

# Child Care Services Newsletter

Spring 2004

## CCSU Phone #s

Calling from out of town? Please call toll free, 1-800-661-0408 and ask for the extension of the person you wish to speak with.

Brad Bell, *Manager*  
*Early Childhood and Prevention* 393-7082  
Jean Nikon, *A/ Financial Clerk* 393-7123  
Wendie Howe, *CCSU Clerk* 667-3492

*Licensing Officers/Program Consultants*  
Carol Oberg 667-5091  
Tammy Reinhart 667-3493  
Lesley Gardiner-Falle 667-3447  
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You can email us:

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*Child Care Services Unit (H-12)*  
*Yukon Territorial Government*  
*Box 2703*  
*Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6*

*Or drop by 9010 Quartz Road*

Office Hours: CCSU is open Monday through Friday 8:30 – 5:00.

CCSU will be closed for our regular unit meeting Thursdays 9:00 am until noon unless this falls on the last day of a month, in which case the office will be open to distribute cheques.

**Yukon**  
Health and Social Services

## News from CCSU

Child Care Services has undergone some changes over the past few months. We welcome Jean Nikon as our financial clerk. Jean is temporarily working in Virginia Kettley's position.

Brad Bell, Manager of Early Childhood and Prevention, oversees Child Care Services and Healthy Families. You will notice his signature on documents such as: licenses, RCMP approval letters. Brad is also currently covering as the Supervisor of the Child Care Services Unit.

As most of our clients are aware we are no longer located downtown in the Royal Bank Building. In December 2003 we moved to the Industrial Area at 9010 Quartz Road where we are situated with the Healthy Families Program and Public Health. We hope to have an Open House this summer; watch for the invitations!!!

The policies and guidelines for Family Day Homes and Child Care Centres are gradually being updated. All licensed programs will receive a copy of our most current revisions to our Communicable Disease policy and our First aid policy.

### First Aid

If you are taking an approved First Aid Course, it needs to be 16 to 18 hours duration from a credible organization, such as St. John's Ambulance or Canadian Red Cross. An Emergency First Aid course of eight hours does not qualify. Re-certification courses are permissible as long as the participant's certification has not expired, or is within the allowable time frame. It is recommended, but not required, that a course specific to children's first aid be completed.



## Congratulations!

Several new programs have been licenced this year. Please join us in welcoming :

*Toy's Family Day Home*  
15 Cedar Crescent,  
Whitehorse, Yukon  
Amphun Schmekel

*Dunya ra K'ats 'inte Ku*  
Pelly Crossing  
Selkirk First Nation

*Little Dreamers Family Day Home*  
Pine Ridge  
Lori Austin

*Watson Lake Toddler Satellite Program*  
Watson Lake Day Care

*Ladybugs Playschool (FDH)*  
Granger  
Amy Kent

*Lemphers FDH*  
Northland Trailer Court  
Léonie Lemphers

*Golden Horn Daycare (formerly Pumuckl's Place)*  
Cora Lee Madden

You may wish to try Lysol Spray Disinfectant All Purpose Cleaner. Bob Hanley at Environmental Health says this product is as effective as a bleach solution for use on the diapering table. People like its lemon scent.

## Legislation Review

*Reminders to all child care programs about your responsibilities under the Child Care Act*

**Staffing** - According to Part 3, section 14(1)(b) of the *Child Care Act*, the Director or Operator of a child care program must notify Child Care Services of any change in staffing. This includes:

- ◆ Hiring a new staff person i.e. early childhood educator, cook, janitor, substitute care provider, etc.
- ◆ Resignation of a staff person
- ◆ Termination of a staff person

Notifying Child Care Services will keep us informed of who is working at the various programs. It will assist Directors/Operators in ensuring all required documentation for the new staff members are up-to-date and on file at your child care program.

**Reporting a child in need of protection** - Part 7, section 37 (1) of the Child Care Act requires that, where a child care provider has reason to believe that a child is abused, neglected, or otherwise in need of protection, the care provider must report this to Family and Children's Services.

## Recall

**Oct 2001 - Company and Product Recalled:** Little Tikes Company, "2-in-1 Snug 'n Secure" swings. The swings are made of plastic and have a blue seat with a red T-shaped restraint front. The model number is 4117-00. Only swings with blue or white buckles are included in this recall.

**Dates Sold:** December 2000 **through** September 2001, 14,000 swings were sold in Canada.

**Problem:** The **buckles** on the swing can break and the shoulder restraint straps can pull out of the back of the seat, causing young children to fall.

**Remedy:** Stop using the **swings** immediately and contact Little Tikes for a replacement: 1-800-815-4820 [www.littletikes.com](http://www.littletikes.com)  
<http://www.littletikes.com>



## Your Questions

Q. *I'm confused about when an infant becomes a toddler, is it at 18 months or 19 months?*

A. Good question! According to our *Child Care Act*, an infant becomes a toddler at 18 months of age. For example, if the infant's birthday is July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2002, she is considered a toddler on January 18, 2004. If this child is in a child care centre, she should have a staff:child ratio of one staff person to 4 infants (1:4) and should be in a group of no more than 8 children until January 18, 2004. After that, as a toddler she should have a 1:6 staff:child ratio and a group size of no more than 12 children.

If the child is in a family day home where there are other infants, there should be no more than 6 children present who are under six years old. If the day home operator has an assistant worker, there can be another 4 school age children, for no more than 10 children all together. If the child is in a day home where there are no other infants, there can be up to 7 other toddlers and/or preschoolers and, with an additional worker, again the additional 4 school age children.

In either setting, if the child is on subsidy, the infant rate is paid for the full month of January and the toddler rate is paid for February.

A toddler becomes a preschooler on her third birthday and a preschooler becomes school age after completing Kindergarten or on her sixth birthday. Preschool staff:child ratios are 1:8 and group size for preschoolers is 16. School age children have a staff:child ratio of 1:12 and a group size of 24.

Still confusing? Please call your Program Consultant if you need further information.

**Is your child in the correct  
car seat?**

**Is the seat properly installed?**

If you're not sure, take  
advantage of an infant and  
child restraint inspection clinic:

Friday, April 30  
10 a.m. until 3 p.m.  
at the  
Yukon Transportation  
Museum.

To book an appointment call  
667-5756 or 1-800-661-0408  
ext. 5756.

*Sponsored by the Department of  
Highways and Public Works*

## Cool websites

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

This child care professionals resource and idea website includes resources on: Home daycare, preschool, conferences, business, arts & crafts, music, fingerplays. It includes sample forms.

<http://www.gameskidsplay.net/>

This web-site describes hundreds of games and their rules as well as answering questions such as, "How big should hopscotch squares be?" The site also lists rhymes and links.

<http://www.dietitians.ca/healthystart/index.asp>

Healthy Start for Life is a collaboration between Dietitians of Canada and 9 organizations whose shared goal is to promote healthy eating and physical activity among toddlers and preschool age children (2 to 5 years).

<http://www.acf-film.com/>

Audio Cine Films Inc. (ACF) is the exclusive Canadian non-theatrical public performance rights representative for some of the world's most prestigious movie studios and films. To view information for pre-schools and child care facilities go to this website, scroll down and click [Canadian Copyright Act](#), then click Pre-schools and Kindergartens.

<http://www.nald.ca/lday.htm>

The Learning Disabilities Association of Yukon (LDAY) is a volunteer, non-profit organization which provides services and programs for Yukoners with learning disabilities.

## Programming Ideas

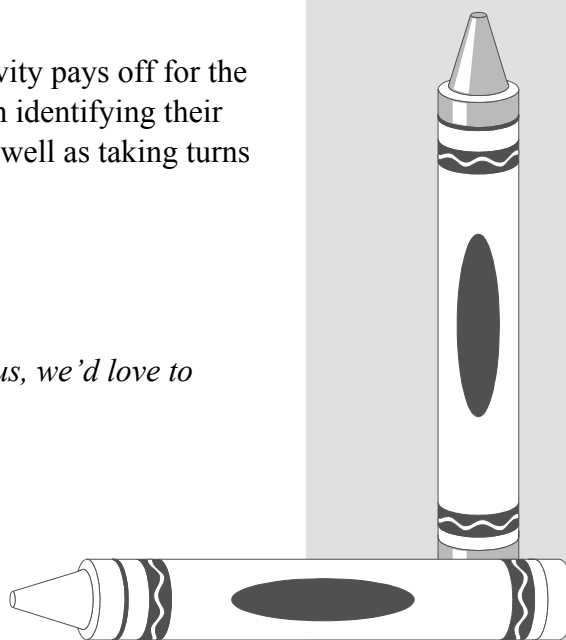
### Activity Ideas from Yukoners

The Early Childhood Educators at *Nora's Preschool Development Program* developed a useful curriculum tool this winter. This is a life sized figure of a child, made of paper, and laminated so it is sturdy. It is displayed on a door. There are also items of clothing that a child would wear outdoors during the winter. Each item is laminated and has a piece of velcro on the back which holds it securely to the displayed child's figure. During circle time children and adults discuss the various items of clothing needed during a cold Yukon winter and each child has the opportunity to add something to the display. Imagine how this might help to get those young 3 year olds interested in dressing themselves for outdoor play!

This display has proven to be quite versatile. During February, of course, many ECEs and children discuss feelings. Now there are many different faces for this display, each depicting a different emotion (again made of paper, laminated, and backed with velcro). During circle time each child has an opportunity to select a face, identify the emotion, make that type of face themselves, discuss the possible events that might lead someone to feel that way, and then to place that face on the child's figure.

The ECE's creativity and time in preparing this activity pays off for the children. The circletime activity engages children in identifying their own emotions and recognizing emotion in others as well as taking turns and participating in conversation.

*Please send your innovative programming ideas to us, we'd love to include them in our next newsletter.*



## Promoting Parent Involvement Child Development Centre Preschool

In addition to extending an open invitation to parents to visit the preschool at any time, the preschool staff has organized an activity one day a month this year to encourage child and parent interactions in the preschool. Examples of these activities include cooking, art, and yoga.

**September 2003:** In September, parents were invited to an orientation day at the Preschool. During this time, families had the opportunity to meet the Preschool staff, tour the CDC building and meet other parents and children.

**October 2003:** Parents were invited to share snack with us. The day before their visit, the children made apple pies and whip cream for their families.

**November 2003:** Parents participated in a mitten craft with their children and then joined us for a picnic snack in the gym.

**December 2003:** In December the Preschool had a concert and the children performed 2 songs and a creative dance for their families. This was followed by a holiday snack in the gym.

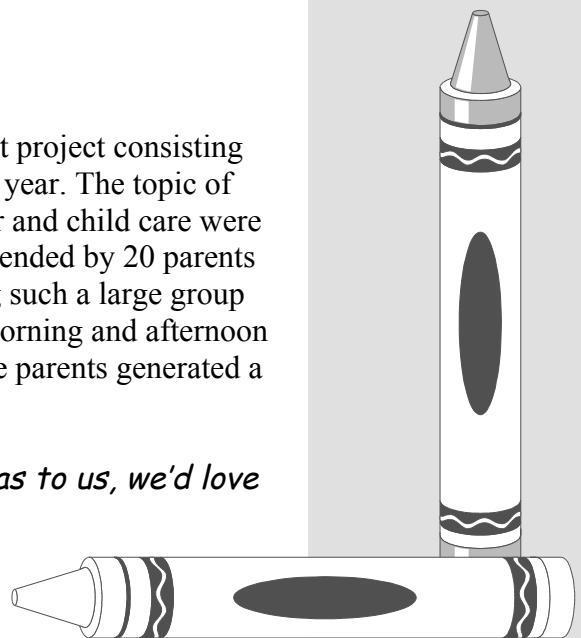
**January 2004:** As part of our "Childrens' Theatre" theme, parents joined us at various time throughout the month and played instruments, sang songs and performed stories.

**February 2004:** On Valentines Day, parents were invited to the Preschool to help their children make a shape felt board story. This was followed by a picnic in the gym.

### Parent Educational Evenings

Through funding from *Partners For Children* a pilot project consisting of three educational evenings has been initiated this year. The topic of the first session was 'Routines for Children.' Dinner and child care were part of the evening session. The first session was attended by 20 parents and 24 children. Due to the logistics of coordinating such a large group the next two sessions will be divided between the morning and afternoon preschool programs to allow for smaller groups. The parents generated a long list of topics for the next sessions.

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## Programming Ideas

### Activity Ideas from Yukoners

Léonie Lempher of *Lempher's Family Day Home* recently completed an art/science project with a small group of children at her dayhome. The project was simply titled “**Our Colourful Rainbow**”.

On a large 2x3 piece of glossy paper Léonie drew a rainbow with black magic marker. The children gathered around the paper. Léonie placed red paint on the first (top) section of the rainbow and yellow on the third section of the rainbow. The children covered each section in the red and then the yellow. The children then brought the red and yellow together on the page to form the orange colour in the rainbow. To the children's delight as they blended the paint with their fingers they could see the two colours forming a new colour – orange! This was also done with blue and red paint to form the purple colour in the rainbow.

Through this sensory experience the children discovered how colours blend together to form a different colour while also learning the correct spectrum of the rainbow.

They enhanced their social skills through the interactions during the activity: they practiced team work, patience, turn taking, and cooperation!

They enhanced their fine motor skills by mixing the colours between the lines.

Leonie and the children shared in creating a colourful poster which decorates the day home.

This activity is hands-on and only requires a small amount of preparation time. It is teacher led and children fully participate in the mixing of the colours.

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