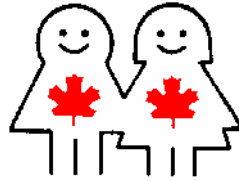




The Canadian Association
for Young Children



L'Association Canadienne
Pour Les Jeunes Enfants

CAYC AB/NWT NEWSLETTER Issue #13 Winter 2008

CAYC AB/NWT Director's News

Since Spring is just around the corner...we hope, it is time to start thinking of warmer days and getting outside without too many layers of clothing.

With this in mind, please see the "Save the Date" note in the newsletter concerning our upcoming annual "CAYC Spring Fling" dinner and presentation April 22nd 2008.

We are excited to welcome Maria Valenti, Director of Mount Royal College Daycare and members of her staff to introduce us to the "Seeds of Empathy" Program that is beginning at the college. We also want to examine some refreshing new ideas concerning transforming environments of early learning settings with Jodi Nickel & Linda Sutherby, both Instructors of Early Learning and Childcare at the college. A playschool tour will be included of Small Hands, Great Treasures Playschool that is based at Bethany Chapel, the location of the evening. Please invite a group of friends and colleagues and enjoy this time to reflect, laugh and learn together. Consider this note your personal invitation from me!

One big step for us provincially and territorially is the consideration of an on-line newsletter. I'm sure we all encourage those in our care to conserve whenever possible so we at CAYC AB/NWT want to do the same. Please see the back page of this newsletter giving directions on how to go about receiving your next newsletter via the internet. If you prefer a paper copy, we will be happy to continue to mail out the newsletter as we have done in the past and no reply is required. Also, please be mindful if you receive a reminder notice to renew your membership with us. Recently our national Membership Liaison has changed and moved

to Quebec. During this interim time, we are sending renewal notices and ask that you reply promptly to ensure a smooth transition.

In closing we would enjoy hearing how our membership is involved with young children and their families all over the province and territory. We would be happy to investigate coming to your town or city to offer mini-seminars to groups of Early Learning professionals on a myriad of topics SO we would love to hear what topics YOUR group might be interested in. Please email me at: rosanne.perrin@cayc.ca if you would like to dialogue further on possibilities. We especially want to hear from our rural and territorial membership!

CAYC Alberta/NWT is an organization that is passionate about focusing on children and their families in a holistic manner. Let's make this our cornerstone for 2008 and make a difference in the lives that we all touch everyday in new and exciting ways.

Hoping to see you in April or let's e-chat!

Sincerely,

Rosanne Perrin,

Director CAYC AB/NWT



Save the Date!

CAYC Spring Fling Dinner

Tuesday, April 22 @ 6:00

Bethany Chapel

3333 Richardson Way, SW

Maria Valenti and staff from Mount Royal College Child Care Centre will share their experiences with "Seeds of Empathy", an exciting new program for preschoolers.



CAYC AB/NWT



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www.cayc.ca

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Submissions to

Email-
cayc.ab.nwt@gmail.com



RED DEER COLLEGE CELEBRATES NATIONAL CHILD DAY NOVEMBER 20th, 2007



At Red Deer College Child Care Centre we decided that it was important to do more in order to bring awareness and to recognize National Child Day on November 20th. We came up with a plan which grew into an event that brought the Child Care Centre out into the main College area and into the community.

We decorated a large window in a busy corridor with children's art and information on National Child Day. A small slide show with beautiful photos of children from the centre involved in physical activities and information about National Child Day was going all day on screens throughout the college, as well as the main College sign which is prominently displayed at a very busy intersection in our city. The college e-news letter ran a short article on the day of our event and we had information placed in the college events flyer.

The Red Deer College Child Care Centre has two rooms, Balloon Room and Rainbow Room both with 25 children in each room of mixed age groups from 2.5 years to 6 years old. Throughout the morning these groups took turns visiting one of two venues:

In the Forum, which is a main gathering area in the college for students and staff, several parents joined their children, as we heard stories *For Every Child* (a UNICEF book on the rights of the child) was one choice, we played games, such as Sudanese Dodge Ball, and we danced to Russian music and Spanish Christmas carols. Jan Underwood from Central Alberta Refugee Effort and her co-worker (originally from Russia) came to lead us in these fun activities. All activities were focused on this year's theme "I have the right to be active." The forum was brightly decorated with children's art and documentation of the Child Care Centre children involved in various activities.

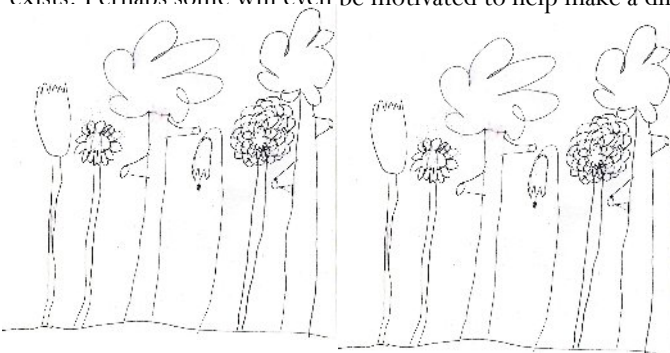
We were able to access the College gymnasium where one of the Physical Education instructors, whose child had attended the RDC Child Care Centre, led the children in several fun activities in the gym, including ball tag and parachute games. He was also able to get a couple of the Education students involved in the event, by helping lead the activities in the gym and making popcorn to give away in the Forum.

Along with the general college population, the RDC President and the City of Red Deer's Mayor were invited to join us as special guests. The Mayor, Morris Flewwelling was unable to attend, however through the invitation he was made aware of this important day. Our college President, Ron Woodward, observed the activities and greeted the children, letting them know that they are an important part of the college community.

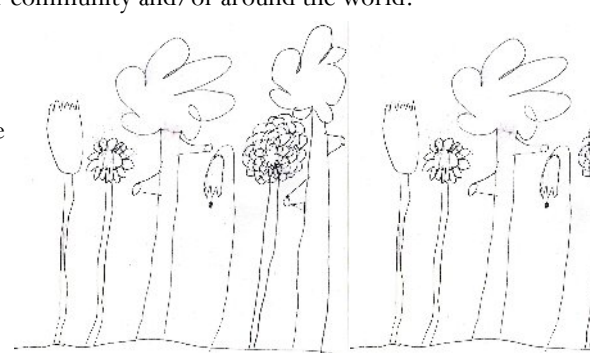
Another station in the Forum was an information table. Here the Early Learning and Child Care students joined us in handing out giveaway items such as play-dough that the ELCC students made, cookies donated by Sobeys, popcorn provided by RDC Student Association, National Child Day ribbons also made by our ELCC students, and pamphlets with information on some of the agencies in our city that support children and families (such as Parent Link and C.A.R.E.). We also had visitors who joined in the fun or just stopped to watch sign a large poster so we would have record of those involved in any way. To thank the children, parents, college instructors, students and staff who joined our event we provided certificates to show our appreciation for being a part of the day.

For part of the afternoon the Kindergarten children joined a class of drama students who had them participating in "Fairy Tale Warm-ups", fun movement games based on popular folk stories. They even planned some activities around dinosaurs as this was a topic of exploration at the time.

It was a wonderfully busy day; we came away feeling like we had done our part in getting the word out about National Child Day. The Red Deer College Child Care Centre staff, children and families would like to thank everyone who became involved and made this day a success. We hope that we encouraged more people in the Red Deer area to become informed about National Child Day and why it exists. Perhaps some will even be motivated to help make a difference for children in our community and/or around the world.



Submitted by
Lynette Braun
RDC Child Care Centre
Supervisor





Professional Development

Calgary Reggio Network Association
in conjunction with NAREA
(North American Reggio Emilia Alliance)
presents: Spring Fundamentals
Join us for a one day session focusing on the
fundamentals
of the Reggio Emilia Approach.
Date: April 19, 2008
Place: St. Andrew's Preschool Calgary, AB
For more information, please contact:
calgaryreggio@yahoo.ca

CAYC National Conference
A Delicate Balance
May 2 & 3 2008
<http://www.cayc.ca/index2.html>

**Preventing Childhood
Obesity:
Big Picture Strategies**



When & Where
Calgary: May 14, 2008
Edmonton: May 15, 2008
Videoconference: May 15, 2008

http://www.centre4activeliving.ca/news/physical_activity_forum

CAYC AB NWT News Letter

From Across Alberta to the North West Territories we are looking for:

Books reviews: all types of child related books

Activities: art, movement, sensory, cooking, prop boxes, Professional Development opportunities

Odds and sods—send in a thought, a quote, even an article!!

Please send your ideas to
cayc.ab.nwt@gmail.com



CAYC AB NWT Goes Green

You now have the option to receive your CAYC AB/NWT Newsletter delivered directly to your in-box.

If you would prefer this method of delivery please email our

Director, Rosanne Perrin at:

rosanne.perrin@cayc.ca

with your e-address.

Thank you!

Quote of the month

"Teaching is about relationships. The journey of becoming and being a teacher is unique for each teacher and yet depends on others. It involves seeking, constructing, and reconstructing meanings about our individuality as human beings and how this is expressed in our work and lives as teachers. This process calls on us to know our personal and professional identities. It is about developing our personal and professional identities, which we know are both real and true for us.

Colin Gibbs

Source: <http://www.childcareexchange.com/eed/view/1892/>

The Block Parent Program

The Block Parent program is a 300,000 strong, volunteer-based, child and senior safety crime prevention program operating across Canada that began in London, Ontario in 1968. Participants in the program place the program's familiar red and white signs in their homes indicating that the house is a police-screened, safe home for community members in distress, particularly children. If someone is in need of help and see a Block parent sign, they know there is someone home who can help them and call the appropriate emergency service if necessary. The program has been seen to deter criminal activity in neighborhoods displaying the recognizable sign. In the province of Alberta there are currently forty-two communities with 4,019 homes involved.

If you would like more information please email:

albertabpa@shaw.ca

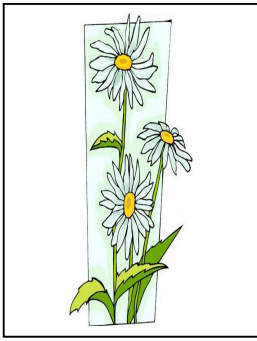
In the NWT there are three communities involved with 180 homes playing a role.

Please contact: barryanne@theedge.ca if you would like to become involved.

Let's look to having safe communities for children and their families and play an active role!

Art Work

A special thanks to Jenna Wood for sharing her art work.



SPRING FLING 2008

Presented by Canadian Association For Young Children (CAYC)

You Are Invited!

To a buffet dinner and an evening of knowledge, laughter, and friendship.
For ALL Early Childhood Professionals, Teachers, and Friends

SAVE THE DATE!

April 22, Tuesday, 6:00p.m. – 9:00p.m.

JOIN US!

BETHANY CHAPEL

3333 Richardson Way SW, Calgary

Across from the West entrance doors of Mount Royal College

Experiences with "Seeds Of Empathy"

Seeds of Empathy is designed for Early Childhood settings to foster social and emotional competence and early literacy skills and attitudes in children three to five years of age while providing professional development for their educators.

Presenters:

Maria Valenti (Director) and Staff from Mount Royal College Child Care Centre

Carolyn Parkes – Alberta Provincial Coordinator of Seeds Of Empathy

~~ Tour of Small Hands Great Treasures Playschool to follow presentations. ~~

Sponsored by CAYC AB/NWT and Bethany Chapel

\$10 per CAYC Member - \$15 per Non-Member

Dinner – Presentation – Tour

SPACE IS LIMITED

Contact Rosanne Perrin for further information: rosanne.perrin@cayc.ca

Please postmark cheques by April 15, 2008, mail and make payable to:

Canadian Association For Young Children – Alberta
4019 16th Street SW Calgary, AB T2T 4H5

Please include this portion with your payment.

Number of Tickets Requested:

Members ___ x \$10.00= ___

Non-Members ___ x \$15.00= ___

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