



Niijaansinaanik

Child and Family Services

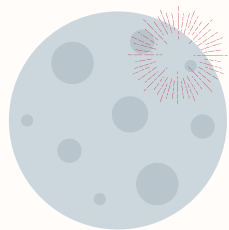
Alternative Care Newsletter



January 2022

Mnidoo Güizis

Big Spirit Moon



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Cultural Connections

Mnidoo Giizis

Spirit Moon

Ahniin, Boozhoo Kina Weya,

This is the time of storytelling and sharing our history through the sacred words of our ancestors. These words have medicine that heal the heart and ignite our spirit and understanding of the sacred dance of life. It is a time of seeing our place through the reflection in the ancestral eyes of our past and looking forward through the awe of our children's imagination and dreams for our future.

The stars are at their brightest and the constellations and the spirit path are clearly

visible in the long night sky. This is the time of storytelling, teachings and singing important songs. Families are close and the storytellers, usually grandparents and sometimes clan leaders share historical family and clan stories.

Most of the Earth, animals, and plants, are asleep at this time and you will be able to hear the quiet voice of the Great Spirit if you listen. The spirits are dancing and some say you can see this when you see the Northern lights.

Na'how, Miigwetch,

Culture Team

Upcoming Events

We hope to hold the following events in person or online. Dates and locations to be determined, as a result of the ongoing, changing provincial rules and regulations in regards to COVID-19. We will share information when details are finalized. Your Worker will update you in the coming weeks!

Spirit Feast & Giveaway
Moccasin Making
Moss Bag Making
Solstice Teachings

COVID-19 Update

Indigenous Child and Family Well-Being Agencies in Ontario continue their services. Agencies across the province modified their business practices to respond to recent COVID-19 health and safety guidelines, which your Worker will discuss with you. We continue to be available 24/7 providing services to children, youth, and families in the communities - We will always be available and open. 24/7 Toll-Free: 1-855-223-5558.

We will keep our Alternative Care homes informed in regard to service continuity should any provincial COVID-19 restrictions or amendments to service be required.

Find the latest public health measures, advice, and restrictions here:
www.covid-19.ontario.ca/public-health-measures

News Release - January 3, 2022

Children's Colouring Corner

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Mino Wnaan Go Niig



Colour your own holiday sweater and decorations!

Miigwetch for the submissions for the monthly colouring draw.

Winners of the draw will be notified shortly and receive their prize.



The January Colouring page will be dropped off by your worker, or you can click the picture or [here to find a full-size version of the colouring page](#). If you don't receive a dropped-off page, please request one from your Worker. Each month the submissions go into a draw.

AC Home Engagement Activity

We hope you enjoyed the gingerbread activity dropped off. We love seeing what you made! You can send in photos of the completed gingerbread until January 7, 2022, and be entered in the prize draw.



January's Engagement Activity:

Build a Snowman!

Share a photo to your worker by:

January 28, 2022

Draw Date: February 4, 2022



Pre-Service Training

Congratulations to our new AC homes that have completed their Pre-Service training !

Our next upcoming Heart & Spirit Pre-Service Training will be:

Parry Sound - 10 Miller Street
January 22 & 23, 2022
January 29 & 30, 2022

Participants have already been notified

Heart
& SPIRIT

AC Christmas Gathering

Chi-Miigwetch to all those who joined us at the AC Christmas gathering on December 11, 2021. It warmed our hearts to see the children, youth, and caregivers having such a nice time. We were surprised when we had a visit from Santa who brought gifts for all. We hope you enjoyed your holidays.

Miigwetch to our AC Staff for dropping off gifts, hats, pajamas, and Christmas treasures to all children and youth.



Nijaansinaanik Staff at the AC Homes Christmas Party taken prior to new gathering regulations

Season's Greetings



**Baapinakamigizi -
He/She/They are excited, hopeful**

**Gii'igoshimo -
He/She/They fast for a vision**



Miigwetch to Joshua Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley for providing permission to share images in the AC Newsletter.

Pawis-Steckley is an Ojibwe woodland artist from Barrie, ON. He is a member of Wasauksing, FN

Contact us

We love to hear from you.

Your role as a caregiver is crucial in many aspects. Thank you for choosing to be a care provider and making a sincere difference in the lives of many. Thank you for believing in our Agency and helping keep Indigenous, Métis, and Inuit children in our/your communities. Together we can provide positive and healthy experiences for children and youth, who can grow up with true and strong connections.

Miigwetch!



1-855-223-5558



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