

RRDSSAB NEWS



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This Issues Highlights...

- Children's Services News
- New Location
- RRDSSAB Board Members
- Land Ambulance News
- Ontario Works News
- Non-Profit Housing News
- RRDSSAB Housing Update
- Child Care Update -Cont.

New Location

We have moved to 450 Scott Street! Watch for *Grand Opening* information in the coming months!



Children's Services News

The following is the second part of a three part series regarding information that can assist you in finding quality Child Care in order to meet your specific needs. This information as accessed from www.gov.on.ca under the *Children* tab. *Please note that Part 1 is outlined in the September 2007 issue of the Rainy River DSSAB Newsletter now available on line at www.rrdssab.on.ca.

PART 2 OF 3: SOME QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN RESEARCHING THE CHILD CARE PROGRAM THAT BEST MEETS YOUR NEEDS:

As a parent, you want to choose the kind of care that will help your child learn and grow. You want to your child to be safe and happy. Here are some questions that may help you in determining which child care provider may best suit the needs of you and your child. It is a good to call the child care providers you are considering and ask them a few questions. The answers to these questions can help you choose the places you want to visit.

What to ask a home child care agency:

- How does the agency choose providers?
- What happens when providers are sick?
- Do providers have special training?
- What is the agency's philosophy or approach when working with providers?
- Do providers encourage parents to drop in?
- What hours of care are available? Are they flexible?
- How many children do providers accept?
- How old are the children?
- How soon is care available?
- What is the cost of care? Are there any additional charges?
- Is there a charge when children are sick or away on holiday?
- Is there an application fee?
- Is fee subsidy available?



Continued on page two...

RRDSSAB Board Members

Alberton:	Barb Cournoyer
Atikokan:	Dennis Brown
Chapple:	Peter Van Heyst
Dawson:	Linda Armstrong
Emo:	Gary Judson
Fort Frances:	Sharon Tibbs
Lake of the Woods:	Valarie Pizey (Vice-Chair)
LaVallee:	Jim Belluz
Morley:	Gary Gamsby
Rainy River:	Debbie Ewald
Rainy River East:	Michael Lewis (Chair)
Rainy River Central:	John Callan
Rainy River West:	Wade Desserre

excellence in Governance

Land Ambulance News



The Rainy River DSSAB is working toward placing twenty-five Automated Electronic Defibrillators (AEDs), throughout the Rainy River District. These defibrillators will be placed in community centres and halls within the district to provide a rapid response to individuals in cardiac arrest prior to Emergency Medical Services arrival. The RRDSSAB is working in partnership with Ontario Heart and Stroke who provides funding for purchase and training. RRDSSAB, through Rainy River District Emergency Medical Services will provide the training. Several AED models have been evaluated and a selection on the successful vendor will be made shortly. Each municipality in the district will be contacted shortly to discuss placement of a defibrillator within their community.

~Dan McCormick, Health Services Manager

Ontario Works Update

The Ontario Works Program is creatively preparing new training programs and workshops for our participants to participate in such as: On the Job Training, Service Excellence and Employment Readiness Assessments.



An *Employment Questionnaire* is being developed and will be mailed out to employers in the Rainy River District to be completed by February. This questionnaire will allow the OW Program to evaluate what skills, training and experience each organization requires of their prospective employees. We appreciate any feedback you may have. If you have questions or hiring needs, please contact Krista Ballard at 807-274-5349, ext. 307, or via email at kristab@rrdssab.on.ca.

~ Krista Ballard, Employment Support Worker

Non-Profit Housing News

The RRDSSAB overlooks 10 Non-profit Housing Providers around the District and is responsible for ensuring Housing Programs are administered according to relevant legislation and regulations. These *Non-profit Housing Providers* are: Flinders Non-profit, Atikokan Crisis Center, Fort Frances Native Urban Housing, Rivercrest Terrace, Golden Age Manor, Morely Municipal Housing, Fort Frances Municipal Non-profit Housing, Faith Non-profit, Atikokan Native Non-profit Homes Corp. and Columbus Place for Seniors. These Non-profit providers provide accommodations for individuals that qualify for Rent-geared-to-income. A member of a household who wishes to receive rent-geared-to-income assistance, for a unit in a designated housing project, may apply to the RRDSSAB at 450 Scott Street or call 274-5349 for more information.



~Sandra Weir, Non-Profit Housing Manager

RRDSSAB Housing Update

The Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board (RRDSSAB) is pleased to announce that renovations have begun for the modification of one unit at Lady Frances Place.



The Affordable Housing Program – Northern Homeowner Repair Program has received 18 applications to date in 2007, they are at varying stages, from awaiting contractor estimates to inspections in process. The three RRDSSAB approved applicants have prospect of commencing construction this month and in early spring. For more information, or to pick up an application form, contact your local Municipal Office or call the Metis Nation of Ontario at (800) 891-5882.

~Dianne Faragher, RRDSSAB Housing Manager

Child Care Update—Cont.

What to ask a child care centre:

- What are your hours?
- How old are the children you care for?
- How many children are in a group?
- How many staff members care for each group?
- What training does the staff have?
- Can the centre accommodate the special needs of children?
- Are parents encouraged to drop in?
- What is the cost? Are there any additional charges?
- Is there a charge when children are sick or away on holiday?
- Is there an application fee?
- Is fee subsidy available?
- Do you have a waiting list?
- Are meals and snacks nutritious?

**What to ask
a Child
Care
Centre...**

What to ask a school-age care program:

- What are the hours?
- How many children are in a group?
- How many staff members care for each group?
- What training and experience does staff have?
- Are parents encouraged to drop in?
- Can children choose to do homework?
- What is the relationship between the program and the school?
- Can children participate in after-school activities and still be monitored by the child care program?
- Is transportation provided if children have to travel a distance to and from school?
- What happens when a child does not arrive at the centre at the expected time?
- What is the cost? Are there any additional costs?
- Is there a charge when children are sick or away on holiday?

Is there an application fee?

Is there a waiting list?

Once you have made the calls, you've narrowed down your search. Now you're ready to visit the programs you're considering. Watch for part three of this series in our up-coming *Newsletter*.

This section will outline what to look for in site visits!

**Now you are
ready to
visit the
programs...**

~Kim Gardiman, Children's Services Manager