

"Providing children and families with safety, stability and belonging"

## Pathways Family Services

# **Foster Care News**

www.pathwaysfamilyservices.com e-mail: general@pathwaysfamilyservices.com

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### Please Note:

Pathways office will be closed the week of December 26th to 30th inclusive, re-opening January 2nd.

Because of this, payroll cutoff for the December 16th to 31st pay period will now be at 4:00 pm on December 23rd.

Contact on-call with any emergencies during this time.

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### Come join us for a new and exciting Christmas Party!

The party will feature GLOW BOWLING (socks/indoor shoes recommended), games, gifts, prizes, Santa Claus, and an opportunity for family pictures with the Jolly Old Guy himself. Each family will receive a credit for the concession to purchase drinks & snacks (full lunch will not be provided).



Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm Sherwood Park Bowl 975 Fir Street in Sherwood Park

(behind the Boston Pizza on Ordze Road)

You will receive an email with a link to Survey Monkey to RSVP. If you didn't receive this - please let us know ASAP. RSVP by December 2nd.

Your vehicle registration will expire December 31st if the last name the vehicle is registered under begins with



# New Format for Child/Youth Heath & Wellness



The new format will be sent out by the end of November. October Reports are still due in the old format. Watch your email for further information.



# Core and Supplemental Training is fully available now through Child and Family Services training program.

During COVID restrictions we met our expectations with some outside trainers for First Aid and Suicide Awareness. We encourage you to register for training hosted by the Government as this is the only way you can be reimbursed for childcare, mileage, and meal (for full day training). The link for training with the exception of First Aid and Medication Administration is <a href="https://prideonline.org/">https://prideonline.org/</a> and the courses available can be found at <a href="https://alignab.ca/pride-preservice/">https://alignab.ca/pride-preservice/</a>

Dates for First Aid and Medication Administration come out separately and are registered through <a href="mailto:CS.CaregiverTraining@gov.ab.ca">CS.CaregiverTraining@gov.ab.ca</a>. Pam will forward these to families as soon as she receives them. If you have any questions, please reach out to her. A reminder that child care is also available when you are virtually training for the length of the training only.

# Indigenous Languages Corner

### Cree

Merry Christmas
miyo-manitowe-kîsikânisik
mee-yoo-manny-towee-key-see-can-sick



## Saulteaux

Christmas Day
manitowi kisikan
man ih tow ee KEY shaw gun

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."

NOTE: Any child placed in your home after October 31st may be reimbursed for the cost of one Christmas gift. Foster parents should request approval from the Case Worker or CSD Worker, and receipts need to be forwarded to your Foster Care Support Worker.



### Transition Plan Age Matrix - Part 4

#### Age 17 -

#### PDD Eligibility Determined by 17

If the youth applied for PDD, their eligibility for the program will be determined by their 17th birthday, if not sooner. Meeting the criteria for eligibility can be difficult however, so be prepared to discuss alternatives to PDD support with the PDD representative and the youth's caseworker.

#### Review Transition to Independence Plan

At 17 the youth's caseworker will want to review the plan, insuring that the youth is making progress, completing the tasks assigned, and adjust the goals if needed.

#### Start Collecting Household Items

Seventeen is a good age to start collecting household items such as furnishings, kitchen items and all the other things one needs to start a home. Foster parents have indicated that friends, relatives, members of the youth's support circle and even caseworkers may have leads on free, used items. Often, people are happy to be able to contribute and enjoy the chance to benefit a person who has been special to them.

#### June 1: Deadline for Advancing Future Bursary Application

If the youth is planning to use the *Advancing Futures Bursary* funding that is available to them, be aware that the deadline for receiving applications is JUNE 1st of the year they are planning to attend. However, if the youth is planning on using the funds for a trades program the deadline will be in relation to the start date of the training. Contact the Bursary program for more details.

#### 17 + 1 day - begin Application for Guardianship/Trusteeship

If you've determined that the youth will benefit from a Guardian and/or a Trustee, start working on the application process immediately after the youth turns 17. If the youth is Indigenous, consult with his or her band about guardianship.

#### 17 1/2 - Confirm Living Arrangements & Program Eligibility

For Adult programs, all documents required for service need to be completed and submitted. Living arrangements past the youth's 18th birthday need to be confirmed. Many foster parents have talked about the risks associated with this time in a youth's life, noting that the many uncertainties and pressure of the unknown can lead a youth to implode and derail the process. By confirming living arrangements and other supports, we alleviate some of these pressures and allow a youth to focus on completing school and the work outlined in the Transition to Independence Plan.

#### 17 1/2 - Start AISH Process

The application can take some time to work through, so contact the AISH program at 17 1/2 to get the ball rolling.

#### 17 1/2 - Start the "Supports for Financial Assistance" Agreement Application Process

The Supports for Financial Assistance Agreement can provide financial supports for a youth who has aged out of foster or kinship care, but continues to need support. The youth's caseworker will have details and help you in the process. The amount of support provided is based on negotiated rates, not foster or kinship rates, and can vary depending on individual circumstances as well as funding, but the department has a significant amount of latitude to negotiate the supports needed, including mentoring rates for whoever is leading the youth through the transition training.

#### 17 3/4 - Submit Application for AISH

Source: Transitioning From Care: A Guide For Caregivers - 2nd Edition

### Pathways Family Services

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# December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Direct Deposit Date	8	9	10
Family Christmas Party	12	13	14	15 Payroll Cutoff At Noon	16	17
18	19	20	21	Direct Deposit Date	PAYROLL CUTOFF AT 4:00 PM	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Pathways Office Closed 26 - 30
Please Contact On Call with any emergencies