



Early Childhood Development Department

2nd Quarterly Report 2021-2022

Completed by: Carlene Brown

Reflecting the Strategic Plan

LEADERSHIP

GOAL: SELF-GOVERNMENT BASED ON THE CULTURAL AND TRADITIONAL IDENTITY OF SIB.

- Starting back up in September -Cultural Liaison Teacher comes to centre daily to provide daycare and preschool children with culturally based lessons including Halq'émeylem language lessons, local plant/animal/medicine lessons, and more. K.McA. has commenced her role as Cultural Coordinator to bring cultural awareness and familiarity to the families we serve. These lessons can include Cultural Craft Lessons such as Bannock, beading, drumming, and drum making.
- Summer program implemented Cultural Exploration Tuesdays and included traditional crafts, medicines and more! Children had opportunities to create drums with an elder from our community and to create dreamcatchers.
- Include parents in newsletters incorporating SIB culture and language
- Meetings (virtual or in person) with staff, director, and elders to ensure inclusion.
- Newsletters/cultural calendar/ensure same messaging to all age groups/parents etc.
- More staff meetings (virtual or in person). Culturally based training for staff. Head Start at Seabird staff have taken training through Indigenous Canada (University of Alberta) including Early Years Indigenous Cultural Safety Resource training with podcasts. AIDP (along with SCD) attending Seasonal Planning and Cultural curriculum Workshop
- Program planning for staff and meetings between staff and director/supervisors.
- Each program plans, in advance, for the coming months/year.
- Daycare/Head Start: working parents/no interest to date
- Seabird Island Head Start program has been operating as a Head Start-At-Home program for Seabird, Shxw'owhamel, Cheam and Skwah. Weekly deliveries made to families with meals, program materials, and other items.
- Seabird Island ECD Department now has a Facebook page to post upcoming events, cultural awareness posts, and other posts directly related to childcare, child raising, behavioral awareness and more.
- AIDP supported several families with preschool registration. Increased visits with families with health and safety measures.
- Supported Child Development Programs supported families with ASD assessment, helping with travel arrangements, payments of assessment.
- FVCDC Clinic days the first Tuesday of every month. CYMH Clinic days are 2nd Tuesday of every month.
- Families are attending joint visits with mental health, and child development. Caseloads are growing as people are seeking services more and more. There has been increased communication and collaboration with Sts'ailes.
- The hearing screening clinic in September went very well. Hearing screening is being complete and able to download the results onto the Biotech program. The Ey Qwal team have had time to develop their ability to both collaborate and delegate to deliver service that is family and child centered. SLA has learned very quickly is a talented and valued addition to the team.

MEMBERSHIP

GOAL: ENGAGED, EMPOWERED AND SELF-SUFFICIENT SW'ÉWQELÓ:MEXW

- Having Cultural Teacher, elders, and Cultural Coordinator to help bring Cultural awareness and learning into all our programs here at Seabird.
- Staff meetings between staff and supervisors and among Directors to discuss and implement goals, directives, rights, and responsibilities.
- Participated in Seabird back to school event as ECD dept
- All ECD department closed on Sept 30th for Truth and Reconciliation Day
- Staff and children were each given an orange T-shirt (children) or hoodie (for staff) for Orange shirt day to show solidarity and support for Truth and Reconciliation Day.

ENVIRONMENT

PROTECT AND ENHANCE S'ÓLH TÉMÉXW, INCLUDING LAND, WATER AND AIR CONSISTENT WITH TÓMIYEQW

- We recycle and reuse objects as much as possible. Earth Day walk with Preschoolers was a success. Children planted seeds for Earth Day and plants were used as Mother's Day gifts.
- Seabird Island Head Start program will be creating a vegetable garden to provide fresh and nutritious foods to families.
- An elder from community came to Summer program to teach children about traditional foods and medicines. Elders shared garlic from his garden.
- 7 Sacred Teachings is implemented into program. Children and teachers enjoy nature and learning about our environment and the best ways to take care of our world.
- COVID protocols being given by government and Seabird Island Board of Directors

CULTURE, HEALING, HEALTH & WELLNESS

GOAL: ÁY:MEXW – HEALTHY PEOPLE, PHYSICALLY, MENTALLY, EMOTIONALLY AND SPIRITUALLY.

- Regular caseload meeting with MCFD programs. MCFD staff have assisted families with Preschool and Affordable Child Care Benefit applications.
- Summer Safety Kits were prepared and distributed in July 2021
- Seabird Island ECD Department now has a Facebook page to post upcoming events, cultural awareness posts, and other posts directly related to childcare, child raising, behavioral awareness and more.
- Staff and visits are required to use masks when accessing Seabird ECD programs. Staff is sanitizing all surfaces and doing regular handwashing. Staff is staying home when ill and/or not feeling well.

INFRASTRUCTURE

GOAL: AN ECONOMICALLY STABLE COMMUNITY THAT MEETS THE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS FOR FUTURE GROWTH.

- Head Start supervisor was busy in correspondence with suppliers for AHSOR land-based grant materials/orders/specs.