperating with Instructions

May 21: Learning to Cooperate

May 28: Developing Meal time routines

Time: 5 to 7 pm

Where: NVD space, 4201 4th Ave - Suite 330

What: A presentation and discussion group to provide positive parenting suggestions to support your children age 5 to 12. Facilitated by Family Resource workers for parents and caregivers. Light dinner provided. Registration required for each session.



For information, transportation and registration please contact Family Resource Unit: 867-332-1875 (voice mail or text) or 867-667-3745 (land line)

Presented on the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dun First Nation and the Ta'an Kwach'an Council.







Romp n Run is back for another spring season! Romp n Run is for children 4 and under and their parents and caregivers.

20-30 minutes of fun, interactive and age appropriate programming for kids and parents. A healthy snack after the programming; coffee/tea for the adults. Open playtime follows with lots of equipment/toys for tumbling, moving and exploring. Parental participation and supervision is required.

Spring session

April 1st to June 12th, 2025

Tuesdays and Thursdays

10 to 11:30 am in the

Haines Junction Arena Mezzanine

New Families please contact Jessica at jbcondon79@gmail.com

Romp N Run is provided and funded by Partners for Children with additional support from the Village of Haines Junction.

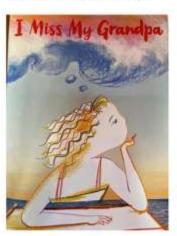


Hospice Yukon

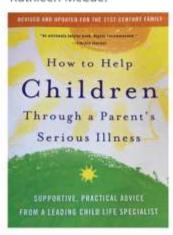
Storytime and Resources for Kids' Grief

Did you know we offer lots of free grief supports for families and children?

I Miss My Grandpa by Jin Xiaojing is just one of many wonderful new books you can borrow to read at home.



We also have a great selection of books to help caregivers navigate hard topics, like **How** to **Help Children Through a Parent's Serious Illness** by Kathleen McCue.



Kids Corner

We have many great books to help children and youth understand death and grief, and anyone can borrow them from our library.



Our Kids Corner has a soft plush therapy dog and cat and other toys to help children feel safe to explore tough topics.



Caregivers are welcome to drop by with a child during office hours (11:30am to 3pm) to explore new stories and skills.



You're not alone in trying to support children coping with loss.

> We can help you with books, online videos, resource people, and groups for children and caregivers.

Check <u>www.kidsgrief.ca</u> for many great tips for parents and educators.

We also have lots of helpful resources at www.hospiceyukon.net and our welcoming staff provide ongoing support to professional and family caregivers and teachers.

Kids Grief Counselling
Kids Grief Support Groups
Lending Library
Professional Support
Public Education
409 Jarvis Street
Tel. 867-667-7429





MORE about Partners for Children

Who We Are:

-

Partners for Children is a Community Action Program for Children (CAPC) program that has been in existence since 1994. This program was initially supported through Yukon College, and since 2016 has been administered by Network for Healthy Early Human Development Yukon (NHEHDY). NHEHDY utilizes community and scientific knowledge to develop and help facilitate projects with a diverse network of people and organizations to give Yukon children the best start at life.

Partners for Children is one of the NHEHD Yukon programs and provides parent support programs for parents of children 0 to 6 years of age:

- You and Your Baby
- Parent-Child Mother Goose Program® (PCMG)
- · Nobody's Perfect Parenting Program
- Infant Massage
- · Handle with Care

Partners for Children also provides Partners for Children Family Place (confirmed YG funding until 2026) that is open for parents/caregivers to visit:

- for mini-Parent-Child Mother Goose Program[®]
- · to connect with staff and other parents
- · to explore and borrow resources
- to ask questions of staff and guest visitors, etc.

Yukon Government funding also allows us to offer a Romp N Run program twice a week for parents of children O to 4 years of age in Haines Junction.





"The brain is the ultimate organ of adaptation. It takes in information and orchestrates complex behavioural repertoires that allow human beings to act in sometimes marvelous, sometimes terrible ways. Most of what people think of as the "self"—what we think, what we remember, what we can do, how we feel—is acquired by the brain from the experiences that occur after birth."

(National Research Council (US) and Institute of Medicine (US) Committee on Integrating the Science of Early Childhood Development; Shonkoff JP, Phillips DA, editors. Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US); 2000.

The period from conception through the first 3 years of life is a time of very rapid development for the brain and other biological systems. Evidence shows that a child's earliest experiences, in the womb and in the first years of life, affect how genes are expressed and how brain connections are built. The quality of a child's environment, the nurturing, and the responsiveness of adults is vitally important for shaping brain architecture.

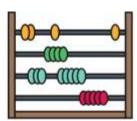
(https://www.scienceofecd.com/)

The Ni

The NHEHDY Board of Directors and Staff have come to do this work because of our immense feeling of importance for our collective future and our belief that all children deserve 'equity from the start' (Dr James Fraser Mustard and Dr. Clyde Hertzman).

Because we know that the brain develops in context, it is vital that the culture and values of people from our Yukon community guide our work and represent program values.

Over the years Partners for Children has continued to see an increase in the number of parents accessing its services. The opening of Partners for Children Family Place in 2023, has significantly increased the number of parents who are able to access our space and benefit from our programming and resources.



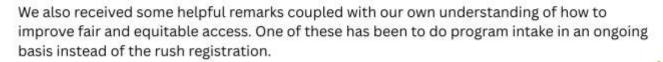
In the 2024-2025 fiscal year we had 365 parents/caregivers/ Elders and 335 children participate in our 17 registered parenting programs.

We also had 1283 visits by parents/caregivers and 1101 children to our Family Place.

Our quest for community feedback provided heart-warming comments as you can read on the front page of this newsletter.

When asked what impact Partners for Children programming had had on them the following was stated:

- Meeting other parents and getting support, information, seeking advice and debriefing parenting experiences
- · Made a new circle of friends
- · Helpful for mental health
- Helped during prenatal depression
- Helped develop a bond with child
- Provides opportunity to get out of the house
- One of the only infant friendly spaces in Whitehorse
- · Positive place for children to play with other children



Given our name, partnership is really important. If you ever have thoughts and ideas or suggestions for speakers or topics at the Family Place, please let us know.

contactus@partnersforchildren.info



NHEHD Yukon

By utilizing endless scientific information that describes healthy early child development, we create small projects to meet our purpose.

By simply spreading the message that babies matter and are most important is our #1 project to date.

They are our future and our hope.

Could you make "How are the children?" the first words from you to your neighbours or coworkers? Try it!

Become a NHEHD

+

Join the Network for Healthy Early Human Development today!

NHEHDYUKON@GMAIL.COM

