

RRDSSAB NEWS

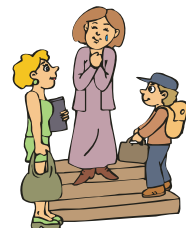


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This Issues Highlights...

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Children's Services News



Child Care Fee Subsidies in the Rainy River District:

If you or someone you know requires financial assistance to cover the cost of Licensed Child Care – help may be available! Child Care Fee Subsidy assists those families who require Child Care while they are involved in work, school, and training programs or have a child with special care needs.

What is Fee Subsidy?

Fee Subsidy is financial support for those who qualify to assist with paying child care fees in a licensed setting. You may qualify for full or partial subsidy. The net income from the Notice of Assessment or the Canada Child Tax Benefit is used to determine the level of subsidy. The following is a sample of what the *Daily Parent Fee* would be based on the level of income identified:

ANNUAL ADJUSTED INCOME	DAILY PARENT FEE
Under \$20,000	\$0.00
\$25,000	\$1.92
\$30,000	\$3.83
\$35,000	\$5.75
\$40,000	\$7.66

If you would like more information, please call (807) 274-5349, ext. 241 or access information at www.rrdssab.on.ca.

Fee Subsidy is available at the following licensed Early Learning & Child Care Services in the Rainy River District:

Atikokan:

Rainbow Child Care Centre (807)597-4517
2-3-4 Playgroup Inc. (807)597-1464

Devlin:

Country View Child Care Centre (807)486-1264

Fort Frances:

Fort Frances (FF) Children's Complex (807)274-5457
FF Private Home Day Care Centre (807)274-6918
FF Nursery School Inc. (807)274-5653

Rainy River:

Learn, Laugh & Play Children's Centre (807) 852-4204

~Kim Gardiman, Children's Services Manager

Social Housing

Maintenance Department

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to our Social Housing Maintenance Department who have gone above and beyond this summer in maintaining our housing properties throughout the Rainy River District. Well Done!



~Donna Dittaro, CAO

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

Ontario Works Update

If you have a child under age 18, your social assistance has changed, due to the new monthly Ontario Child Benefit payments.



If you have a child under age 18, you will see the following changes in your social assistance payment:

- You no longer receive a “basic needs” amount for your child;
- The National Child Benefit Supplement is no longer being deducted; and
- You will no longer receive the Back-to-School and Winter Clothing Allowances.

What do these changes mean?

These changes mean that:

- You may receive less from social assistance; but
- Your new monthly Ontario Child Benefit payment and your full National Child Benefit Supplement payment will make up the difference over the year. You will continue to receive other help for your children through social assistance (such as shelter allowance and health benefits).

The monthly amounts for Temporary Care Assistance have not changed.

Some families may see a new Transition Child Benefit...

Transition Child Benefit

Some families may see a new “Transition Child Benefit” on their social assistance payment stub. This is a benefit for families on social assistance that are not receiving the Ontario Child Benefit or are receiving less than the maximum amount of the Ontario Child Benefit.

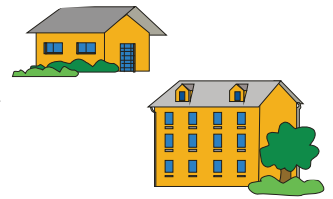
You do not need to apply for the Transition Child Benefit. If you are eligible, your local office will add it to your social assistance payment. Your eligibility for the Transition Child Benefit is based on the information you give to your local office to calculate your social assistance payment. Also, to receive the Transition Child Benefit you must be trying or have tried to get the Ontario Child Benefit and the National Child Benefit Supplement. If you are receiving the Transition Child Benefit while you are waiting for your Ontario Child Benefit to start, it’s important to know:

- When you get your first monthly Ontario Child Benefit payment, you may also receive a lump-sum Ontario Child Benefit and National Child Benefit Supplement payment to cover the months that you waited for your Ontario Child Benefit to start.
- Because you received the Transition Child Benefit for the same months you waited for the Ontario Child Benefit, your next social assistance payment will be reduced.

~ Shelley Shute, Ontario Works Manager

Housing Update

The 2008 Provincial Budget announced \$100m in capital repair funding for social housing units. This funding is a one-time payment to all 47 Service Managers. The \$100 million was allocated on the basis of each Service Managers current share of the social housing stock. On June 26, 2008, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing advised that a transfer of \$248, 329.00 has been made to the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board. The purpose of the funds is for urgent social housing capital repairs including energy efficiency improvements. Funds will be distributed to those sites that are eligible under certain criteria and eligibility such as health and safety.



The purpose of the funding is for urgent social housing capital repairs

~Dianne Faragher, RRDSSAB Housing Manager and Sandra Weir, Non-Profit Housing Manager

Employee Service Awards

On June 4, 2008 RRDSSAB employees attended their Annual Staff Meeting. Ruth Armstrong of Vision Management facilitated an excellent visionary change management session. Donna Dittaro, CAO presented the following long-term service awards:



- 5 year:** Andree DeVabre
Shae Felix
Matthew Jackson
Kristie McQuay
Cheryl Morrison
Melanie Sheppard
Bosko Stopa
Chris Wielinga
Roger Wilson
- 10 year:** Coralyn Hershey
- 15 year:** Karen Antonson
GayDonna Baker
Lucille MacDonald
- 20 year:** Gabriele Emond

Employees were presented with a *Certificate of Recognition* and gift as a token of our appreciation for their dedicated years of service.

~Joanne Spence, Personnel & Policy Officer

Housing Vision & Values

The staff of the Social Housing Department recently met to define and develop the vision for social housing in the Rainy River District. Several key messages were identified and the following Vision and Values Statement Resulted.



“Beyond Bricks & Mortar”

Fundamental Values:

Improved Quality of Life

Housing that is Safe & Affordable

Working Together to Promote Positive Change

Empowerment of Tenants, Staff & Community

A Holistic Approach to Service

Housing that Staff are Proud to Deliver & Tenants are Proud to Live In.

Thank you to the Social Housing staff for their commitment and dedication to our tenants!

~Donna Dittaro, CAO

Thought for the Day...

The measure of a person’s real character is what he would do if he knew he would never be found out.



~ Thomas Macauley



Take time to ENJOY your summer!



**Are you in need of financial assistance?
Atikokan Call 597-1431
All Other Areas Call 274-5349**

Land Ambulance News

We have another paramedic joining the Rainy River District Emergency Medical Services. Robin Wakefield completed her initial training the week of July 14th. She is traveling the district with shifts already scheduled in Emo and Atikokan. She joins our casual pool to help ensure vacation, sick leave, & statutory holidays are covered through the year.



We also need to welcome our newest junior paramedics. Ryan & (Laurie) Mosely, received their bundle of joy on May 5th, welcome to Arianna, 8 lbs plus a bit, according to Grandpa Jim. On June 9th, Kristi & (Trevor) McQuay greeted their newest addition, Samuel, weighing in at 8 lbs 10 1/2 oz. Not far behind, on June 25th, Jennifer & (Chris) Olson welcomed, Emily, weighting 7 lbs, 4 oz, Congratulations to all the families. Keep posted, we are expecting a couple more additions in the near future.

Installation of the mounts for the laptops has been completed in the ambulances. A few program adjustments will be completed shortly allowing our Power Users, to start testing the system. Once everything is confirmed to be operating to required standards the entire fleet will switch over to the electronic patient record.

~Dan McCormick, Health Services Manager

The Safety Corner

10 Smart Routes to Bicycle Safety

1. Protect your head, wear a helmet.
2. See and be seen.
3. Avoid biking at night.
4. Stay alert, always keep a lookout for obstacles in your path.
5. Go with the flow, the safe way is the right way.
6. Check for traffic. Always be aware of the traffic around you.
7. Learn the rules of the road. Obey traffic laws.
8. Assure bicycle readiness. Make sure your bicycle is adjusted properly.
9. Stop it. Always check brakes before riding.
10. Don't flip over your bicycle. Wheels should be securely fastened.

