



## Foster Care Monthly Newsletter February 2021

### Training

The new training unit calendar for January 2021- March 2021 has been issued. However, these trainings must be registered for manually. They are listed below with their corresponding dates and times. If you would like to be registered in any of these trainings, please email your FCSW or Siobhain at [siobhain@metischild.com](mailto:siobhain@metischild.com).

- **E1: Core Story of Brain Development** – Tuesday, February 9, 2021 – 9:30am-12:30pm
- **C1: Child Development & Well-Being** - Tuesday, February 16, 2021 – 9:30am-12:30pm
- **E1: Core Story of Brain Development** – Tuesday, February 23, 2021 – 9:30am-12:30pm
- **D1: Childhood Trauma, Stress and the Developing Brain** – Tuesday, February 23, 2021 – 12:30pm-3:30pm
- **C1: Child Development & Well-Being** - Tuesday, March 9, 2021 – 9:30am-12:30pm
- **E1: Core Story of Brain Development** - Tuesday, March 16, 2021 – 9:30am-12:30pm
- **C1: Child Development & Well-Being** - Tuesday, March 23, 2021 – 9:30am-12:30pm
- **E1: Core Story of Brain Development** – Tuesday, March 30, 2021 – 9:30am-12:30pm
- **D1: Childhood Trauma, Stress and the Developing** - Tuesday, March 30, 2021 – 12:30pm-3:30pm

### New:

- **E10: Safe Babies** - February 8, 9, 10, 2021 – 6:30pm-9:30pm
- **Supplemental: FASD G Series** – February 9, 16, 23, 2021 – 12:30pm-3:30pm
- **D6: Through the Lens of Loss & Grief** – February 16, 2021 – 6:30pm-9:30pm
- **F2: Colonization, Historic Trauma & Healing** – February 24, 2021 – 6:30pm-9:30pm
- **Supplemental: FASD G Series** – March 8, 15, 22, 2021 – 6:30pm-9:30pm
- **E10: Safe Babies** – March 9, 16, 23, 30, 2021 – 6:30pm-9:30pm
- **Supplemental: FASD G Series** – March 9, 16, 23, 2021 – 12:30pm-3:30pm

The training unit is finalizing details regarding the **‘Honoring Our Indigenous Children and Families’, ‘Medication Administration’** and **‘High Risk Youth’** courses; once these details are finalized they will be added to the training calendar. **First Aid** training remains unable to be provided by the training unit due to current restrictions regarding indoor gatherings. For the time being, please continue to access Breath for Life or St. John’s Ambulance to receive training.

Staff at the training unit is still limited and they hope to be able to have more evening classes going forward. The training unit has moved from using WebEx to Zoom as a virtual training platform – it has made a significant difference and the training unit is hoping to be able to double up on class sizes in March 2021.

Virtual **Family Circle Night** continues to occur on the last Thursday of each month – this link is typically emailed the week of the training.

Please see [This Link](#) for additional virtual training and cultural resources. You will need to complete the Training Activity Form with as much detail as possible about your learning. This form is [attached](#) to this newsletter and can be obtained from your FCSW.



## Foster Parent Birthdays!!

Romulo Aquino- February 6  
Cindy Dumais- February 27  
Albert Klyne- February 18  
Shauna Laboucane- February 13  
Leo Maximo- February 17  
Dominador San Diego- February 28  
Salvina Tamayo- February 17

### Recreation + Vacation Funds

Please do not forget to utilize the remaining dollar amounts in your children's recreation and vacation funds. These amounts will expire as of March 31, 2021 and cannot be carried forward to the following year (the ability to carry forward was a one-time approval by the province during March 2020). Your FCSWs have the current total remaining dollar amounts – if you are unsure as to how much money is left in these funds, please contact your FCSW.

Please remember that in most cases (CSD affiliated, out of region, Metis Settlements), you will require an approval from caseworker for items purchased. This means that it would be best practice to receive verbal approval prior to purchasing the items as well as to have the items purchased by the beginning or middle of March 2021 as your FCSW will need to submit a formal approval request for signature before the end of the fiscal year.

### Monthly Documents

Please remember that Jordan (reception) is collecting and tracking all monthly paperwork that comes into the office; he will be recording when this paperwork is received each month. All foster parents must submit their paperwork by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month; if this is not handed in on time, the office may hold back your skill fee until received and added to the following payroll date.

### PRAT Name Change

The Placement Resources Assessment Team has changed its name to the Provider Concern Response Unit (PCR).

### International Intervention Record Checks

When a caregiver completes a request for a Child Intervention Record Check, the caregiver reports on any jurisdictions they have resided in within the past five years. The IRC team completing the check completes the Alberta check and then submits a request through the International Social Services Canada (ISSC) for an international check. Adoption Services connects with ISSC to determine if the country in question maintains a system whereby the check can be completed. If a system exists, then the check can proceed. The timeline in which the check can be completed depends greatly on the country itself, which may or may not have the capacity to undergo such a check. If no system exists, Adoption Services will send an email advising of same.

If caregivers can advise the agency in advance of individuals who may be visiting them for an extended period of time, the visitor could obtain the background check in their country of residence before arriving in Alberta, which would be a much simpler process. Given how long the check takes to be completed out of country, it may not arrive before the 2-4 week visitor leaves. It is important to note that these requests need to be made through Children's Services as the Ministry is the one that has a contract with International Social Services Canada (ISSC). In circumstances where visitors come from a country that does not have a Children's Services intervention system and formal checks cannot be completed, the foster care support worker will consult with program and agency management team to identify a process that meets their requirements.