

Edmonton Northwest Out of School Care

Annual Report 2007

Children served in 2007: 46

Edmonton Northwest Out of School Care is located in room 11 of Inglewood School. The Out of School Care serves children from kindergarten through grade six. The Out of School Care program reflects a humanistic, learning through play approach. It is an inclusive setting that provides opportunities for children to make meaning of their experiences and the world around them. Developmentally appropriate materials, equipment and activities support children as they explore and express their social, physical, intellectual, creative and emotional needs and strive to meet them.

This past year has proven to be full of fun, changes and challenges. The Out of School Care has moved into the school. As memories are created in the new space, the children are making it their own. Dorothy Korbut, Kathy Ricketts, Andre Davis and other members of the Community Options team have worked hard and with care, to ensure that these transitions were as smooth as possible. In May, Sarah Crooks moved into the position of Program Director.

The summer was a lot of fun for both children and staff. We received a Canada Employment grant and ended up with a fantastic staff of five. We took in local events and festivals such as the Westmount Penny Carnival, the Artworks, Fringe and Street Performers festivals. We made trips to; Avenue Skatepark, Sportsworld roller-disco, the Story Land valley Zoo and Fort Edmonton Park. Several of the children recorded a track onto an Edmonton Northwest CD at B-Scene Studios. That disc was played often in the room over the summer. Many of the children chose to join the library summer reading program, enjoyed swimming and trips to local parks and playgrounds. Dragonflies, ladybirds, and other bugs fascinated many of the children throughout the summer. A few became quite knowledgeable entomologists.

September was a time for the children to reconnect with friends from school. We also said goodbye to Inglewood School principal Bob Boruszczak and welcomed Leona Gordey to the community. We continue to enjoy and maintain a positive relationship with Inglewood school. In the late fall the Out of School Care received a grant to purchase materials and equipment that support active play, literacy learning and multiculturalism. This fall several of the children became involved in publishing the Out of School Care newsletters and organizing parties and special events.

As always, life is busy at the OSC, and we continue to support our families in our care while building relationships with the community. Every year brings about different challenges, and we are prepared to meet each one of them head on. Once again, we are looking forward to another fun filled year at the OSC.