

Community Connections – November 17



NIAGARA
CHILDREN'S
PLANNING COUNCIL



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 Event: Christmas in Niagara

The holiday season has always represented a time to reflect on the good things, celebrate annual traditions, and connect with friends and family. Despite an unusual 2020 that has limited our social interactions and travel, there is no reason this holiday season can't be filled with fun Christmas activities, even if they are socially distanced! With decorations to be hung, seasonal recipes to be followed, and Christmas cards to be put in the mail, there are plenty of holiday-themed experiences to keep us all entertained. Here are a few we have found for you. Check out your local municipalities website and social media to keep up with all events as they are announced.



Glow Gardens: Take a leisurely cruise and enjoy larger-than-life reindeer, teddy bears, ornaments and a deLIGHTful 30+ foot tree! You can really set the holiday mood with GLOW FM radio. Turn it up and sing along to holiday favourites. [Click Here](#) to purchase tickets and learn more.

Winter Festival of Lights: The most enchanting of Niagara Falls attractions, the 38th annual Ontario Power Generation Winter Festival of Lights is Canada's largest FREE outdoor light festival. Experience the spectacular displays with 3 million lights along the Niagara Parkway, Dufferin Islands and across Niagara Falls. [Click Here](#) to find times and routes.

Christmas in Port Colborne: The town looks forward to having you join them for the 2020 holiday season. [Click Here](#) to find out about the decorating contest, downtown light display and many other wonderful holiday activities for you and your family.

Christmas in Pelham: This year's events and Christmas in Pelham traditions will take a modified approach to ensure the community's safety. [Click Here](#) to learn more about the Reverse Parade, Christmas Market, self-guided tour of lights and much more.

Wainfleet Vendor Market: [Click Here](#) to learn more about this event running November 22, 29 and December 6

Niagara Falls Christmas Market: featuring a large selection of local vendors; every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from November 14th-December 20th starting at 5pm and going until 10pm. [Click Here](#) to learn more.

Welland Winter Lights: Do you have a beautifully lit house in your neighbourhood? Is there a downtown business that you think is prize-worthy? [Click Here](#) for nomination form, routes and information. [Click Here](#) for other holiday events in Welland.

Royal Botanical Gardens: Experience the magic of the holiday season under the stars as historic Hendrie Park transforms into a winter wonderland of nature and light. This unique outdoor experience guides visitors along Hendrie Park's picturesque pathways adorned with charming festive lights, including 7 magical displays that tell the stories of unique winter wonders! [Click Here](#) for more information and to purchase tickets.

Celebrating the Holidays in the midst of a Pandemic: Feeling stressed and uncertain about the upcoming holiday season? Check out these informative sites to help you find alternate activities and help you navigate through this unique year.

7 Safe Ways to Celebrate Christmas That Have Nothing to Do With Zoom: [Click Here](#) to find joy this holiday season—even if coronavirus cases change your traditions.

8 façons de célébrer les événements pendant la pandémie: [Cliquez ici](#) La pandémie de COVID-19 apporte bon nombre de changements dans notre quotidien. Certains des événements que nous avons l'habitude de célébrer pendant cette période de l'année peuvent avoir été reportés, annulés ou modifiés. Mais cela ne veut pas dire que nous ne pouvons pas les fêter ensemble!

How to Celebrate Hanukkah Safely During Coronavirus: [Click Here](#) to discover how to embrace the festival of lights, with a few little changes to your traditions.

8 Ways to Cope If You Can't See Family and Friends This Holiday Season: Celebrating alone or with a smaller group than usual doesn't mean you can't still feel the holiday cheer. [Click Here](#) to learn more

Virtual Holiday Party Ideas For Spirited Festive Fun In 2020: Virtual holiday get-togethers provide opportunities to make new kinds of memories in new kinds of ways. [Click Here](#) for 25 unique ideas.

28 Christmas activities for kids and adults: [Check Out](#) many options that are great physically-distanced ideas you can enjoy from the comforts of your own home in 2020.

Celebrate National Day of The Child/ Journée nationale de l'enfant - Friday November 20, 2020

Chaque année, la Journée nationale de l'enfant est célébrée le 20 novembre. Depuis 1993, cette journée nationale est fêtée partout au Canada pour souligner l'adoption par les Nations Unies de deux documents sur les droits des enfants, à savoir la Déclaration des droits de l'enfant le 20 novembre 1959 et la Convention des Nations Unies relative aux droits de l'enfant le 20 novembre 1989.

National Child Day is celebrated in Canada on November 20 in recognition of our country's commitment to upholding the rights of children and two historic events: the 1959 signing of the UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child and the adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989.

- ✚ National Child Day: [Click Here](#)
- ✚ Government of Canada: [Click Here](#)
- ✚ Gouvernement du Canada: [Cliquez ici](#)
- ✚ Famille Quebec: [Cliquez ici](#)
- ✚ Children First Canada: [Click Here](#)
- ✚ À propos: [Cliquez ici](#)
- ✚ Canadian Children's Rights Council: [Click Here](#)

Check out these Locally Sourced resources and activities:

Niagara Parents provides a variety of services to help you raise a happy and healthy family. [Click Here](#) for:

- Questions or concerns about parenting, your child's health or your pregnancy
- Inquiring about and registering for clinics and classes
- Parenting classes, breastfeeding support, prenatal appointments and more
- Postpartum support
- Links to services within the community
- Requesting parenting classes and presentations from community partners

**** On-line chat available in multiple languages**



Healthy smiles Ontario

November is Healthy Smiles Ontario month.

Check out these helpful links:

Niagara Region: [Click Here](#)

Ontario: English - [Click Here](#)

Français - [Cliquez ici](#)

Free Flu Shots Available across Niagara: It's More Important than Ever to Get Your Flu Shot This Year: Physicians and pharmacies are receiving the flu vaccine. Contact your health care provider to get your flu shot. [Click Here](#) for more **Free Flu Shot** information and clinics.



Free Books Still Available! Although a May Niagara Book Distribution was not possible, there will be one taking place in November. The Book Distribution will be a little different than usual – less people per hour, masks required and social distancing but there will be lots of books to share! If you are interested in picking up brand new free books for the children and families that you work with, please send Karen an email karen.schmidt@niagararegion.ca **One note – the remaining books will be for tweens and young adults.**

Activities and Supports for you, your clients and families:

Free Art Lessons on Youtube for Homeschoolers: [Click Here](#) for a list of on-line painting, drawing and craft links.

Wordless Videos that Teach Problem Solving: [Click Here](#) for a list and description of wordless videos on YouTube that show interesting problems and make kids think about how to solve a problem — and they have to provide the language!

Vidéos sans mots qui enseignent la résolution de problèmes: [Cliquez ici](#) pour une liste et une description des vidéos sans mots sur YouTube qui montrent des problèmes intéressants et incitent les enfants à réfléchir à la façon de résoudre un problème.

A room, a bar and a classroom: how the coronavirus is spread through the air: [Click Here](#) to see the graphic and explanation of how Covid-19 is spread.

Best Waterfalls in Canada: [Click Here](#) to view these waterfall videos. Some are short and simple, with the sights and sounds to imagine the mist in your face. Others are incredible drone videos, lifting you to stunning aerial views. And others are really fun compilations with music and spins.

Activities to Encourage Speech and Language Development: [Check Out](#) these age-appropriate ways that parents can engage their young children to help develop speech and language abilities from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Healthy Start: [Click Here](#) for a bilingual initiative developed in Saskatchewan that increases healthy eating and physical activity opportunities in early learning environments. Discover the tools to get young children on the path to a healthy lifestyle. Learn how to use them to become a healthy role model for the them. Also, check out the Toolkit to encourage and enable educators and families to integrate physical activity and healthy eating in the daily lives of young children (0 to 5 years).

Départ Santé: [Cliquez ici](#) pour une initiative bilingue développée en Saskatchewan qui vise à accroître l'activité physique et la saine alimentation dans les milieux de la petite enfance. Formation: Devenez un modèle de bonne santé pour les jeunes enfants dans votre centre! Boîte à outils: Départ Santé propose des ressources amusantes et pratiques pour inspirer les intervenants en petite enfance, ainsi que les parents.

Stay up-to-date:

COVID-19 cases are rising. It's up to all of us to get this second wave under control. So keep following public health rules - and while you're at it, use the COVID Alert app to protect yourself, your loved ones, and our front line workers - Justin Trudeau

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](#)

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.

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](#)

"Be an encourager. The world has plenty of critics already."

DaveWillis.org

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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