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STFC – SUPPORTING FOSTER FAMILIES

## LET'S CONNECT...

# WEEKLY Communiqué



### IN PERSON KAMLOOPS Foster Parent Drop-In Wed: 9:00am – 11:00am (PST)

The Loft - 290 Maple Street  
(2nd Floor of the grey building)

### IN PERSON EAST KOOTENAY Foster Parent Drop-In Wed April 12: 10:00am (MST)

at 1824 Hunter Rd. Cranbrook  
EK Drop-ins: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays

NO Drop-in  
on April 5

### VIRTUAL WEST KOOTENAY Foster Parent Drop-In Fridays 11:00am - 12noon (PST) Zoom ID: 250 608 7674

### KERI ISHAM (Power Up Education) Sexual Health Education For Children/Youth with Support Needs K - 7 Thursday, April 6, 2023 9:30am - 11:30 am (PST)

1. What is sexuality?
2. Why teach sexual health education early?
3. Why teach sexual health education to children with special needs?
4. Why children with special needs are at greater risk of sexual abuse.
5. Other risk factors.
6. What children need to know and when.

#### Can't make the date? No worries!!

Register and you will receive the limited time presentation replay link after the training. Please register in advance via the following link by no later than Tuesday, April 4:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYpduusri4qE9wO0uLYTdy5xgT7WNMCZBUw>

For more info, please contact Marna Forsyth

Cell: (250) 609-2017 or email:  
mforsyth@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca



Monthly Maintenance Rates	Current Rate	As of April 1
Children aged 0-11	\$1024.64	\$1465.86
Children aged 12-19	\$1124.19	\$1655.91
Monthly Service Rates	Current Rate	As of April 1
Level 1	\$458.02	\$591.90
Level 2 – 1 child	\$1140.40	\$1473.74
Level 2 – 2 children	\$1968.68	\$2544.13
Level 2 – 3 + children	\$2692.92	\$3480.06
Level 3 – 1 child	\$1816.66	\$2347.67
Level 3 – 2 children	\$3113.12	\$4023.08

Reminder: Payments are paid around the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month following so you will see the increase in May, 2023.

### FREE ONE HOUR WEBINAR FROM CRISIS AND TRAUMA RESOURCE INSTITUTE Adolescent Brain Development: Myths and Truth

Want to better understand what's changing in the brain during the tumultuous stage of adolescence? This webinar explores the neurobiology and development of the adolescent brain, as well as the subsequent effects on cognition, emotions, physiology, relationships, and behaviour. This webinar also includes PowerPoint slides.

To find out more and to watch this limited time webinar (until March 31), visit:

<https://ctrinstitute.com/free-webinar/#video>



# ACCESS TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION EXPANDED FOR FORMER YOUTH IN CARE

News Release March 14

by Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills

Former youth in care in B.C. of all ages will have their tuition waived for post-secondary education as government takes action to remove age requirements for the Tuition Waiver Program.

In 2017, the B.C. government developed the Provincial Tuition Waiver Program that waived tuition and fees for former youth in care between 19 and 26. Effective Aug. 1, 2023, this expanded tuition waiver will be made available to all B.C. former youth in care at any age as part of StrongerBC's Future Ready plan to make education and training more accessible and affordable.

"Our government wants to ensure that all former youth in care can access post-secondary education and skills training, which will open up doors and opportunities and help them to thrive," said Selina Robinson, Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills. "Removing the age restriction for waived tuition will reduce barriers to post-secondary education, support people in pursuing good-paying and meaningful jobs, and support a more inclusive, balanced and diverse workforce."

The Provincial Tuition Waiver Program covers a wide range of undergraduate study options, including courses leading to a certificate, diploma or undergraduate degree, non-credit courses, apprenticeship programs and continuing education courses.

"Even more young people who were in government care can now pursue their education goals and set themselves up for a bright future as a result of the expansion of this tuition waiver program," said Mitzi Dean, Minister of Children and Family Development. "This builds on our government's new suite of supports for youth transitioning to adulthood from care."

Individual grants for as much as \$3,500 per year will also be available to support Provincial Tuition Waiver Program recipients in covering additional educational expenses such as textbooks, internet costs and computers.

To read the full article, learn about qualifications or to find out more, visit: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2023PSFS0017-000304>

## CANFASD LAUNCHES NEW COURSE: SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT AND FASD

"We are excited to announce that our newest online course just launched! Substance Use and Treatment in FASD is a Level II online training course designed to support substance use and addictions professionals when treating individuals with FASD. However, anyone supporting an individual with FASD who uses substances will benefit from this training."

"This online training was developed alongside the guide 'Moving Towards FASD-Informed Care In Substance Use Treatment'. Both serve to outline current practices that can support individuals with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) who are in treatment for substance use.

Across Canada, substance use and addiction represent serious health concerns. High levels of alcohol and drug misuse are reported for individuals with FASD. The brain-based differences that people with FASD have contribute to challenges engaging or remaining in substance use treatment. These difficulties are above and beyond the many other barriers that can exist for anyone seeking treatment.

The course includes four primary section that contain a total of 17 modules of content:

- ↳ Understanding the Person
- ↳ Applying an FASD Lens to the Treatment Cycle
- ↳ Enhancing Program Practices to be FASD-Informed
- ↳ Enacting Person-First Program Philosophies"

A certificate will be provided upon completion.

For more info and to register visit:

<https://estore.canfasd.ca/substance-use-and-treatment-in-fasd>

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

## SUPPORT TO FAMILY CARE NETWORK PROGRAM

Program Coordinator: Kari Beppe

[kbepple@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca](mailto:kbepple@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca)

Cell: (250) 819-1919

Office: (236) 421-0031

Toll Free: 1-877-376-3660

Network Facilitators:

Renata Bonthoux (250) 319-6557

[rbonthoux@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca](mailto:rbonthoux@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca)

Krista Sherwood (250) 819-5819

[ksherwood@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca](mailto:ksherwood@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca)

Marna Forsyth (250) 609-2017

[mforsyth@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca](mailto:mforsyth@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca)

Gerri Burleigh (250) 426-6013

[gburleigh@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca](mailto:gburleigh@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca)

Jayne Wesko (250) 608-7674

[jwesko@arcprograms.com](mailto:jwesko@arcprograms.com)



### WELCOME TO FED CONNECTS!

Fed Connects is a virtual space where the Fed Family can come together, share their experiences, stay well and learn new things!

WORKSHOPS • LIVE EVENTS • DISCUSSIONS • INFO SHARING  
AND LOTS MORE!

BY COMING TOGETHER, WE'RE NOT ALONE

Have a youth in care? Be sure to check out our website or Facebook page!

Need resources or information?  
Check out our website!

Are you wanting more information about upcoming training in your area, helpful resources or information about our program? Find all this and much more at our website:

[www.icsfp.info](http://www.icsfp.info)



Find us on Facebook!

Connect with us on our

'ICS Support To Family Care Network' Facebook page and our agency's 'Interior Community Services' Facebook page.