



Child Development Centre
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"Building the best foundation
for our children's future."



The CDC is CARF accredited.



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www.cdcfsj.ca

CDC Brouhaha

Volume 2 Issue 1

Happy New Year!
January 2010

Need to know what the word 'Brouhaha means? Find the definition on page 6

Happy New Year from Penny Gagnon, Executive Director

2010 has quickly arrived and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our children, families, partners, staff, and volunteers a healthy and happy New Year. 2010 will be a year of completion and celebration for the Child Development Centre's "Project Build-A-Fort." In April we will see the completion of our new expansion and by July the site work and renovations on the existing wing will be completed. It has been an exciting couple of years with the evolution of "Project Build-A-Fort" and it is not without the efforts of Fort St. John as a community that the CDC completed this milestone. On behalf of the Board of Directors and entire team at the CDC I would like to thank you for your commitment and dedication to this project.

Although the "Project Build-A-Fort" construction crews will have com-

pleted their task of putting together our amazing new space, we still have a lot of fundraising ahead of us in order to reach our goal of 1.3 million dollars towards the capital campaign. These fundraised dollars will go directly towards reducing the building's mortgage. This year the CDC will host two signature events: "A Night of Stars" Annual Talent Show and the Annual CDC Charity Golf Tournament. These events always bring together many members of our community in order to either showcase their talents on the stage of the North Peace Cultural Centre or show their "golf pro" swing at Lakepoint Golf & Country Club all in efforts to support the many children and families who access the Child Development Centre.

With over 700 unique children being served through our various pro-

grams last year, we know that the CDC fills an irreplaceable and vital role within our community. The completion of 'Project Build-A-Fort' will provide greater space for programs and services that will enrich the lives of children with special and typical needs. It will enable us to offer a broader range of programs, enhance our service delivery, while allowing us to better meet the needs of the children and families in our area.

Thank you once again for your continued support, and we look forward to partnering with you throughout 2010 as well as in the exciting years to come.



Investing in our Children - Smith Fuel Services

Since the Child Development Centre's beginnings in 1973, there has been a very consistent force that has helped us move forward, the amazing support of our community. In this little section it is our desire to highlight different businesses and individuals that have invested in the children of the CDC.

In Conversation with David Smith

Speaking with David Smith was like sharing a cup of coffee with a good friend. His family and business have been long time investors in the city of Fort St. John and it's residents. David's parents moved to Fort St. John with their parents in the early to mid-fifties; his paternal grandfather was the engineer that built the Taylor refinery. In 1976, his father, Mike Smith, started Smith Fuel services. David worked for his father as a young man sweeping floors working himself up in the company until he purchased it from his father in 1996. Smith Fuel became involved with the CDC through various donations up until the centre purchased the CDC van and Mike Smith saw a way to make a greater impact on our centre. For the last fifteen years, Smith Fuel Services has covered the cost of fuel for our centre van. The CDC van enables the children and youth with special needs to be taken into the community for outings and events. This van enables our therapy staff to travel to outlying communities to provide outreach services to families who cannot easily access our centre. It allows staff to take services and equipment into the homes of our families. The fact that an organization like ours does not have to worry about fluctuating gas prices in today's economical times is a gift beyond description. When I asked Mr. Smith why his company invested their donation dollars in our centre his answer was simple, he has two criteria before he gives, "it's got to be local and it has to help kids, for they are our future." Thank you to the Smith Fuel and David Smith for investing in the families and children we have the privilege of serving. You are making a difference!

One generation plants the trees; another gets the shade.

AGM Highlights

A wonderful menagerie of Directors, Members, Employees, and Parents attended the CDC's Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, October 21, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 6:07pm with introductions of those in attendance. Highlights of the evening were the review of the past years activities within the centre's programs and the progress of Project Build-A-Fort. Shannon Stewart, CDC Board President, took a moment to thank all of the parents and staff for working so patiently and effectively in the middle of all the chaos and changes during the renovation/expansion. Penny Gagnon, Executive Director, and Shannon Stewart thanked Julie Ziebart for her many years of dedication to the Child Development Centre and the time she served as a Director on the board as she stepped down from her position as Director. New members voted onto the Board were Lisa Pomeroy and Christine Whitford. The CDC Board of Directors for 2009(10) are:

Shannon Stewart—President

Kelly Ballard—Vice President

Angela Kosick—Secretary

Dayna Ross—Treasurer

Jennifer Szoo—Director

Andy Ackerman—Director

Darcy Wheeler—Director

Lisa Pomeroy—Director

Christine Whitford—Director

Dr. Richard Moody—Medical Director

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm with a time of snacks and coffee.

We are so grateful for our Board of Directors - Thank you for the giving of your time and talents as leadership volunteers!

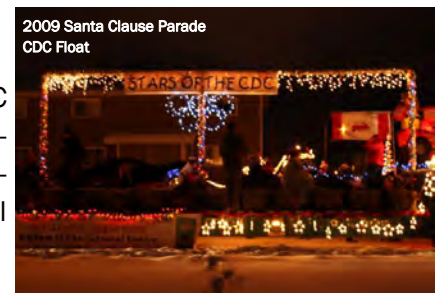


All Staff Development Day Workshop on Cultural Awareness Presented by David Rattray

On December 3, 2009 the CDC staff had the privilege of participating in a full day workshop on Cultural Awareness as presented by David Rattray. The day was full of wonderful sharing, information, and games as he challenged us to consider our own culture and how it affects our responses to the cultures around us. The staff left the day with a heightened awareness of who they are, how to reach out more effectively to those around them, and the ever increasing importance of cultural sensitivity. Here at the CDC it is our goal and passion to provide meaningful, effective and creative services to the families around us. We endeavor to fulfill our mission with every family we come in contact with, "To support our children, families, and communities in an inclusive environment through innovative programs and services." By educating ourselves on the cultures that surround us, we are better equipped to mold our service delivery and heighten the quality of our services.

CDC PAC

The CDC once again has a thriving Parent Advisory Committee (PAC). The CDC PAC serves the centre by organizing children's events and participating in fundraising efforts. Their tireless energy and time commitment enhances the experience that our families have with us. Thank you so much to Sherri Lock, Cheryl Gaunt and Crystal Kalas for the investment of their time.



Thank you to all of our staff and volunteers for a great year!

How our Services Work

Referrals: Parents, legal guardians, health professionals, teachers can all make requests for our services (with parent's/guardian's consent).

Intake Meeting: Once a referral is received, it is processed and forwarded onto one of our Intake Team members who in turn make the first contact with referred families. The Intake member will meet with the family in order to discuss the reason for the referral, talk about medical history and the child's current development. Waitlists (if applicable) will also be discussed at this first meeting.



Waitlists: Unfortunately, due to the nature and demand for our services, waitlists are a reality for some of our programs. Staff make the upmost effort to keep families informed regarding waitlist length and provide activities that can be worked on at home while waiting if possible. (This does not include our Early Learning program waitlist.)



Active Clients: Once a child is deemed eligible for services, therapists will meet with the family to set goals for the child's development. As our programs are individual for each child/family this may take on several forms. We may meet with you weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or as needed. This may be a one-on-one session or group session. Therapy may be completed over a few sessions, over a few months or over a few years. Each child/family is unique, therefore each program is unique.

Discharges: A child is discharged from our programs for several reasons; they are no longer eligible to receive services from that program (i.e. are too old, the family has moved out of service area), they no longer require services, we are unable to contact the family.

If you would like more in depth information regarding our services and their delivery, please don't hesitate to contact us at 250-785-3200 or email: info@cdcfsj.ca



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

Free Website where you can look up signs for words.

Early Learning Program Tidbits

Early Learning Program:

The W.O.W Bus will be at the CDC on Friday, January 22 from 10:30 to 2:00; children attending Friday classes will be taken on the bus by ELP Staff. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are welcome to visit the bus from 11:30 to 12:45.

Our ELP children have started practicing their songs for the 36th Annual CDC Talent Show. Last year the ELP students raised over \$15,000.00 in pledges!

In January the Sunflower room will be hosting two practicum students; Ayla Malcolm will be attending Monday and Wednesday mornings while Shirley Otheimer will be in on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the day.

Hosting Practicum students within a variety of disciplines is an important way that the Fort St. John CDC helps to support upcoming early intervention service professionals.

A New Year and New Opportunity to say Thank You

It is with great appreciation and humility that we extend our thanks to the many individuals and businesses that have supported us throughout this past year. As an organization that is dependant on community investment in order to maintain a high level of service to children with special needs and their families, we are at awe that no matter the financial climate, our community stands behind the work we do!



Building Spring 2008



Building October 2008



Building October 2009



Inside new wing December 2009

Project Build-A-Fort

Donor Thanks



Brian Boresky and Heather Reese of McDonald's present Tana Millner, CDC Finance Manager, a cheque for \$7,400.00 which was raised during the 2009 McHappy Day campaign. Thank you to everyone who generously participated in this event.



"Penny Gagnon, Executive Director of the Child Development Centre receives a generous donation of \$5000.00 from Gord Descoteaux and Sharlene Richmond of ConocoPhillips Canada for Project Build-A-Fort."



Brad Small (left) from Sears and Dave Marshall (right) from Alaska Highway Autobody happily present Tana Millner, Finance Manager of the CDC their generous donations.

Projected Completion Dates

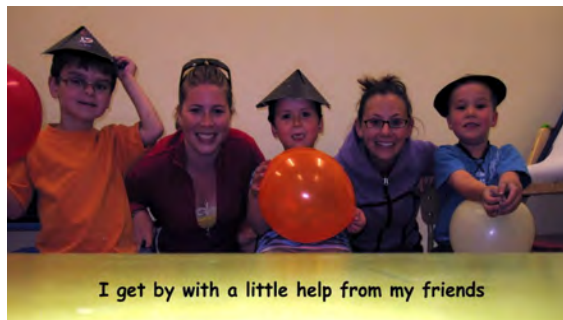
New Wing - April 2010

Substantial Completion - July 2010

Thank you to our neighbors for their patience during our building project.



2009 Financial Supporters



Amal Jeet Jhand	Daphne Hogg	Jackfish Dundeeds	Pickin' & Grinnin' Band
Amy Cosens	David Conway	Janet Ferrey	Pimm's Production Equipment
Angela Kosick	Deanne Kosick	Janet Mueller	Power Ignition and Controls
Annette Block	Diane Bloor	Jarrett and Michelle Callison	Provincial Employees Community Services Fund
Alaska Highway Autobody	Donald Holloway	Kmac Signs & Graphics	Quigley Contracting
ArcTech Welding & Machining Ltd.	Driving Force	Lake Point Golf & Country Club	Raven Oilfield Rentals
Back Country	Edith Perry	Land Transport LP	Renegade Construction
Barbara Godbersen	EECOL Electric	Lesley & Ken Robbins	Rick C. Walters
Big League Utilities	EnCana	M&M Meats	Roger's Trucking
Boston Pizza	Energy FM	M.O.O.S.E ATV Club	Ron Richer
Boundry Lake Esso	Esteem Cleaning	Marion Splett	RONA Building Centre
Brent Holtby	Federated Co-Operatives Limited	Marlin Travel	Rosemarie & David Landry
Brian Pearson Enterprises	Florite Environmental Systems Inc.	McDonald's FSJ	Roxanne's Interior Design
Burton Middleton	Flowers by Tamee	Millner Equipment	Roy Northern Land Service Ltd.
Cameron Travel Ltd	Focus Corporation	Moose FM	Ruth Fitt
Canfor	Fort St John Co-Operative Assoc.	Murray GM	S&J Automotive
Casey's Pub	Frank Pohl	Myers Norris Penny	Sears
Catherine Douglas	Frontier Jewelers	Neil Greenway	Shirley Ann Kowaluk
CCS	FSJ Sunrise Rotary Club	Nortech Data Services	Smith Fuel Services
Cherie Dunn & the Dunn Deal Team	Gordon and Dawn Gentles	North Peace Savings & Credit Union	Snap On Tools 594128 BC Ltd
Christian Bridges	Great Canadian Oil Change	Northern Geo Testing & Engineering Ltd.	Spartan Controls
Christina Scheck	Greg & Lenanne Large	Northern Metallic	Suncor Employees Association
City Furniture	Hair Bin	NP Junior Hockey Club	Super 8 Motel
CNRL	Hamilton Stationers	Peace Country Rentals	Surerus Pipeline Inc.
Complete Crawler	Hamilton's Copiers	Peace River Building Supplies	Trans Carrier Ltd.
ConocoPhillips	Hi-Performance Motor Sports	Peace Valley OSB	Terry Beard
Creative Memories	Home Hardware	Peter Lythall	Triple AAA Safety
Cross Country Mechanical Services	Independent Electric & Controls	Petro-Canada Oil & Gas	Troyer Ventures
D. Bauer Mechanical Services	Inland Kenworth		Tyler Kosick
	Investors Group		

Do you want your donation dollars to make a strong, local impact?

Get involved with Project Build-A-Fort!

The Fort St. John CDC served approximately 700 children last year; that's an opportunity for impact.

Contact Penny Gagnon, Executive Director 250.785.3200 or email info@cdcfjsj.ca for ways you can help us achieve our campaign goal of 1.3M.



EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

February is CDC Month!



Free Infant Massage Classes

Open to all parents with infants birth to 1

**February 4, 11, 18, 25
11:00 to 12:00
at CCRR**



ArcTech Welding and Moose FM Annual

March 4, 2010



Day for the Kids

Listen to Moose FM to make your pledge and challenge your friends, co-workers, and business associates to meet or beat.

Listen to Moose FM



36th Annual CDC Talent Show

March 5, 2010

Phone the CDC to register as a performer.

Fort St. John Cultural Centre

Admission is by food donation for the Salvation Army



Annual 'Night of Stars' CDC Talent Show

2010 is a time for celebration as we complete "Project Build-A-Fort."

For 36 years the Child Development Centre has been providing programs, services and support to children and youth with special needs and their families.



This year's Talent Show is celebrating "Project Build-A-Fort" and the many programs and services offered through the Child Development Centre. All monies raised will be directed towards this endeavor. Partner with us by becoming a performer; hey Fort St. John, you've got talent! Too shy to be centre stage, pledge your financial support through one of the many unique performers, or challenge a friend to meet or beat your pledge. Take part in our Silent Auction by donating an item, or outbidding your friends. Support the evening by bringing your donation with you and participate in our audience. We really appreciate your support in the past and hope we can count on you to help us make this the best Talent Show ever!



Thank you and please join us on March 5th, 2010 at the North Peace Cultural Center for a night of fun and entertainment as we celebrate together.

If you have any questions concerning our Talent Show, or would like to register as a performer, please feel free to contact Crystal Kalas here at the Child Development Centre at 250-785-3200.

BROUHAHA (noun) excited public interest, discussion, or the like, as the clamor attending some sensational event; hullabaloo