

Copperhaven School

Newsletter



COPPERHAVEN
COBRAS

December 1, 2021

Principal's Message

Today I had the opportunity to host the newly elected School Board of Trustees for a school tour. With a source of pride I was able to share with the trustees information about how we are working to improve literacy and numeracy, how our sensory room helps students, to tell them about extra curricular opportunities such as our GSA, Games Club, Band, Ukulele Club and our fledgling Archery program. Sharing with trustees how we use the President's Choice Nutrition Grant to supply fresh fruit to each and every classroom in our school. I share that we are fortunate to have a Music specialist teacher, a French Second Language specialist teacher and a full time school counsellor for our students. And always, always I love an opportunity to brag about the great students and excellent staff.

Linda Simmonds

Dates to Remember

- December 3rd: Term 1 Report Cards available in PowerSchool
- December 10th: Holiday Hat Day (santa hats, headbands, etc.)
- December 17th: Holiday Sweater Day (or red and green clothing)
- December 21st: Christmas Concert - Sent to Parents as a Recorded Event
- December 23rd: PJ Day
- December 24th- January 7th: Winter Break

Mitten Tree

A tradition that we began in our first year here at Copperhaven was to decorate the library Christmas tree with childrens mittens, socks, scarves and hats that were then donated to a local charity. We are happy to be able to continue that tradition this year! It is exciting to watch the tree fill up with cozy items for families in need through Alberta Parenting for the Future - Parkland. Any donations of new mittens, hats, socks or scarves to help fill up our tree would be greatly appreciated. We will be accepting donations until December 21st. Thank you.

Christmas Concert

We are not able to host an in-person Christmas Concert this year so we will be creating recordings of student performances of students in Grades K-6. The recordings will be sent to families of each homeroom on December 21st. Thank you in advance to Mr. Loge, Mrs. Awe and Mrs. Cameron for teaching, practicing and recording the Concert performances.

Copperhaven Cold Weather Closet

The school now has access to a supply of winter coats, snow pants, hats and mitts thanks to the initiative of Aleina Harrower and Jacqueline Sampson on behalf of Copperhaven School Council. If students are in need of anything to keep them warm on a cold winter day please have them pop down to the office and we find them something to wear.

International Travel

For those considering or making plans for International Travel during the upcoming Holiday season, the best advice we can give families is to frequently check the rules here:

<https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/covid-vaccinated-travellers-entering-canada#children>

These are always subject to change and could even change mid-trip so check back often. The link above clearly indicates requirements and/or exemptions available for vaccinated, partially vaccinated or unvaccinated children or dependents.

Update from your Parent Council

A huge thank you to Aleina and Jacqueline for heading up our Cold Weather Closet. This will make sure that there is a backup supply at the school for anyone needing something warmer to wear.

Our next meeting will be held December 15th, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Follow our Facebook group to keep up to date with meeting info.

You school council,

Sean, Amy, Chantelle, Jacqueline, and Brianne

The Boundary Ridge Association (TBRA)

Thank you to everyone who supported our apparel and Kiwi Nurseries fundraisers. Apparel is here and will be handed out this week.

Our next meeting is Wednesday December 8th. If you would like to join us for the meeting please email us at theboundaryridge@gmail.com and we will make sure you have a link to the meeting.

Sean, Krystal, Amy and Latoya

Dear parents and caregivers,

Welcome to our November newsletter. This month we decided to focus on mindfulness and ways to help us all reduce our stress. Sometimes this is easier to say than to do but it really does help. Mindfulness is simply focusing on being aware of the present moment and trying not to worry or think too much about all of the other stressful situations in your life. How can we do this? Breathing and relaxation techniques can help us move towards calm and away from chaos. Kids and adults alike can learn these strategies. Read below to see the benefits of mindfulness and how you can bring it into your life.

Wishing you calm and peaceful moments this month.

Vicky and Dena

Vicky Mamczasz -Family Support Facilitator, Dena Davis- Sunrise Supports Program Liaison



Family Tips for Emotional Regulation with Joel Pukalo's special guest Jenn Banas, Parkland Wellness Centre

Am I Stuck with My Trauma _Jenn Banas, MPCC, RPC, CCTP

For most of us, we will experience at least one traumatic experience in our lifetime. For others, they will relay having experienced many ongoing traumatic experiences. For some, the trauma leaves a lasting impact and it's hard to know how to move forward from it.

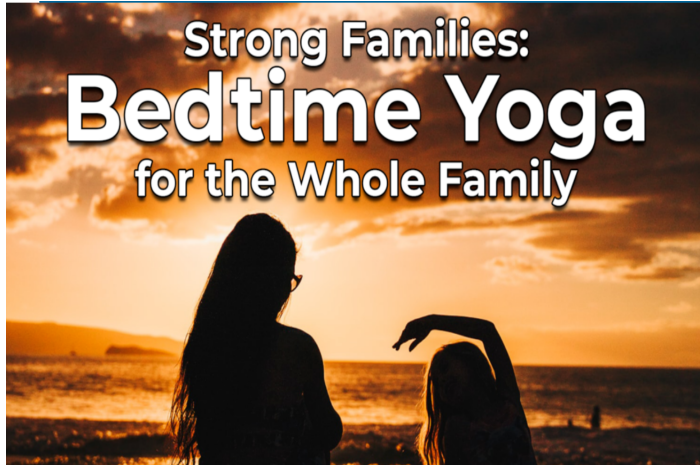
Trauma occurs when we have an experience that leaves us feeling threatened, overwhelmed and ill equipped to process what is happening to us. Because of this, the brain struggles to properly file the memory of the experience. Without that memory being properly processed and essentially filed away in the brain, the brain keeps re-living the memory as if it is still happening. This leads the brain to ring the alarm bell to the rest of the body that danger is imminent. This is a brain spending too much time in [Fight and Flight mode](#) and not enough time in [Rest and Digest mode](#). With that cocktail of chemicals that the Fight and Flight response produces constantly moving through the body, our brain eventually over adapts to an ongoing Sympathetic Response. This can lead a person to feeling "stuck" in a way of thinking, feeling and relating to the world around them that feels unsafe and unhealthy. It's stressful!

So, how do we get un-stuck from this? Good news, we can re-train our brain! First, we can use simple tools to bring our body into a calm, non-anxious state by employing skills such such as, yoga, breathing exercises, mindfulness, muscle relaxation, laughter, exercise and [self-compassion practices](#). Finally, finding a good therapist that is trauma informed can help to unpack and finally, file those disruptive memories. Having experienced trauma is *not* a lifetime sentence of being stuck in the memory of it anymore!

Some excellent free, online resources to access for further learning on this:

- Apps for your phone: <https://www.ptsd.va.gov/appvid/mobile/>
- YouTube videos for recovery: <https://www.youtube.com/c/Whatisptsd>
- Online Trauma Recovery Program: <https://psychink.com/trauma-courses/trauma-recovery-program/>
- Supporting children with trauma: https://institute.crisisprevention.com/EDTraumaInformedCare.html?src=PPC&utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=bts-2021&utm_content=tofu_ed_search&qclid=CjwKCAjw2vOLBhBPEiwAjEek9g-h5PLMIT6AP2664BMX4550c4FIKXAq0hyBJrbRPxFNph6g1qBFkxocZokQAvD_BwE
- <https://childmind.org/guide/helping-children-cope-after-a-traumatic-event/>

Jenn is a Master Practitioner in Clinical Counselling, a Certified Clinical Trauma Professional, and recently graduated from the Traumatology institute's Clinical Traumatology program. Jenn is the Founder and Director of Parkland Wellness Centre and Refugee Welcome Space in Spruce Grove; AB. Parkland Wellness offers holistic mental health care to the residents of the Tri Region and offers sponsorship programs for their services for those without coverage or low income. Jenn is a music and cat lover and argues that carbs are, indeed, life.



Parkland School Division is proud to partner with **Alberta Parenting For The Future** to present two more **FREE** sessions for local families.

In our upcoming **Strong Families** sessions, parents/guardians and their children can join Kristi Sikorski for an hour of calming, mindful movement to help them unwind from the day and regulate their bodies for a peaceful sleep. These yoga sessions are specially geared toward children who struggle with settling down and relaxing at bedtime: the first session will address the needs of children still in their early school years, while the second will cater to their older peers.

For Children in Kindergarten - Grade 2

Date : Tuesday, November 23, 2021

Time: 6:30-7:30 pm

Location: [Online Zoom Webinar / Discussion Group](#)

Presenter: Kristi Sikorski

For Children in Grade 3 and Up

Date: Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Time: 7-8 pm

Location: [Online Zoom Webinar / Discussion Group](#)

Please register early to reserve your spot by visiting

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/bedtime-yoga-for-the-whole-family-children-kindergarten-to-grade-2-registration-183012303727> or

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/bedtime-yoga-for-the-whole-family-children-grade-3-registration-183016305697>.

For more information, please contact: Vicky Mamczasz, Family Supports Facilitator, email vicky.mamczasz@psd.ca

“The development of children’s cognitive abilities is fundamentally dependent on how well children function emotionally”

-Stuart Shanker.

Mindfulness works!

Mindfulness is attending to the here and now, other people, the environment, a concern or challenge in a considerate and in a non-judgemental way. It is a skill that everyone can develop by paying close attention to our present situation and our role in it. By reflecting on our thoughts and actions we can decide how to make better choices. Mindfulness makes the space to move through the stress. Being mindful helps us to stop, take a breath and choose before saying or doing something we wish we wouldn’t have. This can create a space between strong emotion and our reaction to that emotion. By learning how their brains respond to stress and by quieting their minds students become better at self regulating and increase their capacity for absorbing information and improve their relationship skills.

Focusing on breathing can help calm the body by slowing the heart rate, lowering blood pressure and sharpening

focus. Paying attention to the breathing also supports strong functioning in the higher brain. It lessens anxiety by overriding the fight, flight or freeze response set off by the amygdala and gives control to our conscious thought which takes place in the prefrontal cortex (where executive functioning takes place). When breathing is deliberately regulated, the brain is primed to think first and then plan a response enabling mindful behavior. As children practice controlled breathing their brains develop and reinforce the habit of responding to anxiety by focusing on breathing. The more kids practice this breathing the more mindful and self regulated they become.

The brain gives priority to emotions because they matter. Children who associate school with safety can become more engaged learners moving out of their comfort zone. They can work in groups, share ideas and take risks. They train their amygdala to keep calm and keep information pathways to their prefrontal cortex open at school..

<https://self-reg.ca/> Please check out all the resources through the Mehrit Centre to support children and families.



[#kidsmeditation](#) [#kidssleep](#) [#mindfulnessforkids](#)

Mindfulness for Teens - Mobile Apps

<http://mindfulnessforteens.com/resources/>

Breathr: Dr. Vo helped to develop this mindfulness app for youth with the Kelty Mental Health Resource Centre (British Columbia, Canada). Free for Apple and Android mobile devices!

Stop, Breathe, and Think: Web and mobile app for youth, with meditations for mindfulness and compassion.

Calm.com: Free website and mobile app with guided meditation and relaxation exercises.

Insight Timer: Free mobile app with virtual “bells” to time and support your meditations, and access to lots of guided meditations by many different meditation teachers (including Dr. Vo).

Plum Village: Zen Meditation. Free app for iOS, loaded with beautiful meditations and teachings in the Plum Village / Thich Nhat Hanh tradition.

MindShift: Free mobile app for teens developed by AnxietyBC, with mindfulness and other coping skills for anxiety.

Smiling Mind: Free mobile mindfulness app for young people, from Australia.

Headspace: “Meditation made simple.” This app has a free introductory period, after which it requires a paid subscription to continue to use.



Check out great free teen mindfulness resources at <https://gozen.com/printables/>

Mindfulness Benefits for Families

What is Mindfulness?

There are many definitions of mindfulness. Mindfulness is simply the practice of training our brain to non-judgementally be aware of our feelings, our bodies, and our environment in the present moment. Mindfulness has its roots in Eastern World meditative practices, but has been adapted to our Western medical system.

Mindfulness is something that we can practice. It's like exercise for the brain. We focus our attention on the present moment, and if our attention goes somewhere else, we just bring it back to the present moment without judgement. We can practice mindfulness formally (e.g. meditation, mindful movement [i.e. stretching, yoga, tai chi], mindful walking, mindful eating, body scans, loving kindness) or informally (being mindful as we go about daily activities). The more we practice mindfulness, the more we have mindful moments and live in a state of mindfulness. Over time, we develop a mindfulness trait (way of being).



source: www.mindfulschools.org

Here is one example of a mindful activity you can practice:
"Plant both feet on the floor. Wiggle your toes. Take deep breathes while you look around and notice 3 new things . . . what do you see . . . what do you hear . . . what do you smell?"

Why Mindfulness?

Research into mindfulness has skyrocketed over the last 15 years. Mindfulness supports healthy brain development, physical and emotional wellness, and helps to 'immunize' children against the pressures of the modern world (watch Dr. John Kabat-Zinn, "The Benefits of Meditation" – Youtube)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wjXXvtGEZQQ>

Without mindfulness, we tend to react impulsively (without thinking) to situations. Learning to bring our attention to the present, helps us develop greater self-awareness and emotional regulation abilities. When we focus our brain in the present, it activates certain brain regions connected to self regulation and executive functioning.

Mindfulness can support caregivers/parents to decrease stress and caregiver fatigue, and can support emotional regulation, self-kindness, and empathy. In children and teens, mindfulness has been shown to improve focus & attention, executive function, self-regulation, and can promote empathy and optimism
(<http://leftbrainbuddha.com/why-we-need-mindfulness-in-schools/>)

What do Kids Think about Mindfulness?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-YEZnrySrtQ>

What do Teens Think about Mindfulness?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kk7IBwuhXWM>

How to Get Started?

There are many ways you can develop a mindfulness practice for yourself and your children. You can find mindful activities online, in activity books, and on flashcard decks. Here are some free resources that can help you get started:

• TeachStarter:
<https://www.teachstarter.com/au/teaching-resource/mindfulness-activity-task-cards/>

• TherapistAid:
<https://www.therapistaid.com/therapy-worksheet/mindfulness-for-children>

Apps that provide guided practices are another great way to get started. Popular apps include: Stop, Breathe & Think; Smiling Mind; Breathe, Think, Do; Headspace, Calm, 10% Happier

Where & When to do Mindfulness?

You can practice mindfulness anywhere, such as in your home, while driving, or out for a nature walk. Consider making mindfulness a part of your daily routine, such as in the morning, evening, or before bedtime. The main thing is to remember that it's a practice- something we learn to do over time.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqoxYKtEWEc>

Remember to start small, practice it yourself (for your own wellbeing and so you can model it for your kids) and to keep your family mindfulness practice simple, short, and fun!

From Alberta Health Services-Children, Youth and Families - Edmonton Zone

Community Education Service



Improving emotional health and well being

**Managing the Holidays through
Mindfulness:**

Supporting your Child's Social & Emotional Well-Being

Ashley Meagher, BA, CYC & Stephanie Sands BSc.

CES@ahs.ca <http://community.hmhc.ca/> 403 955-4730

https://communityeducationservice.webex.com/webappng/sites/communityeducationservice/meeting/register/7911e5493c2b4eec9102bf799cd49a91?ticket=4832534b00000005ada53c497214149bcd1f219784126b44a2381a0ce9896c3d9c00e017155ef885×tamp=1637251200294&locale=en_US

**Stretch your food hamper through our
free - Community Kitchen**

- learn food preparation tips and safety
- select budget friendly healthy options
- prepare 3 family portion meals to take home
- sign up at www.apfa.ca for any of the dates available or call 780-963-0549 to arrange a time convenient for you
- call if you require transportation or childcare assistance
- 5600 50 Street Stony Plain

Family CONNECTION CENTRE  Alberta Parenting for the Future Association  **United Way**
Alberta Capital Region

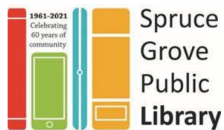
Stony Plain Library FREE after school programs

Take a look at the great FREE community involvement activities that you might want to take advantage of, all at your local Stony Plain Public Library 😊

Be ready to register for our programs when we offer them on our website in a

couple of weeks at www.mysppl.ca .

Program Name	Day	Time Description	Ages and where?	Partnership
Drama Club	Mondays (weekly) Sept 20- Dec 13 and Jan 10- June 13 (No program Oct 11, Nov 8,15, Jan 31, Feb 21, Mar 21,28, Apr 18, May 23)	4:00pm-5:00 pm Create, act, film, design your own plays! BYO afterschool snack.	6-12 Registered Max 15 participants Program Room and Multicultural Centre.	Multi-cultural Centre
Entertainment Engineers	Tuesdays (weekly) Sept 21- Dec 14 and Jan 11- June 14 (No Program Nov 9, and Mar 22)	4:00pm-5:00 pm Design, play and build your own games using the 3D printer! BYO afterschool snack.	6-12 Registered Max 10 participants Program Room and Creative Space Older adults drop in!	Darythe
Wong Style Tai Chi and relaxation exercises for mental health	1 st Wed of every Month Nov 3, Dec 8, Feb 2, Mar 2 and April 6	3:30pm-4:15 pm Take some time to just breathe! Stretch, relax and learn some Tai Chi.	55+ Registered Max 10 Meet by the front desk of the library at 3:15pm	Trudy and Erin from the Three Robins
Big, Little Tale of Two Cities- Book Club with St. Thomas Public Library in Ontario Kids Can Cook – LIVE Virtual Program Insightful Innovations!	3 rd Wed of every month Oct 20, Nov 17, Jan 19, Feb 16, Mar 16, Apr 20, May 18, and June 15 2 nd and 4 th Wed of every month Oct 13, 27, Nov 24, Jan 12, 26, Feb 9, 23, Mar 9, April 13,27, May 11, 25 and June 8, 22 Thursdays (weekly) Oct 15- Dec 16 Jan 13- June 16 (No Program on Nov 11, Feb 10, Mar 24)	4:00pm-5:00 pm Connect with your adult and our favourite sister library in St. Thomas, Ontario Be prepared to share your love of reading! 4:15pm-5:00 pm Virtual cooking fun in your own kitchen! Fun and easy after school snack recipes! 4:00pm-5:00 pm Drop-in and inspire!! Crafts, technology, art, books and more! Bring your friends and creative ideas to the library. Exciting discoveries will be made!	9-12 Registered Max 5 families Program Room Older adults join in! Ages 6-12 Google meets event Registered Max 10 6-12 Families and friends invited too Drop-In and meet at the Creative Space. Older adults drop in!	Sister Library St Thomas Darlene none none



Spruce
Grove
Public
Library

Spruce Grove Public Library



- New program **Dial-A-Story**

Listen to a pre-recorded story right off your phone, no internet access required. Storytime for all ages at SGPL anytime you want. Call 587-853-4554. New content added every 2 weeks.

Highlight: an Indigenous tale on our Dial-a-Story service, 'How Creator Helped the Animals to Help Humans' read by Dianne Melli.

Further info on Fall programming: <https://sqpl.ca/programs/fall-programs>

- At **SGPL**, “join our Talking Circles as we share various gifts, wisdom, stories and teachings from our local Indigenous community and neighbors. Listen deeply with a profound opportunity to understand, learn and establish a sense of community in a safe sacred space. Gain a mutual understanding of one
- **Virtual Rizdvo Ukrainian Pioneer Christmas**

Wednesday 8 December @ 11:15am-12:00pm (noon)

In this session, interpreters will teach about Ukrainian Christmas Eve traditions and foods. Take a virtual step back in time to learn how Ukrainians in Alberta celebrated Christmas 100 years ago and learn how those traditions continue today. You’ll learn how to make a kolach, a special bread made for Christmas, and have a chance to interact with interpreters and ask them questions.

Presented by the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village
 For further information about the program: [Ukrainian Village](#)
 FREE, Registered*

Registration: call us at 780-962-4423 or register [online](#).
 Recommended for grades 1-6. School age kids, homeschoolers and history buffs of all ages are welcome!
 *Space is limited



Winter Holidays Celebration

The winter holidays are here! Join us in celebrating all month long! This December join SGPL for a special event. We will be offering a variety of activities online and in-person, including seasonal Take & Make Kits*.

**while supplies last, 1 kit per household*
 December 1-31
 FREE, All Ages
 For further information about the program: <https://sgpl.ca/>

TEEN SOCIAL CLUB

Open discussion and fun activities based on your personal experiences.

Youth aged 14 - 17 years old.

Start: December 3rd 4:30 - 6 pm
 Location: 5600 50th St. Stony Plain in the Family Connection Centre.
 780 963-0549 or www.apfa.ca

Register here!

In partnership with:



Check out the Lighthouse Church **free** clothing store - Garments of Praise and Community Outreach Days on FB.



Connect with the Youth Centre on Instagram and Snapchat! There's always something going on at SPYC.

Hours

- Monday: 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday: 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday: 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday: 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Friday: 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday: CLOSED
- Sunday: CLOSED

Coming Soon to Spruce Grove *You Be You!*

SAFE
Support & Advocacy for Everyone.
 (Gender Sexuality Alliance)

For adults 18+

We all have questions, let's find the answers together.
 Share information, offer support, provide resources, help educate others.
 2SLGBTQ+ adults and Allies welcome!

*The Spruce Grove GSA Society respectfully acknowledges that we are situated in Treaty 6 territory,
 Traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people*

sprucegrovesasociety.org facebook.com/sprucegrovesa/ Instagram @sprucegrovesa
 sprucegrovesa@gmail.com

For the safety of our communities and to ease the strain on our healthcare system the following rules have been implemented as we share our space with other groups:

You Be You!

SAFE
 (Support & Advocacy for Everyone)
 ages 18+

Spruce Grove GSA
 (gender sexuality alliance)
 ages 12-24

- Proof of Covid vaccinations
- Pre-registration by email or text
- Covid health checks before attending
- Masking - Physical distancing - Hand sanitizing

Please ensure you are healthy before attending our events and meetings.

No coughing, sneezing, runny nose, sore throat, fever.

*We respectfully thank and acknowledge that we are situated on the Indigenous lands of Treaty 6 territory.
 Traditional lands of Cree, Michif Piyil (Métis), ᓂᓕᓄᓐ ᓂᓕᓄᓐ Nēhiyaw-Askiy (Plains Cree), Denesuline (Chipewyan),
 Saulteaux (Ojibwa/Anishinaabe), Nakota Sioux (Stoney/Assiniboine).*

sprucegrovesasociety.org facebook.com/sprucegrovesa/ Instagram @sprucegrovesa sprucegrovesa@gmail.com



You Be You!

GSA (Gender Sexuality Alliance)
2nd & 4th Friday
Every month

Dates, times, or location are subject to change!
Check our Website and Social Media!

September 10 th & 24 th	October 8 th & 29 th
November 12 th & 26 th	December 10 th

2022 Calendar begins

January 14 th & 28 th	February 11 th & 25 th
March 11 th & 25 th	April 8 th & 22 nd
May 13 th & 27 th	June 10 th & 24 th
July 8 th & 22 nd	August 12 th & 26 th

7:00pm – 8:00pm
Pre-register for GSA by email or text!

The Spruce Grove GSA Society respectfully acknowledges that we are situated in Treaty 6 territory. Traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people.

sprucegrovesa@gmail.com | sprucegrovesasociety.org | facebook.com/sprucegrovesa/ | Instagram @sprucegrovesa
15 Fieldstone Drive, Spruce Grove (across from the high school)

2SLGBTQ+ youth & allies are welcome!
Ages 12 – 24

November will be a busy month for our Spruce Grove GSA. We are introducing a new group running the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month, this group is for adults ages 18+.

SAFE, (Support & Advocacy for Everyone) is a space for adults who are part of our 2SLGBTQ+ community, for parents and caregivers of our gender diverse youth, or for any adults who have questions, would like to share, or would like to learn in a safe and caring space. We have been generously offered space to meet at The Play Café in Spruce Grove, from 7 – 8 pm.

Pre-registration is required by email, as well as proof of Covid vaccination. This is a shared space, so please wear a mask, and only attend if you are healthy.

GSA YOUTH!!!

WE ARE BACK INSIDE!!!

Yes, I know. It's been a rollercoaster of outdoor meetings, and very few indoor meetings. But we kept meeting, and you have all been AMAZING!

I want to say a massive thank you to our GSA kids and their adults who have stuck with us through the changes. Your support with mask wearing, sanitizing, distancing, and the covid vaccinations has allowed us to remain open.

Alberta GSA Conference Registration for the **2021 AB GSA Conference** is now OPEN!

Youth, students, home-school students and online students, community GSAs & QSAs, teachers, professionals! Have you had a chance to register for the FREE Alberta GSA Conference?? This year all workshops, resources and fun activities, will be presented online from Nov 22-26th. Originally, they were hoping to have in-person events in Peace River & Edmonton, however due to covid-19 health restrictions, the conference will be taking place exclusively online.

To register, click on the link, and you will receive a registration package within 4 business days. <https://linktr.ee/abgsaconference>

Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR)

· <https://www.glaad.org/tdor>

This is an annual observance on November 20 that honors the memory of transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence.

Important Reminder!

Stony Plain FCSS –

· Stony Plain FCSS is seeking folks from our 2SLGBTQ+ community in Stony Plain, Spruce Grove and Parkland County. Are you able to connect and help work on creating a Poverty Reduction Action Plan?



[Register Here](#)

a free, province-wide online peer-to-peer mental health community that may be of interest to you

- FREE to ALL Albertans aged 16+ through a partnership with the Alberta Government and Alberta Health Services.
- A safe, online, 24/7 peer community where members remain anonymous to each other and can share their lived experiences with common mental health concerns.
- Registered mental health practitioners moderate and monitor the community to ensure individuals are safe and feel supported. Moderators help signpost resources and escalate those at risk, but they do not provide 1:1 counselling or therapy.
- Access to self-assessments, resources and self-guided courses to help foster wellbeing.



Learning Disabilities Association of Alberta - Edmonton Chapter

Check out LD Edmonton for Social Skills Groups and for virtual monthly parent information sessions.

For more information contact info@ldedmonton.com, call our office at 780-466-1011

Does your child struggle with friendships and social cues?
Do they have difficulty with organizational skills?
Trouble paying attention or staying on task?
Do they have trouble managing their emotions/



<https://bbbsparkland.ca/>

Because I Love You
Parent and Youth Support Groups

B.I.L.Y. TRI REGION

Family In Crisis?

Weekly Support Group MEETINGS

We are a group of parents who understand. We offer creative solutions that can help and tools to improve communication. Our goal is to help you and your family develop cooperative family relationships and achieve peace in your home.

Meetings are Free of Charge! Tuesdays at 7 PM Call Today for Location 587-588-8633

Parents.....

Are you dealing with

- Negative Attitude?
- Physical or Emotional Abuse?
- Drugs or Alcohol?
- Chores?
- Running Away?
- Curfew?

Is your child between the age of 2 and 5? Can you relate to any or all of these issues? This parent support group is for you!

B.I.L.Y. TRI REGION
bilytriregion@gmail.com
587.588.8633

Community Supporting Us
100 Women Who Care Tri Region
Tri Region Guidance Thru Crisis Society

ACT **STONY PLAIN** **Rotary**
Club of Stony Plain

We Can Help!

B.I.L.Y. offers a **youth group** designed to work specifically with youth whose parents attend and participate in the parent group. To find out more call 587-588-8633.

Family Christmas Movie Night

🕒 December 3 @ 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm



Tonight's showing will be "Elf". Fun, games, and a Christmas movie for the family.

Alberta Parenting For the Future

Family Connection Centre

5600 50 Street, Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1P8
Stony Plain, T7Z 1P8 CA + Google Map

Register at:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/family-christmas-movie-night-registration-208757618657>

Does the thought of the holiday have you feeling stressed? There is support in our community. (check <https://www.parklandcounty.com/en/live-and-play/christmas-supports.aspx>)

- 2-1-1 is here to help you find the right community and social services. It is confidential, multilingual, and available 24 hours a day across many parts of Alberta including Parkland County. Don't feel stuck this holiday season. Call 2-1-1 today to get connected with the resources you need to get ahead.
- Parkland Food Bank- apply online
<https://parklandfoodbank.org/need-help/christmas-hamper/>
- Christmas Hampers - apply through the Food Bank



Reach out for support...

Youth Mental Health (Westview Primary Care Network) - call in for an appointment - 780-960 - 9533 ext 221
Community Connector - Simonne Massner - 780-217-4146 Stony Plain and Prabh Gill - Spruce Grove and Greater
Parkland area 780-217-8701

Youth Mental Health - Northgate Walk In Clinic (AHS - now call in or virtual appointment)780-342-2700
MOBILE/AFTER HOURS CRISIS TEAM: 780-407-1000

AHS - Substance Use Therapist - Lisa Kimmerly - 780-868-1895

Parenting support (APFA) - Triple P Parenting 780-963-0549

Adult Crisis Response - 780-342-7777

Support Network Distress Line - 780-482-4357

Adult Mental Health Referral and Treatment - 780-424-2424

Parkland School Division - Family Support - Vicky Mamczasz - 780-668-7422



Youth Substance Use Services

Counselling services are free and confidential

We provide education, support, treatment and referrals for youth and families impacted by alcohol, drugs, or technology. Our services are concurrent capable and promote the positive mental health of youth, families and communities.

Meet in-person **Telephone** **Video Call (Zoom)**

Lisa Kimmerly
Substance Use Therapist
Spruce Grove/Stony Plain and Area
780-868-1895 (text or call)



A 50-minute therapy session

In-person or virtually

Exploring possible issues & solutions

101-505 Queen St. Spruce Grove, AB

Youth Mental Health Clinic

Walk in Service

Available to Youth 11-17

Fridays only: 10AM -2PM
First come, first serve.

Book by phone:

Day: Fridays

Time: 9AM-12PM

Phone: 780-960-9533 Ext. 221

Location: 101, 505 Queen St., Spruce Grove

www.westviewpcn.ca

HELP FOR HARD TIMES TRI-REGION SUPPORT GUIDE

WHO CAN HELP, WHERE CAN I GO, AND HOW DO I GET SUPPORT?

I NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE NOW (24H)

Distress Line 780-482-4357(HELP)
 Addiction Helpline..... 1-866-332-2322
 Child Mental Health (8am-11:30pm) 780-427-4491
 Kids Help Phone 1-800-668-6868
 Bullying Helpline..... 1-888-456-2323
 Seniors Abuse Helpline 780-454-8888
 Family Violence Info Line 310-1818
 Sexual Assault Center (9am-9pm) 780-423-4121
 First Nations & Inuit Mental Health
 Hope for Wellness 1-855-242-3310

I NEED IMMEDIATE HELP Call 911

Emergency Financial Assistance
780-644-5135
 Access 24/7 (Adults)
 Addictions & Mental Health780-424-2424
 Westview Health Centre.....780-968-3600
 Child Intervention Services780-422-2001
 Kids Cottage Crisis Childcare ...780-944-2888
 Parkland RCMP825-220-2000
 Poison Control..... 1-800-332-1414
 NeighbourLink Parkland (practical crisis help)
 Monday-Friday 9am-4pm780-960-9669
 Pay Forward Kindness (homeless supports)
587-286-4663

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO START?



24-hour information and referral line connecting you to social, health and government services.



or download **HelpSeeker**, onto your phone to find local supports and resources.

WHERE CAN I FIND A SAFE PLACE TO SLEEP AT NIGHT?

George Spady (men, women) 780-424-8335
 Women's Emergency
 Accommodation Centre 780-423-5302
 Hope Mission (ages 16+, men, women) 780-422-2018
 Youth Empowerment &
 Support Services (YESS)..... 780-468-7186
 Salvation Army (Transitional Housing, \$12/day)
 780-429-4274

I NEED A DOMESTIC ABUSE SHELTER

Alberta Council of Women's Shelters
 1-866-331-3933

I NEED DETOX SUPPORT

George Spady 780-424-8335
 AHS Detox Centre..... 780-427-4291
 Youth Edmonton Detox 780-422-7383

I NEED A SAFE CONSUMPTION SITE

Boyle Street Community Serv... 780-424-4106
 George Spady Centre 780-424-8335
 Boyle McCauley Health Centre 780-422-7333

I NEED HELP WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND/OR ADDICTIONS

Access 24/7 Addictions and
 Mental Health (adults)..... 780-424-2424
 Youth Addiction Services 780-422-7383
 Access Open Minds (youth 16-25) ... 780-415-0048
 Child and Adolescent
 Mental Health Services 780-342-2701
 Westview PCN Youth
 Mental Health Clinic (ages 11-24) ... 780-960-9533

I NEED HEALTH INFORMATION

Health Link Alberta (24/7)811

WHERE CAN I FIND FOOD?

Parkland Food Bank
 105 Madison Cres, Spruce Grove 780-962-4565
 Auggies Café (Tuesday Free Lunch)
 131 Church Rd, Spruce Grove 780-962-5131

Spruce Grove FCSS
 #105 - 505 Queen Street, Spruce Grove, AB
 780-962-7618

Stony Plain FCSS
 #107, 4813 - 52 Avenue, Stony Plain, AB
 780-963-8583



Caregiver Education Team Newsletter

December 2021



AHS, in collaboration with [The Mental Health Foundation](#), is proud to offer FREE online programming for parents and caregivers of children and youth.

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application. A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

Caregiver Education Sessions

Technology and the Teenage Brain

Digital Wellness for Families
Thursday, December 2
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Sleep and Your Family's Mental Health

Monday, December 6
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Supporting Self-Regulation in Elementary School Children

Wednesday, December 8
6:00 – 7:30 pm

More than Just a Bad Day *Understanding and Supporting Depression and Self-Injury in Youth*

Thursday, December 9
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Resilience in Parenting

Caring for the Caregiver
Monday, December 13
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Lunch & Learns

Keeping Scattered Kids on Track

Supporting Children and Adolescents with ADHD

Part 1:

Wednesday, December 1
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Part 2:

Wednesday, December 8
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Building Executive Functioning Skills

Promoting Success in Learning

Part 1:

Tuesday, December 7
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Part 2:

Tuesday, December 14
12:00 – 1:00 pm

Drop-In Series

Support, Education, and Engagement Drop-In Sessions (SEEDS)

Effective Consequences

Wednesday, December 1
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Sessions at a Glance



Mental Health Foundation



Alberta Health
Services
Children, Youth &
Families Addiction
& Mental Health

For more information, visit www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

Caregiver Education Sessions

December 2021



These free 90 minute online sessions are intended to provide parents, caregivers, teachers, and community members with introductory information regarding mental health challenges that can affect children and youth.

Technology and the Teenage Brain Digital Wellness for Families

Technology is a huge part of our children's lives. Social media, video gaming, internet use, and cell phones may already be topics of debate within your family. Come together to discuss how modern technology can impact the developing teenage brain. As we review some of the risks and benefits of technology use, parents and teens will reflect on ways to stay safer and more balanced in their use of technology to better support positive mental health.

Date: Thursday, December 2, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Note: Caregivers and youth (Gr. 7-12) can attend together.

Sleep and Your Family's Mental Health

This session will look at the importance of good sleep quantity and quality for overall health, the factors that interfere with sleep, and sleep scheduling. We will look at healthy sleep hygiene strategies and sleep environments that can prepare our children for a good night's sleep.

Date: Monday, December 6, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Notes: For caregivers of children grades K-12; for adults only.

Supporting Self-Regulation in Elementary School Children

Do you wish you could help children handle strong emotional experiences? This session will define self-regulation and how it supports success in our child's day-to-day activities and interactions. It will provide a helpful review regarding the development of self-regulation in children and adolescents as well as how caregivers can support the growth of these essential skills.

Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Notes: For caregivers of children grades K-6; for adults only

Registration

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application.

A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

To register, click [HERE](#) or go to:

www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

Parent Feedback:

"Thank you! There were a lot of takeaways from this session and I look forward to incorporating them into my family routine."

"I thought the topic was a great one and the presentation was completed in a manner that was engaging and easy to understand."

"Virtual delivery is appreciated."



Mental Health Foundation



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Caregiver Education Sessions

December 2021



These free 90 minute online sessions are intended to provide parents, caregivers, teachers, and community members with introductory information regarding mental health challenges that can affect children and youth.

Registration

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application.

A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

To register, click [HERE](#) or go to:

www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

More than Just a Bad Day: Understanding and Supporting Depression and Self-Injury in Youth

This session will help caregivers increase awareness about adolescents who might be experiencing sadness, depression and/or non-suicidal self-injury. We will explore factors that contribute to depression and potential motivations behind self-injurious behavior. Caregivers will learn about treatment options for depression as well as strategies to help support youth who may be engaging in self-injury.

Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades 7-12; for adults only

Resilience in Parenting Caring for the Caregiver

Being a parent or caregiver is both fulfilling and stressful. Our time, energy, and resources are spent ensuring that our children and youth are taken care of, but who takes care of the caregiver? In this session, we will learn more about parental stress and burnout, explore resilient parenting, and discuss why parental self-compassion and self-care are essential to your family's well-being. Strategies such as mindfulness and positive coping skills will be discussed.

Date: Monday, December 13, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Notes: For caregivers of children and youth grades K-12; for adults only.

Parent Feedback:

“I so appreciate the availability of sessions and that I can just watch and listen and notes and resources are sent after.”

“The topic and session time were perfect. The presentation was interactive and quite helpful. Look forward to attending other sessions.”

“Loved the talk. Timing was just right and convenient with working parents. The two speakers were very calming and supportive.”



Mental Health Foundation



For more information, visit www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

Lunch & Learn Webinars

December 2021



These free 60 minute sessions are intended to provide parents, caregivers, and community members with information regarding mental health challenges that can affect children and youth. When topics are presented over two sessions, participants can attend one or both sessions.

Keeping Scattered Kids on Track

Supporting Children and Adolescents with ADHD

These sessions will discuss common signs and symptoms of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and ways that ADHD impacts academic achievement, self-worth, and relationships. We will look at strategies for supporting success in children and youth with ADHD.

Part 1: Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Notes: For caregivers of children grades K-12; for adults only.

Part 2: Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Notes: For caregivers of children grades K-12; for adults only.

Building Executive Functioning Skills

Promoting Success in Learning

Take a peek inside the developing brain of a child to learn about the processes that enable children to engage in problem solving and goal directed behaviours. Learn how these skills impact learning, behaviour, emotions, and social interactions. Review and discuss strategies to assist a child's executive functioning skills such as working memory, inhibition, and mental flexibility.

Part 1: Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Notes: For caregivers of children grades K-6; for adults only.

Part 2: Tuesday, December, 14, 2021

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm

Notes: For caregivers of children grades K-6; for adults only.

Registration:

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application.

A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

To register, click [HERE](#) or go to:

www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

Parent Feedback:

“I am really thankful for your seminars, they give me really good ideas and help me keep on growing as mom and grandma.”

“The presenters were highly prepared for the session, it was a pleasure to listen to them. Thank you!!”

“I liked the interactive format of the session and participating in the discussions.”



Mental Health Foundation



Children, Youth & Families Addiction & Mental Health

For more information, visit www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

Drop-in Series

December 2021



The Support, Education, and Engagement Drop-In Sessions (SEEDS) are 90-minute drop-in online interactive workshops for parents and caregivers who are looking to strengthen their foundational parenting skills, address parenting challenges, and support their child's social and emotional development. Caregivers will receive practical information, share tips, and participate in group discussion.

Registration

Sessions are offered online through the Zoom conferencing application.

A link to access the online session will be sent by email to those who have registered for the session.

To register, click [HERE](#) or go to:

www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

SEEDS Growing Parenting Skills

Effective Consequences

In this final session of our SEEDS series, we will discuss different approaches you can take to address your child's challenging behaviour and how consequences can be a learning tool when offered compassionately and consistently.

Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Note: For caregivers of children grades K-6; for adults only.

*Caregiver who have not attended previous sessions in this series are welcome to register for this session.

Parent Feedback

“This was really amazing. I love that you (in a very gentle way) had parents focus on their reactions to their children's behaviour and how this can help or hurt the situation.”

“The presenters again are so personable and seem very genuine and empathetic.”

“Today is the first time I joined with this valuable lesson and it was really helpful me. I'll keep these ideas to work with my kids. Thank you so much!”



Mental Health Foundation

Alberta Health Services
Children, Youth & Families
Addiction & Mental Health

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