

Community Connections – February 23, 2021



Good Morning:

Please feel free to pass this information on to anyone who might be interested.

You can find all of the past editions on Niagara Knowledge Exchange by [Clicking Here](#)

Also, please let us know if there is anything you have found that has inspired you and we will share in future newsletters



Spotlight: March 8 is International Women's Day

The theme for this year's virtual celebrations of International Women's Day is #choosetochallenge. From the **International Women's Day (IWD)** website: "A challenged world is an alert world and from challenge comes change. So let's all choose to challenge. How will you help forge a gender equal world? Celebrate women's achievement. Raise awareness against bias. Take action for equality. [Click here](#) to learn more about IWD 2021 including resources and events,

Status of Women Canada: [Click here](#) for a number of resources including a Teacher Toolkit

UN Women: UN Women announced their theme for International Women's Day, 8 March 2021 (IWD 2021) as, "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world." This theme celebrates the tremendous efforts by women and girls around the world in shaping a more equal future and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. [Click here](#) to learn more about UN Women and their plans for IWD 2021.

United Nations: Also [check out](#) the United Nations for additional statistics, research and highlights from the 2020 International Women's Day celebrations.

Plan Canada: is encouraging girls and women across Canada and around the world to Defy Normal! By Defying Normal, women and girls everywhere can realize their right to step into their power and tap into their limitless potential. [Click here](#) to learn more on Plan Canada's website.

Women in Niagara is an advisory council of the Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce made up of volunteers that help with programming and advocacy for women in business in Niagara. In addition to all of their great work supporting women in business, they present the annual International Women's Day celebration which will be virtual this year. To learn more about this local council, [click here](#) and be sure to visit their Facebook page by [clicking here](#) for event and news updates.

Check out these Local Activities and Resources:

"Ontario has many outdoor heritage trails that remain open during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please continue following local public health advice and only visit when it is safe to do so in your region." – Doug Ford

Fort George National Historic Site: [Click here](#) for a map. The trails are free to use and available year-round, though trail conditions vary depending on the weather (trails are not salted or cleared of ice and snow in the winter).

Lieu historique national du Fort-George: [Cliquez ici](#) pour la carte. Les sentiers sont gratuits et ouverts toute l'année, quoique les conditions de piste puissent varier selon les conditions météorologiques (les sentiers ne sont pas salés, déglacés ou déneigés en hiver).

Building on Strengths: FASD Family Capacity Building Workshop: Coordinated Service Planning Provincial (CSP) Network is hosting interactive online workshops to help caregivers across Ontario increase their knowledge and practical skills to support children and youth with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. Niagara Date: March 9th, 2021 Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Spots are filling up fast! Register today at:** www.surreyplace.ca/fasd-workshops Please note that individuals

may also take advantage of any of the other dates being offered if they are unable to join the March 9, 2021 Niagara based workshop and that there are also French and Indigenous sessions available.

YMCA Social Society Program: [Click here](#) to join the YMCA for free virtual programs that provide fun social connections to help combat social isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic. Niagara adults ages 18 and up, now have the opportunity to participate in engaging social and recreational programming, allowing them to feel connected and enhance their skills.

Jeunesse, J'écoute: Nous sommes là pour toi pendant l'épidémie du COVID-19. [Cliquez ici](#) pour plus d'informations.

Kids Help Phone: [Click Here](#) to find child and youth related resources to help children cope with Covid-19.

Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce: [Click here](#) for a list of local restaurants, stores, professional services in St. Catharines and Thorold. Explore the website for additional resources such as events, councils and business updates.

South Niagara Chambers of Commerce: [Click here](#) to access the websites for the chambers of commerce for Niagara Falls, Port Colborne/Wainfleet, Welland/Pelham and Greater Fort Erie. Check out their news, learning opportunities, events and business listings.

Niagara West Chambers of Commerce: Each of the communities in Niagara West have a chamber of commerce that promotes their local businesses and services, Click on each link below to explore all that is available in each community: [Lincoln Chamber of Commerce](#); [Grimsby and District Chamber of Commerce](#); [West Lincoln Chamber of Commerce](#)

Activities and Supports for you, your clients and families:

Kids' Mental Health & COVID-19: Feeling anxious? Tired of staying apart? You're not alone! On Wednesday, February 24 at 2 p.m., discover how the stress of the COVID-19 pandemic impacts the mental health of children and families. Learn to cope with pandemic stress in a healthy way. [Click here](#) to join this YouTube live presentation.

Une spectaculaire aurore boréale illumine le ciel de l'Antarctique: Asseyez-vous, [cliquez ici](#) et regardez notre vidéo sur les aurores boréales à comme si vous étiez ici.

Kluane Lake - Northern Lights 360° Video: Sit back, [click here](#) and watch our 360° aurora video like you're actually here.

5 «webcams live» géniales pour admirer la vie sauvage: [Cliquez ici](#) quelques-unes qui ont retenu notre attention.

Live Animal Webcams to Watch at Home: [Click here](#) for the best live animal cams from around the world you can watch online for free.

My Wonder Books: this site offers free audio books for children to enjoy. Featuring illustrated traditional fairy tales like Robin Hood and Alice in Wonderland, the stories are available in six languages and can be listened to by downloading the free app. [Click here](#) to visit the website to learn more.

10 Contes pour enfants à écouter: [Cliquez ici](#) pour 10 contes audio pour au quotidien. Les élèves pourront écouter l'a narration de l'histoire soit de façon autonome ou plusieurs à la fois si vous utilisez un petit adaptateur Belkin relié au iPad.

Heritage Matters - Live with Esi Edugyan: Join Heritage Matters for a free lecture with award-winning author Esi Edugyan and a virtual visit to Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site. The award winning author of "Washington Black", Ms. Edugyan's exclusive talk will touch on the themes of Black heritage, identity, belonging and displacement. [Click here](#) to register for this free event.

Questions de patrimoine en direct avec Esi Edugyan: [Cliquez ici](#) pour Joignez-vous à nous pour une conférence gratuite donnée par l'auteure primée, Esi Edugyan, et pour une visite virtuelle du site historique de la Case de l'oncle Tom.

Gardez contact avec Nature Canada: Cliquez ici pour Découvrez ce qui se passe dans le domaine de la conservation de la nature au Canada avec Nature Canada!

Nature Canada: While staying safely home, take advantage of this time to learn more about Canadian wildlife including those species that are at risk. On Nature Canada's website you can Discover Nature – Enjoy Nature – Defend Nature and discover a variety of resources for children, families and educators. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Daily Celebrations: It has been difficult to find reasons to celebrate but thanks to Holiday Insights, you can find a reason to celebrate every day! From fun days like National Peanut Butter Day to more serious days like Earth Day, there is a reason to celebrate for everyone! Many of the days also include a link with an explanation and fun facts. [Click here](#) to visit Holiday Insights and start planning your upcoming celebrations!

Fun with Pete the Cat: Who doesn't love Pete the Cat? From his magic buttons to his white shoes to his groovy guide to life, Pete is one cool cat! [Click here](#) to visit Pete the Cat's cool website where you can watch videos, sing songs with Pete and find lots of fun printable activities to keep everyone busy. If you are interested in reading Pete the Cat books, contact your local library to arrange a curbside pick-up of some of his collection of books.

Stay up-to-date:

"For almost a year, Canada's borders have been closed to foreign travelers. Less than 2% of COVID-19 cases are linked to returning Canadians. However, due to new variants, we are strengthening border measures to keep you and your family safe." – Justin Trudeau

Ontario's vaccine distribution implementation plan: [Click here](#) to learn about Ontario's Vaccine Distribution Implementation Plan.

Plan de mise en œuvre de la distribution des vaccins de l'Ontario: [Cliquez ici](#) et en savoir plus sur le Plan de mise en œuvre de la distribution des vaccins de l'Ontario.

Niagara Health: The arrival of the first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine in the Niagara region is imminent. We are proud to work with our community partners to deliver the first doses of the vaccine in the Niagara region. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Niagara Health: L'arrivée des premières doses du vaccin contre la COVID-19 dans la région de Niagara est imminente. Nous sommes fiers de collaborer avec nos partenaires communautaires pour administrer les premières doses du vaccin dans la région de Niagara. [Cliquez ici](#) pour en savoir plus.

COVID-19 response framework: keeping Ontario safe and open: Read how we're keeping Ontario safe and open, including regional health measures and sector-specific public health and workplace safety measures. [Click Here](#)

Cadre d'intervention pour la COVID-19 : Garder l'Ontario en sécurité et ouvert: Apprenez comment nous gardons l'Ontario en sécurité et ouvert, notamment au moyen de mesures de santé régionales et de mesures de santé publique et de sécurité au travail propres à chaque secteur. [Cliquez ici](#)

Sortez en toute sécurité durant COVID-19: Vos actions comptent – faites des choix éclairés pour assurer votre sécurité et celle des autres. [Cliquez ici](#) ou [Télécharger en format PDF](#)

Niagara Region Public Health Daily Covid-19 Updates: [Click Here](#)

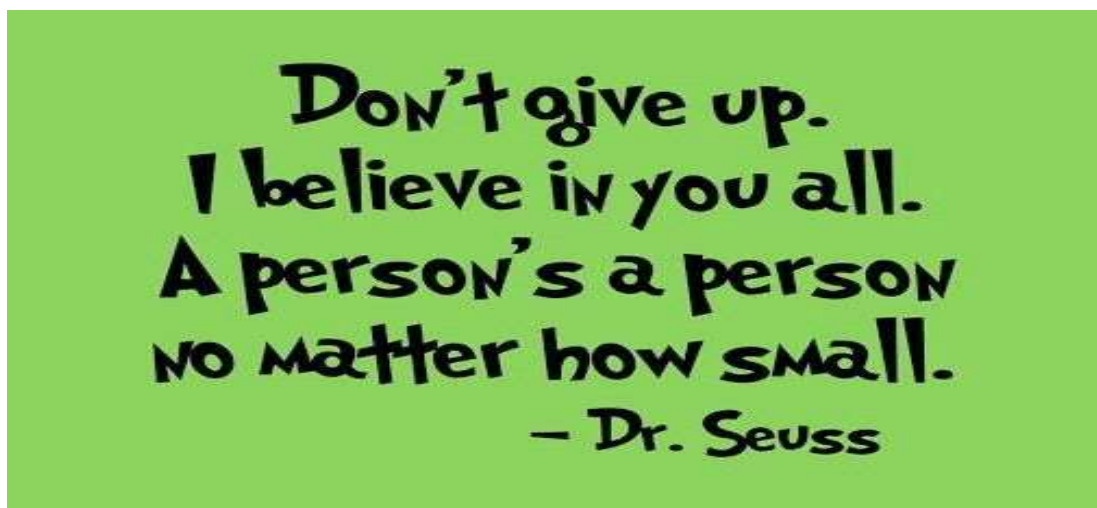
Niagara Region Community Resources: is working with the community to ensure residents are connected to resources, services, programs and support during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Click Here](#)

Ontario Government Covid-19 Update Page: [Click Here](#) (this site has the information available in many other languages)

Mise à jour Covid-19 du gouvernement de l'Ontario: [Cliquez ici](#)

Health Canada Covid-19 Update Page: [Click here](#)

Gouvernement du Canada - Maladie à coronavirus (COVID-19): [Cliquez ici](#)



We would like to apologize if you received multiple copies of this email. We are trying to reach out to as many early years educators and staff as possible. Please share with all of your staff, clients, families or anyone who is not on this email list.

Take Care and Stay Healthy

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PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID

We need the **community's unwavering support** to keep the transmission of the virus down in the community.



Wear a mask.



6 feet



**Maintain a physical distance of 6 feet
(2 metres) from others.**



**Practice meticulous hand
hygiene at all times.**