

Canmore Community Daycare Society Spring News



Message from the Executive Director:

We are excited to be named an Early Learning and

“By offering quality, affordable, accessible child care, our government hopes to make significant improvements to the child care system and prepare children for bright futures.”

Fact Sheet regarding the expansion of the Alberta Early Learning Child Care (ELCC) Centres
<https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/elcc-fact-sheet.pdf>

Quality, affordable child care: Proud to be an Early Learning and Child Care Centre

The foundation for a strong and healthy community starts with a strong and healthy childhood that supports children for future success as independent, stable and productive adults. The 100 new Early Learning and Child Care Centres across the province will receive funding to better support Alberta’s families with \$25-a-day quality child care.

We are proud to announce we have been selected as an Early Learning and Child Care Centre.

May 1st, 2018 we will offer: affordable, accessible child care.

- Capped parent fees at \$25/day care,
- Implement an evidence-based early learning and child care curriculum framework*
- Inclusive supports for children with diverse needs,

- Affordable, accessible rural child care.

What does this mean for you?

As a parent with a child already enrolled in our child care program, nothing will change except that you will benefit from all the great changes listed above, including paying no more than \$25 a day per child. There is no change to the child care subsidy program. Eligible parents will receive either full or partial subsidy dependent on their circumstances, including those in an Early Learning and Child Care centre. No parent, including those eligible for child care subsidy, will pay more than \$25 per day. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact us at director@canmoredaycare.com.

For more information about Alberta’s Early Learning and Child Care Centres, please [click here](#), or contact ELCC@gov.ab.ca.

*Play, Participation, and Possibilities: An Early Learning and Child Care Curriculum Framework for Alberta by Makovichuk, L., Hewes, J., Lirette, P., & Thomas, N., is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution – NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License. Based on the work found at www.childcareframework.com.

Summer students: we were successful in our application for a large grant to hire several students this summer. Should you know of someone who has demonstrated abilities with young children please send them our way!

We’re ecstatic to go on this early learning journey with you and your family and look forward to the many new and exciting adventures that the innovative ELCC learning will bring forth.

Staffing:

Goodbye to Rachel Greenwald, Rachel is off to Vancouver for her next big adventure.

Welcome to Laura Grottoli, Laura will be taking Rachel Greenwald's position as School Age Care Coordinator. Please make Laura feel very welcome.

Welcome to Faye Hooper. Faye is the new Chickadee teacher working with Chie. Faye comes to us from England and has lots of experience working with young children.

Welcome to Kana Kobayashi. Kana will be supporting all the programs. Her room assignment will be announced later in May.

We are excited to have Adrienne Kalmanczhey returning to the daycare to support our hard working staff for holiday relief over the summer months.

We also will be saying goodbye to Tania Farquhar, Tania and her husband have purchased a house in Vernon and will be moving there in June. Tania's replacement will be announced in the near future.

Reminders:

We are **closed** on Monday May 21st for Victoria Day



Mother's Day Afternoon Tea – Daycare. On Friday May 11th between 3.30 and 5.30pm we will be celebrating our Mothers. You are invited to join us for afternoon tea and craft in the Mini Gym. Dads welcome too!!!



Please make sure you are checking your child's cubby on a regular basis. It is important that you are taking home their soiled or wet clothing, notices from the office and your child's amazing art creations.

If your information (address, phone number, child's health information etc.) has changed recently please stop by the office and fill in a "change of information form". Child Care Licensing Regulation requires us to have up to date information for all children enrolled in the program.

You have until June 30th to complete your volunteer hours. If you are a Daycare family you are required to complete 8 hours, Junior Kindergarten and School Age Care families are required to complete 4 hours.

Volunteer Opportunities:

We are looking for volunteers to help with the following tasks:

- Daycare shed clean and sort
- Prep the garden bed for the growing season (May)
- **Fall Fair Planning**
- Putting up new Bulletin Boards
- Graphic Designer to help design the Fall Fair Banner, posters and advertising.

Thank you to the families who took home the Daycare washing, and earned themselves an hour of volunteer time. Don't forget to write it up!!!

Message from the Board:

As I sit down to write this, the snow is still falling making it hard to think forward to spring and summer! Callum continues to remind me that summer is coming and that also means that the daycare starts to plan for the annual Fall Fair. This year marks the 5th anniversary of this great event and I am so excited to see it grow and develop over the years. If you have helped out over the years, thank you for your continued support! It's a great way to fill up those volunteer hours and help raise money for a fantastic cause. If this is your first year at the daycare, now is the time to start thinking about getting involved. We are always looking for volunteers so feel free to connect with Cherri or one of the office staff for more information.

The Board of Directors continues to work on some exciting projects with a dedicated group of parent volunteers. If you would like to get involved, please reach out to Cherri or myself for more information. We are always happy to welcome new members to the Board!

Thanks!
Greta

QEP:

Standard 1 – Complete the re-development of the infant yard. This goal is progressing with our Executive Director Cherri successfully accessing a CEFP grant to help with the funding of this project. We anticipate developing the yard to compliment the existing toddler space this summer. Keep an eye out for our progress.



Fundraiser: Did someone say SUMMER!!!! Well, you'll be ready to enjoy some summer traditions if you support our Valbella Gourmet Food Fundraiser!!!!



You can drop your order into the office between May 14-June 1. Pick up is at Valbella's on Thursday June 14th.

Time with your child's teacher:

If you would like to speak with your child's teacher about their progress, friendships, interests etc. please feel free to complete the "May I book some time please" form. These forms can be found at the front desk and in each room. It is a great time to share with us the unique knowledge and understanding you have about your child(ren).



Cultural/Tradition Sharing:

We are seeking families who are willing to share their culture, traditions and skills with our curious children.

Here are the types of things you might be able to offer:

- ✓ Prepare a traditional meal with the children
- ✓ Show the children traditional clothing (cultural)
- ✓ Talk to the children about your job (environmental, animal care, mountain life, emergency services etc)
- ✓ Play or sing traditional children's songs from your culture
- ✓ Art sessions
- ✓ Dancing or music
- ✓ Health care, dental care etc



If you would like to share some of your culture, traditions or skills with children please see the Program Coordinator or Program Director.

Daycare:

All the rooms had a great chance saying farewell to the snow outside. The children had a chance to play various games and build various things in the snow. The favorite was the Igloo built outside that everyone could sit in. The snow painting was a great hit and now the chalk has come out for spring. The beautiful and creative artwork can be seen on the walkway and play yards.

Many walks have happened and the children had a chance to see the wonderful ice sculptures completed downtown. Many nature walks have already been done watching the elks and rabbits roam about.



The Grizzlies had an amazing opportunity to do some "Buddy Reading" with Lawrence Grassi students that came in to the daycare mini-gym. The children had some



discussion about different characters in the stories and enjoyed the sound affects some students made while reading. There was a lot of laughter and it was wonderful to see the children so engaged in the stories.

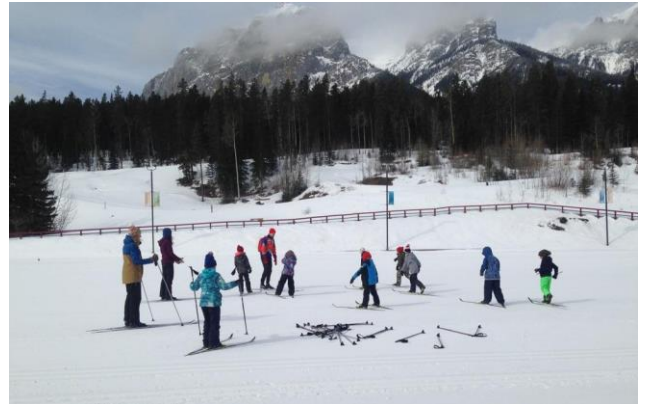
Bike Days will start April 30th. A friendly reminder to all daycare families that children must have a helmet to ride their bike (please label the helmet). Bikes can be parked at the mini gym bike racks. A schedule for the rooms will be posted up on the front door of the daycare as a friendly reminder.

OOSC:



The before and after school programs had a blast during their spring break holidays. We were kept busy with Bowling in Banff, Skiing at the Nordic Center and Skating at the Rec center. The kids have been enjoying this beautiful weather by planting some seeds and watching them grow. They have enjoyed exploring in the butterfly garden and making dams with all the melting water.

The teachers are already busy getting ready for Summer Camp.



Some sad and exciting news Rachel the School Age Coordinator will be leaving us in Mid-May to try some new adventures in Vancouver! We have hired a new Coordinator Laura who has already started.

Junior Kindergarten:

In the Junior Kindergarten the children and staff have been enjoyed learning about the and we participated in our own mini Olympic Games. They also practised their skating skills at Cougar Creek Rink.





They observed the celebrations of St Patrick's day and Easter. The children enjoyed building leprechaun traps, looking for Leprechauns in the forest and, of course, our Easter egg hunt was a huge hit!



The Junior Kindergarten about rainbows and how to mix colours through adding dye to water, snow and play dough. Through play and exploration the children discovered how the three primary colours (red, yellow and blue) could be used to make other colours of the rainbow.

March was nutrition month and we used the Food Guide rainbow to help us make good eating choices. Every snack and lunch children would compare their lunch to the food guide to make sure they were eating all four food groups to keep our bodies healthy. We remember it by saying **GREEN**-fruits and veggies to help us grow, **BLUE**-Calcium to make our bones strong, **YELLOW**-Grains (carbohydrates) to give us energy to run and play and **RED**-Protein to make our muscles strong!

The children are also been working on printing our names and numbers. They have continued to be great bucket fillers. They are learning how to count in french. In April we will be observing the changes in the season as we head into Spring, celebrating Earth Day, taking a field-trip to the Geo science centre and having Corina in for Music Magic.

Picky Eating: 10 Fun Tips to Get Kids to Try New Foods

Does your child say no to new foods? Getting your child to try something new can be frustrating. It can make

mealtimes stressful for you, your child and the rest of the family. Try these ideas to get your child more interested in trying new foods.

1. Get your kids involved in the kitchen. Children can wash fruit and vegetables, tear lettuce, mix batter or push the buttons on the microwave. Help your child if he is too young to do these tasks on his own.

2. Work together. Children can set the table and take the family's drink "orders" to help prepare for mealtime. Get the whole family to work together.

3. Try gardening. Plant a garden and watch it grow! Good starter vegetables are carrots, cucumbers, green beans, lettuce, tomatoes, peppers, zucchini, radishes, peas and onions.

4. Plan together. Involve your kids in the meal planning process. Let them help choose a healthy meal once a week.

5. Get creative. Present foods in creative ways. Cut sandwiches into fun shapes with a knife or cookie cutter.

6. Try kid-approved recipes.

7. Have a dinner theme night. Choose dishes that come from different parts of the world.

8. Learn through games and activities. Play games and do activities to learn about food. Put mystery foods in a paper bag and guess which foods they are by feeling or smelling them. Get your child to draw her own place mat with her favourite foods or solve funny riddles. Here's a fun colouring activity to try.

9. Go on a field trip! Take an adventure to the pumpkin patch, a corn maze or your local farmers market. Even a grocery store in a different neighbourhood might have new vegetables and fruit to learn about. See what your family can discover!

10. Make it fun! Have nights where you have breakfast for dinner; make your own pizza night; build your own yogurt sundae bar; or just snack on veggies and dip with popcorn for dessert.

From UnlockFood.ca