



## Calgary and Area Regional Collaborative Service Delivery e-Newsletter

### Calgary and Area RCSD Looking at the New Year Ahead

Calgary and Area RCSD welcomes you back from the winter holidays and wishes you the best in 2017! Whatever your resolutions for the New Year, remember to take time to care for yourself. We do our best work for children, youth, and their families when we are well ourselves. Curl up with a book, do some yoga stretches, or anything that keeps you grounded.

### Partner Highlight: Attendance Innovation Campaign from Rocky View Schools

Attending school on a regular basis is fundamental to the positive development of academic, language, social and work-related skills. In Alberta it is estimated that over 100,000 students are impacted by school absenteeism and are at a significant risk of negative future outcomes, such as economic disadvantage, incarceration, and mental health challenges.



Recognizing the prevalence of absenteeism, Rocky View Schools launched the Attendance Innovation Campaign which aims to educate communities on the importance of attendance, empower schools to utilize data to monitor and improve practice, and eliminate barriers to attendance through a system of tiered interventions. Of these three elements, the Campaign relies heavily on educating and collaborating with local support agencies to provide educational, economic, physical and mental health support to vulnerable students. The emphasis of this work is to provide wrap-around support for children and their families to address larger issues that contribute to absenteeism. This innovative approach is expected to increase attendance rates, improve academic achievement, boost school engagement, and bolster school-community partnerships to support students in need.

Calgary and Area RCSD is pleased to promote work that includes partnering with children, youth, and their families, encourages collaboration and information sharing between service providers and professionals in the best interests of the child, and providing a continuum of supports and services to address a child's needs at home, at school, and in their community.

For more information visit the [website](#), or contact [Dr. Mitchell Colp](#).

### Upcoming Opportunities

#### Reconciliation Through Indigenous Education

##### Online Course

January 24 – March 7, 2017

This course is intended to help you envision how Indigenous histories, perspectives, worldviews, and approaches to learning can be made part of the work we do in classrooms, organizations, communities, and our everyday experiences in ways that are thoughtful and respectful. In this course, reconciliation emphasizes changing institutional structures, practices, and policies, as well as personal and professional ideologies to create environments that are committed to strengthening our relationships with Indigenous peoples.

Click [here](#) for more information

### **Timely Autism Diagnosis: Considerations Across the Lifespan**

**Webinar**

**January 25, 2017**

This presentation will review progress in approaches to early diagnosis, with special reference to early signs and experience with diagnostic assessment of younger siblings of children with ASD.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

### **International Play Association Triennial World Conference**

**Conference**

**September 13 – 16, 2017**

This conference will bring together dedicated play researchers, practitioners, and advocates from around the globe to celebrate play, understand its many benefits, and provide all children with the chance to engage in rich, meaningful free play... every day.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

## **Reports and Research**

### **HEADSTRONG Video**

In a previous edition of the eNewsletter we shared information with you about the HEADSTRONG Youth Summit supported by Calgary and Area RCSD. We are pleased to share with you a video that highlights the activities from the event and gives voice to the youth attendees and presenters from the day.

Click [here](#) to view the video.

### **Transforming Our Realities: The Determinants of Health and Indigenous Peoples**

The National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health hosted a series of cross-sectoral national gatherings on the social determinants of Indigenous peoples' health involving representatives from diverse organizations, governments, health organizations, practitioners, and researchers. This report contains the findings and results of these gatherings.

Click [here](#) to access the report.

### **New Canadian Paediatric Nursing Standards**

Recognizing the unique dimensions and growing complexity of health care needs of children in Canada and their families, a group of nursing leaders and clinicians from across Canada developed specific paediatric nursing standards. These standards are aimed to serve as a framework for delivery across all sectors and to provide consistency in describing expertise and school of practice of a paediatric nurse.

Click [here](#) to access the document.

### **Fentanyl**

Alberta Health Services has created a page with information on Fentanyl. Be sure to check out the "Useful Resources" tab and the links specifically for Parents and Teachers in the middle of the page.

Click [here](#) to access the resources.

Please take a moment to forward this eNewsletter to your colleagues and encourage them to sign up at: <http://www.CalgaryandAreaRCSD.ca/news-and-events/newsletter-signup/>. We send out an eNewsletter once a month between September and June with reviewed information relevant to everyone who works together for children and youth.