



Child Development Dayhomes December 2024 Newsletter

Information for Dayhome Educators and Families in Fort McMurray

Congratulations!

To the following dayhome educators celebrating their anniversaries with Child Development Dayhomes in the month of December



Najma Sana Ullah 6 years



Upcoming Statutory Holidays

(Dayhomes and office are closed)

Christmas: Dec. 25, 2024

Boxing Day: Dec. 26, 2024

New Years Day: Jan. 1, 2024

Educator Workshops

▶ Income Tax Workshop (January)

Date: January 15, 2025

Time: 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Location: Online via Zoom ([Link](#))



Please RSVP to your consultant.

Car Seat Info Sessions

Upcoming Date: Jan. 11, Feb. 8, Mar. 7

More [info](#).



Welcome New Educator!



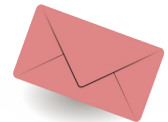
Bola Oyetoro



CDDH Food Bank Drive

We invite you to participate in our annual Food Drive. We are collecting non-perishable food items. We will pick up food donations in December. Together, we are helping feed Fort McMurray. See the last page for the most needed items.

Parent Feedback Survey on CDDH Website



Let us know how we are doing. Take the Parent Feedback Survey [here](#).

Attendance Records Due:

Wednesday, December 11 by 6:00pm

Dayhome Educators, please ensure all the times for the month have been entered on TimeSavr.

Happy Birthday to the following Educators!

Zohra, Bhartiben, Eva, Hafida, Portia, Michelle A, Afshan, Cristina C, Letty



Community Events

▶ **Santa Claus Parade and Council's Starry Night Party**

Cost: Free

Date: December 7, 2024

Time: 8:00am

Link: <https://maccalendar.ca/events/santa-claus-parade-and-councils-starry-night-holiday-party/>

Register a float or walking group! Join Santa on the parade route and bring smiles to the faces lining Franklin Avenue. Floats voted as community favorites win \$1,000 to support a local charity of their choice.

Be part of the holiday festivities and fundraise for your cause!

We are looking for community organizations and groups to help during Council's Starry Night holiday party & Santa Claus Parade as safety walkers, toy shop team members and more. Register your Santa Claus Parade float and apply for fundraising opportunities by Nov. 25. For more information check www.rmwb.ca/santa.



▶ **Sister Mary Phillips Winter Market**

Cost: Free

Date: December 7, 2024

Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Location: Sister Mary Phillips School, 177 Dickins Dr

Link: <https://maccalendar.ca/events/sister-mary-phillips-winter-market/>

We have many made-from-the-heart homemade items, treats, clothing, books, blankets, soaps, sea glass, and much more! Stop by and get your shopping complete! (Some vendors are only able to accept cash.)



▶ **Dave McNeilly Public School 2024 Christmas Market**

Cost: Vendors \$60/Shoppers Free

Date: December 6, 2024 (6:00 pm - 9:00 pm)

December 7, 2024 (10:00am - 3:00pm)

Location: Dave McNeilly Public School, 431 Callen Dr

Link: <https://maccalendar.ca/events/dave-mcneilly-public-school-2024-christmas-market/>



We are very excited to host our annual Dave McNeilly Christmas Market! We are accepting vendors now! Register via Eventbrite TODAY! Friday, December 6 at 6pm-9pm. Saturday, December 7 at 10am-3pm.



Community Events

▶ Brunch with Santa

Cost: Adults are \$33/Children 4-10 \$19/Children 3 and under free.

Date: December 8, 2024

Time: 9:30 am - 2:00 pm

Location: Quality Inn & Conference Center, 424 Gregoire Dr

Link: <https://maccalendar.ca/events/brunch-with-santa/>



Come join us at the Quality Hotel for our Annual Brunch with Santa, in support of the Centre of Hope. Come enjoy listening to carols from the 'peanut gallery', do some crafts, decorating gingerbread cookies, letter writing to Santa and even get a picture with the man himself. And of course, we can't forget feasting on our delicious buffet.

Adults are \$33, Children 4-10 are \$19 and children 3 and under are free.

*Walk-ins are welcome, but subject to capacity

**5% GST+ Eventbrite charges will be added, tickets are non-refundable

▶ Christmas Family & Pet Photos with Santa Jack

Cost: Minimum \$20 donation

Date: December 8, 2024

Time: 10:00 am - 2:30 pm

Location: Home Hardware Fort McMurray

Link: <https://maccalendar.ca/events/christmas-family-pet-photos-with-santa-jack/>



Due to popular demand, we're thrilled to bring back **Christmas Family & Pet Photos with Santa Jack!** Last year's fundraiser was such a heartwarming success, and we're excited to make more holiday memories with you this season! Join us for **one day only** for photos with Santa Jack and nail trims. Don't miss your chance to support our local fur baby rescues – 100% of proceeds go directly to these amazing organizations. Fort McMurray SPCA / Wood Buffalo Animal Rescue Committee /

▶ BGC Gingerbread Jamboree

Cost: \$35/child

Date: December 22, 2024

Time: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: Boys & Girls Club, 20 Riedel Street

Link: <https://maccalendar.ca/events/bgc-gingerbread-jamboree/>



Recipe Idea

▶ Healthy Holiday Snacks for Kids



Link to Recipes: <https://www.hauteandhealthyliving.com/8-healthy-christmas-snacks-for-kids/>

Standards

FAMILY DAYHOME STANDARDS MANUAL FOR ALBERTA

This manual contains the standards for Dayhomes and Dayhome agencies to provide child care. Every month we will review a Standard.

Standard 10F: Animals

Where there are pets in the program home or other animals on the program property:

- children must not have access to animal/pet foods or wastes;
- children should not have unsupervised access to pets;
- pets must be vaccinated according to local veterinarian recommendations; and
- reptiles and amphibians must be kept in safe, locked aquariums or cages.



Parental Experiences Survey

Statistics Canada is conducting the [Parental Experiences Survey \(PES\)](#) until January 31, 2025. Results from the survey will help inform national recommendations for maternal and newborn care as well as improve the mental health and well-being of parents and families across Canada. The data are expected to be released in Spring 2026. If you have questions or would like to speak to an analyst, please contact infostats@statcan.gc.ca.

Nominate an Early Childhood Educator

The Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Early Childhood Education

These awards honour outstanding and innovative early childhood educators for their leadership, exemplary early childhood education practices, and their commitment to help build the foundation children need to make the best possible start in life. The deadline is January 15, 2025. More info: <https://pmaece-ppmepe.ised-isde.canada.ca/site/pm-awards-excellence-ece/en/nominate-early-childhood-educator>



**Government
of Canada**

Activity Idea

Gingerbread Craft People

Link: <https://emaloukidsartcraft.com/2019/12/21/gingerbread-people-craft/>



Flight Focus

The 2024 National Child Day theme is #8Million-Empowered: “Children and youth are not merely future dreamers, but present-day innovators, visionaries, and leaders.” <https://nationalchildday.org/>

Reflecting on our Image of the Child (Flight text section 2.1 - <https://www.flightframework.ca/>), how are children’s rights protected and empowered in your dayhome’s time, space, materials and participation?



Educator Professional Learning Highlights

Calming Terrific Toddlers: Evidence-Based Strategies that Reduce Aggression and Promote Self-Regulation
-Michelle A

Rethinking Relationships and Bias in Early Childhood
- Michelle A

Professional Learning - Michelle A

“Kimochis” - Cristie, Michelle A

Family Childcare Training Course - Michelle A

Mind up for Life - Michelle A

Mealtime Tips for Picky Eating in Childcare
- Bhashini

ASAP Module 3 - Maria F

How to Feed and Educate Children to Create a Positive Relationship with Food - Sidra

Possibilities for Practice - Sheri-Lynn Budgen

Getting Clear about Inclusion - Arlyn





Learning Story

▶ Seeking

Story By Jesusa Lozano, Dayhome Educator

I/ we are questioning.

I/we are wondering and curious.

I/we are solving problems in our play and learning.

Our dayhome friend Priya saw a dragonfly on the top of the cut tree. She then called her friends and started to investigate it. Everyone gathered to look for the dragonfly. The children touched the dragonfly and it was not moving. The children started to wonder and asked “Is the dragonfly sleeping?” “Why is the dragonfly not moving?” Those are the question that the children had it in their minds while Larone, Tamira and Harper were curious and looking closely for the dragonfly.



More pictures on next page...





Food Bank Needs

HIGHEST NEED

Coffee/Tea
Canned Fruit
Dinner Kits (Taco/Pizza)
Canned Pasta
Canned Meats (Turkey, chicken, ham)
School Snacks
Soda Crackers
Oatmeal
Spices/Spice Mixes
Chunky Soups

GETTING LOW

Canned Veggies
Condensed Soup
Canned Fish
Beans in Sauce
Sidekicks
Cereal
Condiment

LOTS ON HAND

Rice
Canned Tomatoes
Canned Beans
Pasta Sauce