

ELKFORD EARLY YEARS

Strategic Plan 2018-2020



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VISION STATEMENT

Our vision for the future is that all children ages 0-6 in Elkford have a good start in life and are able to fulfill their potential emotionally, socially cognitively and physically



MISSION STATEMENT

The Elkford Early Years Committee is inclusive and dedicated to supporting families in Elkford. We also assist families in accessing information, services, programs and programming space that supports healthy child development. Elkford Early Years Committee builds partnerships and responds to the emerging needs of families in the community.

TAG LINE

DIGGIN' IN FOR OUR MOST PRECIOUS RESOURCE

BACKGROUND

The Elkford Early Childhood Development Committee emerged in 2005 to provide a forum where individuals and interested groups could work together to address the importance of the first 6 years of a child's life. The quality of a child's early years is a critical influence on the course and outcome of that child's life. This committee is therefore dedicated to facilitating opportunities for young children and assisting families in accessing information, services, programs, program space and events that support healthy child development.

Our members are committed to partnering with schools, businesses, government and other community service providers to support universal access to services that promote healthy child development.

We were rebranded as the Elkford Early Years Committee (EEY) in April of 2014

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Promote Elkford Early Years

The EEY Committee will strive to increase community use of early years services and participation in educational, safe and quality programs.

Specific Outcomes Desired:

- Facilitate early learning through weekly playgroup sessions and family friendly community events
- Focus on supporting child-friendly environments that are safe, supportive and healthy where children and caregivers can interact, learn and develop
- Increase attendance at early years programming by reaching out in the community through marketing, word of mouth and at events
- Offer quality programming to families
- Support programs that shape thriving children and families
- Encourage Aboriginal involvement into EEY programs and events

Actionable Goals:

- Conduct periodic informal surveys measuring community satisfaction
- Keep families up to date on programs and changes in programming via EEY bulletin board, website, Resource Brochure and Facebook page
- Encourage new families and new parents to join EEY Committee or volunteer at EY events as well attend EEY programs
- Conduct parental workshops in town and surrounding areas
- Display current and local early years' service information at all events and programs





STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Extend Elkford Early Year Services

The EEY Committee will endeavor to improve the quality of the early years information, services and programming achieved through research, professional development and information sharing

Specific Outcomes Desired:

- Provide parental workshops by bringing in professionals from the community
- Identify shared spaces with other early learning partners to provide parental and child specific information for families
- Stay informed on early years research findings and other early child development measurements results
- Represent early learning perspectives at various community functions held in Elkford, Elk Valley and East Kootenay Region
- Work with the local community agencies and government for children to be involved in the community



Actionable Goals

- Attend Early Development Instrument (EDI) Meetings to connect with local kindergarten teachers and share information
- Host monthly Early Years meetings open to all interested individuals, business owners and groups
- Host and attend annual Early Learning Fairs
- Attend regional Council of Partners and Coalition meetings, learn of common issues, share solutions
- Continually update Elkford Early Years website and Facebook pages
- Present EDI results once a year to EEY Committee
- Work with program providers to encourage Aboriginal cultural awareness
- Annual presentation to Municipal Council

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Continuous Relationship Building

The EY Committee will continue ongoing promotion of collaborative relationships to expand early years services and programs offered in our community

Specific Outcomes Desired:

- Foster program creation by informing community partners with EDI results and other Early Years research
- Continue partnerships with the District of Elkford to ensure indoor/outdoor spaces meet early year needs
- Participate in park development processes to voice EY perspective
- Collaborate with interested partners and businesses to promote value and benefits of early child development
- Promote volunteering to support our mission, goals and strategies
- Engage and support new volunteers, agencies, services, businesses and governments
- Encourage the inclusion of Aboriginal representation at committee table



Specific Outcomes Desired:

- Support and continue annual membership with local Chamber of Commerce
- Update presentation to use when meeting with local, regional and provincial governments outlining our vision, mission, objectives, outcomes and goals of EY committee
- Contribute, where possible, funds to support child development components for indoor/outdoor spaces
- Study and monitor new EDI information
- Develop volunteer protocol for consistent orientations
- Strengthen relationships with volunteers, local businesses and partners
- Invite Aboriginal service providers to Early Learning Fair and other EY events

MEASURING SUCCESS

- Community Satisfaction measured through informal survey feedback
- Increased collaboration from local government, school district, businesses and health professionals
- Increased participation and maintained levels of attendance of Early Years programs



WORKING WITH OTHERS

Our committee is dedicated to working with local and regional governments and other interested parties. We help to support Elkford's Children ages 0-6 develop the emotional, social, cognitive and physical skills they need before they enter school.

Through these partnerships we hope to build and enhance community service in Elkford. We engage citizens in early childhood development and fund programs that strengthen young children and their families.

We envision a community where all children are valued, respected, nurtured, loved and given the opportunity to reach their fullest potential.

WE ALL SHARE A SIMILIAR VISION:

**Making our community a place
where families and children can
reach their fullest potential.**



Elkford Early Years Committee
Est. 2005

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In partnership with:
Elkford Woman's Task Force

