



Honoring 30 years of commitment to the Yukon child care field

Message From The Chair

The Yukon Child Care Association has had the opportunity to work with the Yukon Government on several issues pertaining to childcare. This opportunity has been a positive step forward for the field.

We are currently working with the Yukon government on the Individual Contribution Agreements, and working to ensure this document works for the field as well as meeting the needs of the government. The funding we receive is public funding and we are accountable for it.

The Yukon Child Care Association has meant with the minister on several occasions to discuss the issues the field faces. Wages has been one of the larger issues. This year we have seen two large increases in the Direct Operating Grant with in the wages part of the grant. Through this every early childhood educators that is a level 1 or higher should have seen and increase in their wages. We need to thank the government for listening and understanding the importance of the early years, and the important work you do daily. The issue of non-compliance and the extension of exemption letters with the training regulations continue to be a problem. We are hopeful with the added money into wages this may inspire more to get trained; there are several options available for training currently. Partner's offers free workshops by taking four of these you can be a level 1 and it not cost anything at all. Yukon College currently has and Early Childhood Development Program, and there are several options available through distance programs.



"CHILDREN ARE ON THE LEADING EDGE OF CHILDCARE"
ALLEN MURRAY

The Yukon Child Care Association has just put in a proposal to do a study and research the cost of early childhood educator's benefits. Our goal would be to see every Yukon early childhood educator regardless of what type of program childcare center; day home, preschools etc. have a benefits/pension plan. While most of our work is local we also have a national voice on the Canadian Child Care Federation.

This organization works hard for the field, we all strongly believe that the work we do benefits children, families and Educators. We believe that all Early Childhood Educators should be involved in the future of their profession.

WE are a very small volunteer board that encourages and welcomes new comers. If you are interested in more information please call Cyndi 668-5130.

Cyndi Desharnais- president

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Special points of interest:

- The Yukon Child Care Association's Annual Conference and AGM is being held on April 24 and 25. If you have any ideas for workshops or speakers please let us know. Please plan to attend!

YCCA has a new website!!!

CHECK IT OUT!

www.yukonchildcare.com

YCCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Professional Development

Please contact Anne Gedrose at the Yukon College for a complete list of courses being offered in January 2009. Phone (867)668-8796



Upcoming Partners for Children Workshop!

Child Development is being offered January 2009. Phone (867) 668-8794

Visit Partners for Children Website

<http://1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/pfc>

"All children are born geniuses; 9,999 out of every 10,000 are swiftly, inadvertently degeniusized by grownups." (Buckminster Fuller)



The Yukon Child Care Association has a new e-mail address!!! YCCA@live.com

FUNNIES FROM THE FLOOR

We all know that working on the floor with small children can be both challenging and rewarding, and sometimes hysterically funny. This is one of those moments.

My group of rather rambunctious three year olds were playing in the gross motor center, driving in their coupes and fire trucks in a rather haphazard way. Occasionally they would accidentally bump into each other due to their

unpracticed driving skills, and they definitely were inconsiderate of pedestrians, namely me. In my never ending search to introduce new methods of learning through play, I decided to risk my ankles and stepped in front of one little speeder's car. He drove his car into my leg and I theatrically crumpled to the ground. The other children gathered in concern, the little munchkin driving the car stepped out, flipped me on my back and unconcernedly began to administer CPR !

Sputtering with laughter and shock I scrambled to my feet, "What are you doing" I asked him. "Saving you" he said. "Sorry I hit you, but can I do it again"

By Heidi Spinks

Christmas Craft For All Ages— Candy Canes

Materials

Wagon wheel beads-12
green and red or white
1 pipe cleaner

String 3 beads, alternating colors until all twelve are on the pipe cleaner, fold the end. Bend over one end and you have a candy cane for the children to hang on the tree!



Fold pipe cleaner over on one end to stop the beads from falling off.

If you have any Craft or snack ideas , thoughts or stories you would like to share, please send them in via mail or our web site www.yukonchildcare.com

A Christmas Story

The Lost Scarf

Megan had lost her scarf. She couldn't find it anywhere. "Mom, have you seen my scarf?" she asked.

"No, what did you do with it?" she asked, but Megan couldn't remember.

Megan had come to the Bazaar to help her mother sell gingerbread cookies. She stood behind their table counting out cookies and collecting money, her scarf warm and snug around her neck. She remembered watching the people walking from table to table, men and women in long coats and children with bright scarves and mittens on. After awhile her mother handed her some cookies. "Here," her mother said, "You've been a big help, why don't you go look around." So Megan did.

She saw tables with toys, tables with photographs, and tables with trinkets. When she got hot she took off her scarf and wrapped up the last of her cookies in it. But she couldn't remember where she put it and now it was time to go.

She ran all around asking the people taking down tables if they had seen her scarf, but no one had. Finally, her mother could wait no longer and they had to leave. Megan didn't say anything the whole ride home. She couldn't stop thinking about her scarf. For the whole week before Christmas she couldn't stop thinking about her scarf.

On Christmas Eve, it was a tradition in her family to decorate the Christmas tree and every year they always hung out the left over gingerbread.

"Megan, can you get the box of left over cookies from the shelf?" asked her mother as she put the other decorations on.

"Yeah," yelled Megan, pulling her scarf out of the box and dancing, "Look Mom, my scarf, I must have stuck it in the cookie box." She held the scarf up, the sequins catching the light and flashing it back, red, like Ru-

dolf's nose. She wrapped it around her neck and danced through the room laughing. "Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells," she sang, breathing in the spicy smell of Christmas Gingerbread. This was going to be the best Christmas Day ever!

By: Leonie Lemphers

Gingerbread Cookies recipe can be found at http://www.elise.com/recipes/ar-chives/001633gingerbread_man_cookies.php

Craft – Christmas Scarves/felt gingerbread men

Materials

Long strips of fabric or felt
Sequins
Sparkly glue
Fabric paint
Markers
Etc.

For the scarves use the fabric in a strip and children can decorate with glue, sequins, glitter, markers etc. Later, dance with the scarves to Christmas music. Or, cut our Gingerbread men shapes and have children decorate the gingerbread men. Later, hang them on the tree.

D.Q. ICE CREAM CAKE FUNDRAISER

SPREAD THE WORD!!!

YCCA is exploring the possibility of importing ice cream cakes as a fundraiser, If you are interested in purchasing a cake please contact us.

YCCA FUND RAISERS

CHOCOLATE BARS	\$2
10" D.Q. ICE CREAM CAKES	\$38
FOOTPRINTS	\$1
VOLUNTEERING	FREE
BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING PRICELESS!!!!	

QUOTERS CORNER

"The latest research in the neurosciences confirms what many mothers have long known. Children are born to bond. They develop through intense emotional relationships with the beloved people around them. Children have an innate need to connect deeply with other people and they long for a sense of moral and spiritual purpose. These are human imperatives. When they are not met, a child's potential is stifled."

Hardwired to Connect -2003



"Life is a journey of personal growth ascending from a focus on self to a focus on family, community and world."

A Murray

Yukon Childcare Important Phone Numbers

YCCA contact number: Cyndi 668-5130
Partners For Children: 668-8794
ECD/ Anne Gedrose 668-8796
Childcare Services:667-3492

YCCA WEB SITE : www.yukonchildcare.com
There is a new web site up and running, and is a constant work in progress as we update the information, feel free to comment, or ask questions.

"For children to experience growth, they must experience consequences"

"Forgiveness is the answer to the child's dream of a miracle by which what is broken is made whole again, what is soiled is again made clean.
~ Dag Hammarskjold ~ Swedish Statesman,
Secretary-general of U.N.)



The Yukon Childcare Association works for the development of an expanded and improved child care system which is based on the principles of universal accessibility, accountability, affordability, high quality, inclusion, parent involvement, appropriate salaries linked to training and appropriate working conditions for child care providers in the Yukon and Canada.

E-Mail at YCCA@live.com



WAGE INCREASES IN 2008

Thank-you to the Yukon Government for recognizing the important role child care educators have in the lives of children, families, community and the benefits to society as a whole.

We recognize the increases have had a positive impact on the trained field. Though these increases have been substantial we are still off the comparable diploma field's wages.



We look forward to working with the Yukon government to close this gap.

Currently the following amounts have been given to programs for wage increases in 2008.

- Note: This is the entire amount for levels, after receiving these dollars the program can minus their costs for EI, CPP and Comp. before the educators receive the wage increase.

<u>LEVEL</u>	<u>INCREASE/HOUR</u>
LEVEL 1	\$1.85
LEVEL 1A	\$3.50
LEVEL 2	\$4.75
LEVEL 2A	\$6.95
LEVEL 3	\$9.00

These increases serve as an added incentive for Early Childhood Educators to remain in the field and to advance their level of professional training. Please contact Anne Gedrose at the Yukon College for available courses.

