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## Root for Trees - REMINDER

**The Northalta Tree Day Celebration is Saturday, September 7th, from 9:30 a.m. - 12p.m.**  
The event is at the Root for Trees, Oxford Storm Water Pond site located at 130 St & 164 Ave.  
If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Arlene at 780 448-1301.  
Check your email or the Northalta Facebook page for your invitation and more details.

**We look forward to seeing you there!**



For more information on Root for Trees visit [www.rootfortrees.ca](http://www.rootfortrees.ca)

**Northalta Workshop - September 19th** - Northalta is excited to host the **Brain Architecture Game** by the Early Years Coalition. The Brain Game is a fun and interactive way to demonstrate the relationship between brain development and early childhood experiences. With a roll of the dice, we see if we can build a successful brain by combining skillfully chosen community supports.



**NOTE:** Educator attendance is mandatory. (This is a training evening, no children please).

❖ Northalta would like to recognize Nasrin R. for completing the Early Childhood certificate program at CDI College. We wish her luck with the rest of her studies.

### Northalta Parents

≈ Northalta educators use an on-line child care program to track children's hours of care. To ensure accuracy, Northalta policy asks Educators to confirm the hours of care used with families **prior** to submitting them to Northalta. If you have questions, please talk to your Educator or contact the Northalta office.

≈ Summer holidays can affect the regular child care payment schedule. If you have a credit balance, we will reconcile your account as per your request. To discuss your options, contact the Northalta office at 780 448-1301

≈ Northalta will be sending out the following documents in September. Please complete and return as soon as possible.

- Portable records(update)
- School confirmation

### Northalta Community Spirit



**Youth Empowerment and Support Services – YESS**

YESS provides immediate and low-barrier shelter, temporary housing, and individualized support for youth ages 15-24. They focus on prevention and diversion out of homelessness.

**Northalta will be donating items to YESS.** If you would like to add to our donations, we can pick up items on our regular day home visit in September. Donations can include food, clothing, etc.

For more information on YESS and donations, visit <https://yess.org/donate/> Donations can be dropped off at their Whyte Ave building (9310 82 Ave) from Monday-Friday, 9AM-4PM (closed 12-12:30).



### Educator's Birthdays

\*Aisha O.A. \* Ruza A \* Nasrin R.  
\*Carolina G.D. \*Rasha S. \*Rosa K.

# September 2019



### Educator's Anniversaries

\*Heather S. – 14 yrs. \* Tracy R. – 12 yrs.  
\*Su S. – 8yrs. \* Gagan C. 4 yrs.  
\* Dina B. – 1 yr. \* Nasrin - 1yr.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <b>Labour Day</b> Approved Educator holiday; Northalta office closed	3 Parent fees due	4	5 Parents: Late fee applies to unpaid childcare fees	6	7
8 <b>International Literacy Day</b> <b>Grandparents Day</b>	9	10	11	12 Educator payment email sent	13	14
15	16	17 Educator payment email due BY 9:00a.m.	18	19 <b>Educator Pay Night and Workshop</b>	20	21
22	23 <b>First Day of Autumn</b>	24	25	26	27	28
29 <b>Rosh Hashanah</b>	30	<b>Educator Workshop - See details on page 1</b> <b>Location: Ascension Lutheran Church</b> <b>8405-83 st (use rear entrance)</b> <b>Time: 6:45p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</b>				

## Upcoming Community Celebrations

**Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>- Labour Day** is celebrated on the first Monday of September. It originally gave workers the chance to campaign for better working conditions or pay. The day is now part of a long weekend for many Canadians.

**Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> - International Literacy Day** raises people's awareness of concern for literacy issues in the world.

**Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> - Grandparents Day** recognizes the importance of grandparents to the structure of every family and in the nurturing, upbringing and education of children.

**Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> – Educator Workshop Brain Architecture Game – See page 1 for details**

**Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> - First day of Autumn**

**Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> -Oct.1<sup>st</sup> - Rosh Hashanah** also known as the New Year in the Jewish calendar is a time of family gatherings and special meals. Rosh Hashana commences at nightfall the day before the actual holiday. The celebrations begin after the evening prayer.



## Celebrate International Literacy Day!

Visit the Edmonton Public Library and receive a FREE Library card!

Become an EPL member and enjoy:

- >> Millions of items in epl's physical and digital collections to borrow for FREE
- >>FREE programs and events each year for people of all ages and interests

If you do not have your library card yet, sign up for one at any branch or online at [www.epl.ca/signup](http://www.epl.ca/signup).

For further information, call any location, drop into your neighbourhood branch, or visit [www.epl.ca](http://www.epl.ca).

Call each branch for individual hours of operation

## ***Accreditation – ‘It Naturally Happens’ Supporting Diversity***

The child care field recognizes the value of introducing children to how people are different and the same. **Alberta’s Curriculum Framework: Flight**, states, “Flight is grounded in a vision of strong, active and energetic early childhood communities—places of vitality—where **the diversity of Alberta families is reflected and can be expressed.**”



Our childcare environment naturally fosters diversity because we are thoughtful of different cultures and ethnic backgrounds however **culture is one part of diversity.**

The Alberta Child Care Accreditation Standards definition states: Diversity; variety; a range of differences, for example, diversity can refer to culture, family makeup, income, etc.

As children are introduced to diversity, it is important to talk to the children’s family to ensure they are comfortable with the situations to be discussed. Example: A family may not be comfortable with books about Rosa Parks because of racism. While it is a valuable story, they may feel their child is too young for the conversation. For more tips on how to talk to children about diversity, visit

<http://teach4diversity.ca/multicultural-childrens-literature/>.

Educators can meet the accreditation standards on diversity through their positive attitudes and meaningful program planning.

### **1.3 Child care programs incorporate well-designed physical indoor learning environments to foster the optimal development in children.**

#### **b. Design stimulating and interactive environments, ensuring the materials for play and learning contain a full range of diversity (e.g., ability, culture, ethnicity, family composition, gender).**

##### **How do childcare educators set up an environment that supports diversity?**

Introduce children to people who are different from them — linguistically, culturally, racially, emotionally, physically, intellectually, socially, and economically? This can be done through in a couple ways; books, and face to face interactions. How did the children respond? How do they describe people different from them? Use the children’s responses as a learning opportunity. Remember it is equally important to reflect on your response to people different from you.

Ensure there are a variety of materials, in addition to books that represent all aspects of diversity! The messaging must be positive and meant to include children. The Alberta Curriculum Framework notes, “Storybooks may highlight princesses who are white, blond, and blue-eyed and villains who are dark skinned, with dark hair and brown eyes.” As we identify situations that suggest inclusion and exclusion, it is an opportunity to reflect and talk with the children about gender, race, colour, ability, and ethnicity.



**Family make up:** A child may live with family other than their parents, a single parent, foster parents, etc.

- + Have books supporting different family styles.
- + Include the male or female figures in the child's life on Mother's and Father's Day,
- + Invite the family to day home celebrations and events



**Gender:** Promote both genders working the same career.

- + Invite community members into the day home; hairdresser, paramedic, police officer, dentist etc.
- + Have community dress up clothes so the children can pretend to be whatever they want!



**Income:** Families have different incomes, and this can affect what they can afford to buy for their children.

- + Focus on the value of natural items and experiences instead of material items.



**Ability:** People of different abilities can be as capable as people without physical limitations, they just do things differently.

- + Discuss visual impairment, hearing loss and the different supports.
- + Discuss the Paralympics and how the athletes adapt because of their needs. Example: sledge hockey players.



**Age:** Introduce children to different age groups.

- + Visit a senior's facility
- + Invite grandparents or older family members to read and interact with the children
- + Teach older children to understand their younger friends may need help because of their age.

**Culture:** Introduce children to cultural festivals and celebrations like Indigenous People's Day, Chinese New Year, Diwali etc.

- + Invite someone of a different ethnic background to visit the day home and talk about foods and traditions.
- + Have craft resources with different skin tones; craft paper and crayons.
- + Do a craft activity with brown and white eggs. Show the children that even though the shells are a different color, the inside is the same. Just like people!



## 2.1 Child care programs incorporate inclusive approaches that respect children's diversity and value children's individual needs and backgrounds. Inclusive approaches to foster all types of diversity

### a. Incorporate experiences and cultural backgrounds of children in daily program planning.

The child's family is the most important and vital resource to understanding the child's views and opinions of people.



Educators also have a great impact on how children learn. An educator's day home environment will represent her culture and beliefs.

Educators and families are responsible for helping shape a child's social behaviors and attitudes. When we get to know each others' backgrounds: what does the family wear, beliefs, celebrations etc., we can plan thoughtful and meaningful activities for the children. There are teachable moments that families can be actively involved in.



Different family activities could include:

- ✓ Cooking different ethnic foods; make bannock, naan bread
- ✓ Sharing cultural traditions; henna
- ✓ Reading a story about their culture
- ✓ Donating or sharing cultural items with the day home
- ✓ Showing traditional clothes of their culture
- ✓ Have a child friendly map or globe to show the child's family country of origin.

**Create an environment that respects and values people.  
We have a role in creating responsible citizens.**



#### References:

Makovichuk, L., Hewes, J., Lirette, P., & Thomas, N. (2014). *Flight: Alberta's early learning and care framework*. Retrieved from [flightframework.ca](http://flightframework.ca).

Government of Alberta (2017) *Alberta Child Care Accreditation Standards*

*Resource suggestions:*

Lake Shore Teacher Supplies <https://www.lakeshorelearning.com/>

Scholastic Canada <http://www.scholastic.ca/>

Education Station <https://www.educationstation.ca/>