



Pathways Family Services Foster Care News

“Providing children and families with safety, stability and belonging”

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Reimbursement Update

For those who are unaware, effective December 1, 2023, the Regional Authority increased the amount caregivers are reimbursed for km to ¢.55. This applies to both km for the children in your care, and km for training (when applicable). Please turn in any unclaimed km you have ASAP in order for us to process them as quickly as possible. Thanks!



Pathways office will be closed Monday, February 19th for Family Day. Contact the on-call with any emergencies.



General Office Items

Training:

The Winter 2024 (January to April) Caregiver Training Calendar is now available for self-enrollment into training courses on Pride.

Pathways HUB

Thanks to all who have begun using the Expense Request Form, Travel Reimbursement Form, and Document Training & Submission Form now on Pathways HUB. An overview recording to a training session that was held December 14, 2023 about these forms is available.

Contact Scott or Marla for the link.





Child & Family Services

New Foster Care Initiatives

- Easily accessible mental health supports for foster caregivers.
- Refer-a-foster caregiver.
- Foster caregivers caring for young adults.

Foster caregivers may experience many stressors as part of caregiving and their work with children and youth with complex care needs. CFS recognizes that counselling is a key way to support foster caregivers.

- Effective November 30, 2023, CFS will cover the costs of up to five one-hour counselling sessions per year (\$220 per session) per active foster care licence.
- Foster caregivers will have the option to access counselling with a professional already contracted through CFS or identify their own counselling supports (e.g., through Counselling Alberta) and be reimbursed.
 - Note: In order for foster caregivers to be reimbursed, counselling professionals must fall under the *Health Professions Act*.
- Prior approval is not required and you can access these services on your own; however, your foster care worker may need to be aware so they can assist with accessing the services if helpful.

CFS recognizes the recruitment efforts of foster caregivers. Foster caregivers know what makes an excellent caregiver and can see those qualities in their friends, family, neighbours and community members.

- Effective November 30, 2023, licensed foster caregivers will receive \$500 for each new foster caregiver they refer who successfully becomes a licensed foster home.
- *Don't forget Pathways also contributes an additional \$250.00 for the referral bonus.*

CFS recognizes the importance of continuing connections that have been made and to maintain long-term natural supports.

- The foster caregivers caring for young adults initiative will provide eligible foster caregivers financial compensation (daily skill fees/special rate) that align with the compensation foster caregivers received when the youth was under 18 and in their care. This recognizes the support and caregiving expertise foster caregivers provide to young adults who remain in their homes and are enrolled in the Transition to Adulthood Program (TAP). The new program is voluntary and the enrollment in the program will take place once an agreement between the TAP client and caregiver is signed.
 - The caregiver skill fee/special rate can be paid until the day before the young adult turns 22 as long as the young adult remains in the caregiver's home.
 - Room and board funding will continue to be provided to the TAP client and the young adult will pay the caregiver directly.
 - If you currently have a TAP client living with you, please contact their TAP practitioner to talk about this new opportunity or e-mail cs.tapprogramquestions@gov.ab.ca.



Deadline for submissions to the March Newsletter is Tuesday, February 13th. Contact Marla at (780) 442-0113 with information.



Indigenous Languages Corner



Cree

me	her or him
nîya	wîya
nee YA	wee YA
you	them
kîya	wîyawâw
kee YA	wee ya WOW

Saulteaux



water	meat
nipi	wîhyas
ni peh	WEE yas
milk	potatoes
tohtôhsapo	opinín
too TOO sa po	OH pi nin

Pronunciations are approximate. To hear a language spoken and for access to more words, download a language app to a tablet or smart phone. Apps used here are "Maskwacis Cree" and "Saulteaux."

Flying Canoe Volant

January 31st to February 3rd, 2024

To contribute to a vibrant winter city, the **Flying Canoe Volant** is a cultural, creative and interactive event designed to celebrate local history and the magic of a long winter night.

Inspired by the legend of Honoré Beaugrand's La Chasse-galerie, this event highlights the culture and traditions of First Nations, French Canadian and Métis peoples and celebrates the beauty of Mill Creek Ravine and the new Francophone Quarter in Edmonton.

Go to flyingcanoevolant.ca/faq for more information and to access a program map



Silver Skate Festival

February 9th to 19th, 2024

Edmonton's longest running winter festival celebrates prairie winter life and creates winter experiences for Edmontonians of all ages. The Silver Skate Festival is a free 10-day family oriented festival that combines culture, art, education, sport, and recreation.

Go to silverskate.ca for more information.

Pathways Family Services

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February 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				Flying Canoe Volant Festival January 31 to February 3		
4	5	6	7 Direct Deposit Date	8	9	10
11	Silver Skate Festival February 9 to 19			15 Payroll Cutoff at Noon	16	17
18	19 Family Day Office Closed 	20	21	22	23 Direct Deposit Date	24
25	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; background-color: #e0b0ff;"> Submit February Child/Youth Month End Reports via Pathways HUB </div>			28	29 Payroll Cutoff at Noon	 LEAP