



Early Childhood Development Strategic Plan Update

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Quarterly Report 2021-2022: 3rd Quarterly

Reflecting the Strategic Plan

LEADERSHIP

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

- Cultural Liaison Teacher comes to centre regularly to provide daycare and preschool children with culturally based lessons including Halq'émeylem language lessons, local plant/animal/medicine lessons, and more. Cultural Coordinator to also brings cultural awareness and familiarity to the families we serve. These lessons can include Cultural Craft Lessons such as Bannock, beading, drumming, and drum making.
- 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.
- Seabird Island Head Start program has been operating as a Head Start-At-Home program for Seabird, Cheam and Skwah. Weekly deliveries made to families with meals, program materials, and other items.
- Connected with Cheam – Head Start on Reserve regarding funding for upgrades and restarting their program. Community is looking forward to having a program again.
- New Head Start Supervisor and new Head Start Coordinator hired to start in January 2022
- Children in programs have participated in fieldtrips to Apple Barn and Cottonwood 4 Cinemas with social distancing in place and private small group bookings.
- 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.
- Ey Qwal put on a Professional Development Day for Sts'ailes Early Childhood Centre staff in November after they developed the content and materials. Updates to program posted regularly to Facebook group.
- 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.
- FV CDC 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.

- Enhanced COVID protocols due to high community transmission has resulted in few visits and fewer communities visited per day for Support staff. We continue to receive new referrals and have been building relationships with new children, families and centres along the way.
- More and more staff (in all programs) have received first and second dose of COVID vaccine. Many staff members have received their booster. One team member has chosen to vacate her position due to new COVID vaccine policy.
- Daycare Supervisor did a recent Updates to Public Health Guidance for Child Care Settings Workshop and Boundary Practice workshop.
- Some staff have taken workshops in Circle of Security, Bringing Baby Home, Infant Massage Instructor, Autism, ADHD and Building Self Esteem. In many cases, more than one team member completed the training.
- B.E.A.R. Bus program is currently on hold. Bus is in for renovations. Hoping to bring program back in the Spring as staffing allows.
- AIDP supported several families with preschool registration. Increased visits with families with health and safety measures.
- Supported Child Development Programs have had a lot of children away in programs, it is hard to staff centers when there is no notice of the children being away.
- SCD Program staff is back from 1 year maternity leave.
- New SLP joined Ey Qwal in November. OOSC is running at full capacity. Daycare has had 2 new Infant/Toddlers and 2 new children in 3 to 5's side. One child was pulled from program by parent due to flooding concerns and mom being uncomfortable and worried that she might not be able to make it to pick up her child.
- Halloween goodie bags provided for each child in program.
- Christmas Drive Thru was a huge success. Each child received a gift and each family received pancake mix, syrup and sausages to share as a family. Many families posted personal photos of gifts and breakfast preparations on Facebook page.
- Hearing screenings have continued individually but the October clinic was cancelled due to high numbers of COVID.

MEMBERSHIP

GOAL: ENGAGED, EMPOWERED AND SELF-SUFFICIENT SQ'EWQELO: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 Christmas Drive thru. Supervisors purchased gifts for each child and staff came in on a Saturday to distribute gifts for children and pancake mix, syrup and sausages for each family.
- All ECD departments closed for Remembrance Day, Thanksgiving Monday and Christmas holidays from Dec 24 until Jan 3rd.
- In lieu of our annual winter family night, our programs have purchased winter gift baskets for families with children in MCFD programs.

ENVIRONMENT

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

- We recycle and reuse objects as much as possible. All paper is shredded.
- Seabird Island Head Start program will be creating a vegetable garden to provide fresh and nutritious foods to families.
- 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 – HEALTH 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.
- Administrative Assistant has assisted many families to complete Affordable Child Care Benefits application online for Summer Program, Preschool and Daycare.
- COVID protocols restrict our ability to meet. For ECD Parent/Community Information Night.
- Previous Head Start Supervisor connected with contractors to install safety surface (install date of late winter 2022).
- 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.
- Children attended Apple Barn and Cottonwood 4 Cinemas (twice) for fieldtrips.

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.
- Director has taken over the correspondence in regards to the land-based grant for Seabird's Head Start new playground realization. Supplies have been ordered.