

Community Connections

September 14, 2021



Good Morning: We are making some changes to the Community Connections Newsletter

We started this e- newsletter to support you and your families during our initial lock down in March 2020. Since then we have been in and out of lock downs and have worked hard to continue to provide you with supports and activities to help your program and your clients to manage during the pandemic.

*As we move toward a "new normal" we will continue to provide this e-newsletter, but will be moving to a **once a month format** that will focus on local connections and sharing information and updates on our community partners.*

Please send us anything you would like your peers and agencies to know about your program.

We are happy to be able to provide this and ask that you pass this information on to anyone who might be interested. Also, please let us know if there is anything you have found that has inspired you and we will share in future newsletters

You can find all of the past editions from our community partner Niagara Knowledge Exchange (NKE) by [Clicking Here](#)

Next issue will arrive in your Inbox on October 12th



"As we work to create light for others, we naturally light our own way."

—MARY ANNE RADMACHER

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Spotlight: SEESAW & NCPC Community Connections – Save the dates



FREE
Fall Virtual Conference
October 4 to 15, 2021
Watch your email for
upcoming topics and
registration information

Check out these Local Activities and Resources:

FREE Fluoride Varnish for eligible Children in Niagara



Cavities are the single most common chronic disease in children. Cavities can cause pain and even prevent children from being able to eat, speak, sleep and learn properly.

Fluoride varnish is a protective coating that is painted on children's teeth to help reduce risk of cavities. In Niagara, fluoride varnish is offered **FREE** for children at all Public Health dental clinics (including mobile).

Benefits of Fluoride Varnish

Helps protect teeth and reduce cavities

Can be applied as soon as first tooth appears

Quick and easy application

Does not have a bad taste

Works best if applied twice a year

To learn more about fluoride varnish, call the Dental Health Line at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074 ext. 7399 or visit www.niagararegion/health search "dental."

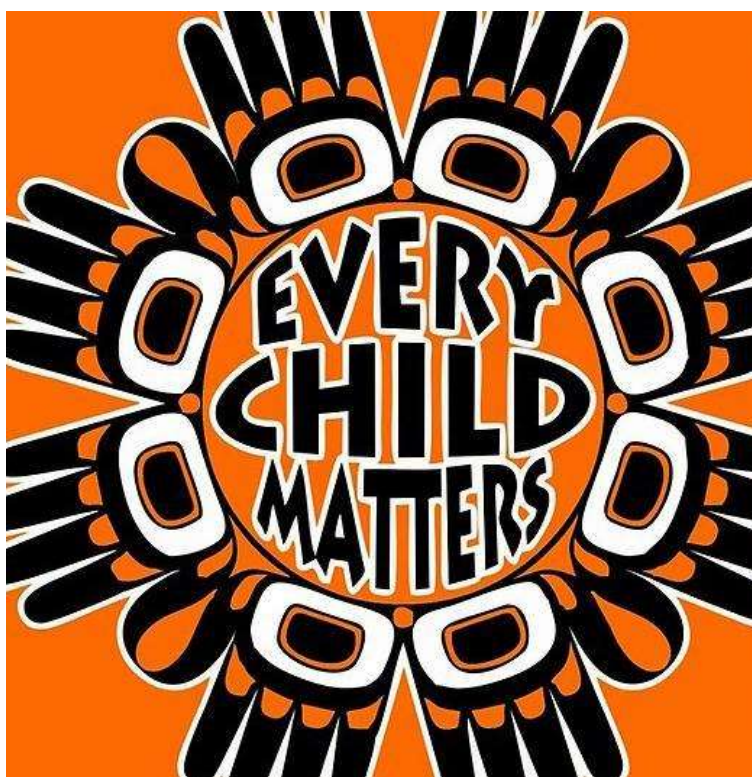
Orange Shirt Day – September 30th

Orange Shirt Day is a day “designed to commemorate the residential school experience, to witness and honour the healing journey of the survivors and their families, and to commit to the ongoing process of reconciliation”. [Click here](#) to visit the site to learn more and to become involved. No act of remembrance will be enough but it is important to understand more about why residential schools existed, what happened to generations of Indigenous children and what we can do today to help the healing.



Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre is **selling orange shirts and sweaters**, with all proceeds going toward the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre Food Pantry. To purchase an orange shirt or sweater, please call the main building front desk: (905) 871 - 8931 Ask for Dane, Megan or Jessica.

Orange shirts \$15 (Youth: XS, S, M & L) (Adult: S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X)
They also offer Orange sweaters \$40 (Adult: M, L, XL, 2X)



Thanks to **Tshikeksa': EarlyOn Centre at Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre** for their assistance gathering the following links and information.

An Overview of the Indian Residential School System – a booklet prepared in 2013 by the Union of Ontario Indians – [click here](#) to download a copy.

Tshikeksa': EarlyOn Centre has been posting some very helpful information and resources including book suggestions to help children (and adults) to gain a better understanding of residential schools – visit their Facebook page by [clicking here](#). Two of their recommended books being read aloud on YouTube:

When We Were Alone – [click here](#)

I Am Not A Number – [click here](#)

A google slide presentation shared by **Niagara Regional Native Centre** titled *“What have you heard about the Kamloops Indian Residential School?”* It provides information about the schools as well as some concrete things that you can do that might help. [Click here](#) to view the presentation.

For additional information and local supports, visit the following sites:

- Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre Facebook page – [click here](#)
- Niagara Region Native Centre Facebook page – [click here](#)
- Niagara Region Metis Council Facebook page – [click here](#)
- Niagara Chapter – Native Women Facebook page – [click here](#)
- The National Indian Residential School Crisis Line is available for former residential school students and others looking for support: 1-866-925-4419.

Virtual EarlyON - all of the physical EarlyON locations in Niagara remain closed but not to worry, they have a lot of fun activities, resources, workshops and crafts waiting for you and your child on their virtual sites. [Click here](#) to check out any of the virtual EarlyON's in Niagara.

Fall Fairs and Festivals:

- **Ancaster Fall Fair:** Sep 25 & 26 – Virtual [Click here for Virtual Fair](#)
- **Caledonia Fair:** September 30 to October 3: [Click here to learn more](#)
- **Norfolk County Fair (Simcoe):** October 5 to 11: [Click here for more information](#)
- **Wainfleet Fall Fair:** [Click here for Demolition Derby tickets](#) on September 25 and [Click here for Truck and Tractor Pull tickets](#) on September 23 & 24
- **Balls Falls Thanksgiving Festival:** October 8 to 11: [Click here to find out more](#)
- **Niagara Grape and Wine Festival:** September 18-19 & 25-26: [Click here to buy tickets](#)
- **Howell's Family Fun:** Known as a fall family destination for their pumpkins, Howells has expanded to now offer even more family fun. They offer Sunflower fields, campfire sites and a beer & wine garden – these activities have a cost attached and could require pre-booking. Check out the new fun activities by [clicking here](#) – pumpkin fun is expected to return later in September.
- **Warner Ranch & Pumpkin Farm:** On the other side of Niagara you can find all things pumpkin at Warner Ranch & Pumpkin Farm. They will be open for in-person shopping and fun from September 4th until October 31st. [Click here](#) to find out more about their upcoming activities and pumpkins!
- **Heartland Forest** – [click here](#)
- **Puddicombe Estate Farms, Winery & Cider** – [click here](#)

Activities and supports for you, your clients & families:

Mask etiquette for kids: Allie Weber from Myth Busters Junior talks to your kids about wearing your reusable mask at school. [Click Here](#) for a fun and informative YouTube video to share with your kids.

Fun Fall and Thanksgiving Activities:

- [Click Here](#) for Printable **scavenger hunts**
- [Cliquez ici](#) pour **Chasse aux trésors de l'automne** avec un printable gratuit
- [Click Here](#) to find out how to **roast pumpkin seeds**
- [Cliquez Ici](#) pour **graines de citrouille grillées**
- [Click Here](#) for a sugar free easy to **make applesauce** recipe
- [Cliquez ici](#) pour **compote de pommes** aux épices, sans sucre

Lysol: Teaching Healthy Habits: [Click Here](#) for Healthy Habits lesson plans that are fun, easy to teach, and will help your young students learn the importance of basic hygiene practices

Fall Family Fun – The dark days of winter will be here soon so be sure to head outside and soak up as much sunshine and fall fun as possible. Need a little inspiration?

- [Click here](#) for Niagara's Fall Fun Activities Checklist
- [Click here](#) for To Do Canada – Fall in Ontario
- [Click here](#) for A Child's Life, Fall Fun Close to Home
- [Click here](#) for Today's Parent's 50 Must Do Fall Activities for Parents

Crayola Canada has a wealth of ideas and activities to do at home. From colouring sheets to DIY craft ideas, there is lots here to keep everyone busy. [Click here](#) to view all of their colourful ideas

Draw with Rob: Good in Every Grain is a public outreach campaign by Grain Farmers of Ontario to educate families about where some of their food comes from. Their website has recipes, healthy tips, information on how grains are grown – you can even ask a Farmer questions. Also on the site is a section titled "Good in Every Classroom", here you will find classroom resources, farming videos and Draw with Rob – guided art experiences complete with educator resources. Get with the Good and explore this site by [clicking here](#).

Coronavirus Information for Kids: Who better to help children and families to learn about the coronavirus than Mr. Rogers and Daniel Tiger. This site has compiled a list of PBS Kids shows, songs and resources that help families learn about the virus without it being too scary or overwhelming. As kids head back into classrooms, this might be a good refresher for all! [Click here](#) to learn more.

Sesame Street: There is always time for a visit to Sesame Street! It is great to visit old friends, to learn about new friends and to be part of the activity on Sesame Street including meeting Elmo's new puppy Tango! This site has lots of great activities to keep kids of all ages busy – one of the best things is having a star attach itself to your cursor ☺ plan to drop by Sesame Street, [click here](#) to get started.

Get Outside – part 2! This time of year is perfect for a walk outside taking in all of the changes happening as Autumn settles in. [Click here](#) to check out Childhood by Nature. It offers some great resources to help on your outdoor nature walks including answers to questions that kids might ask such as why do leaves change colour.

L'éducation dans la nature : une pratique à (re)découvrir: [Cliquez ici](#) pour savoir comment et pourquoi enseigner à l'extérieur, dans la nature

Stay up-to-date:

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's vaccine distribution implementation plan: [Click here](#) to learn about Ontario's vaccination program to help protect us against COVID-19.

Plan de mise en œuvre de la distribution des vaccins de l'Ontario: [Cliquez ici](#) et renseignez-vous sur le programme de vaccination de l'Ontario pour nous aider à nous protéger contre la COVID-19.

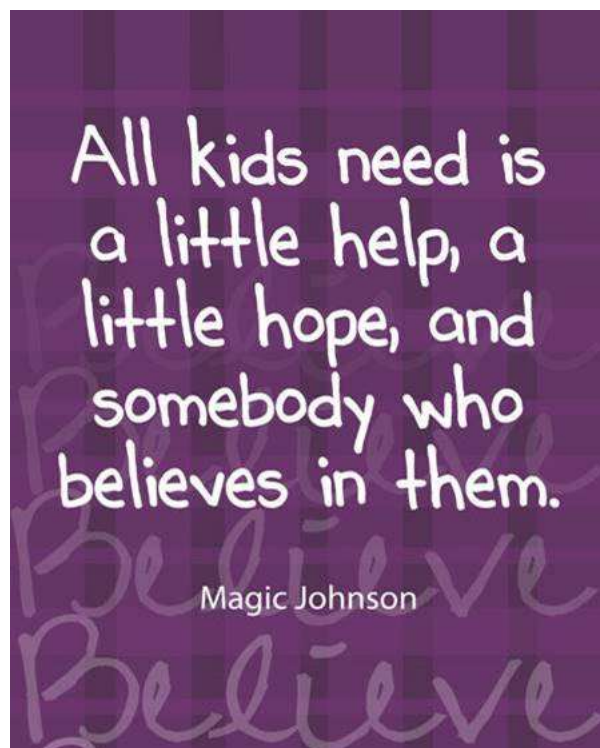
Niagara Region FAQ's: [Click here](#) if you have any additional questions about vaccines, booking appointments or general information about COVID-19.

Ontario Government Covid-19 Update Page: [Click Here](#) to get the latest case data and updates, learn how to protect yourself and others and get advice on what to do next if you think you might have COVID-19. (This site has the information available in many other languages.)

Mise à jour Covid-19 du gouvernement de l'Ontario: [Cliquez ici](#) pour obtenez les plus récentes données sur les cas et mises à jour, apprenez comment vous protéger et protéger les autres et obtenez des conseils sur la marche à suivre si vous craignez d'avoir contracté la COVID-19.

Health Canada Covid-19 Update Page: [Click here](#) to get the facts about COVID-19 vaccines and find resources for your families

Gouvernement du Canada - Maladie à coronavirus (COVID-19):
[Cliquez ici](#) pour les faits sur les vaccins contre la COVID-19 et Ressources de sensibilisation



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

Karen & Sharon

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