



**ELVES SPECIAL NEEDS SOCIETY**  
**Administrative Offices**  
10825-142 Street  
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**Business No: 118898360RR0001**

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**June 17, 2020**

Dear Elves' Families, Caregivers, and Staff:

We are releasing our newsletter a day early to enable families or caregivers to participate in a valuable learning opportunity hosted by the Government of Alberta and presented by Dr. Karyn Harvey that will held tomorrow for individuals who receive support and services.

Free Webinar: COVID Conversations

**June 18 @ 2pm**

Meeting link is:

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_QPaSaMINQbK87miDfojXjQ](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QPaSaMINQbK87miDfojXjQ)

In her discussion, Dr. Harvey will lead a conversation that will explore the impacts of COVID-19 and trauma associated with the event. Participation in this event can help anyone who is experiencing stress in their lives for a multitude of reasons. Her presentation will discuss the following objectives:

- a. Individuals will be able to identify difficult aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- b. Individuals will be able to identify at least 3 activities that can be done to lessen stress.
- c. Individuals will learn what an "appreciation circle" is and practice it with assistance.

### **Elves Adult Program**

The Elves Adult Program has begun At Elves services for clients on June 15, 2020. Currently, there are 1 to 2 clients per room with protective measures being taken. After 20 days, if circumstances allow, there will be an additional clients added per room. Thank you to all the staff and families who are working together to navigate this adapted way of service delivery.

For future services and decision making, Elves will continue to monitor the Orders from the Chief Medical Offer of Health, guidelines from Alberta Health Services, and any information linked to the Ministry of Community and Social Services, *Guidance for Disability Services Providers* which can be found at:

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Elves Child Development Centre  
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Phone: 780.454.5310  
Fax: 780.454.5889  
Email: [info@elves-society.com](mailto:info@elves-society.com)

Elves Adult & Youth Centre  
10419-159 Street  
EDMONTON AB T5P 3A6  
Phone: 780.481.5335  
Fax: 780.483.5316  
Email: [adultprogram@elves-society.com](mailto:adultprogram@elves-society.com)

Elves' Satellite Location  
14205 – 109 Avenue  
EDMONTON AB T5N 1H5  
Phone: 780.484.3078  
Fax: 780.484.5903  
Email: [room9@elves-society.com](mailto:room9@elves-society.com)

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/guidance-for-disability-service-providers-re-opening-or-continuing-operations>.

We are also learning and sharing with other organizations including the Council of Service Providers, and Alberta Council of Disability Services (ACDS) who have produced the *Reopening Community Access Programs: A Decision-Making and Planning Tool* which can be found at:

[https://acds.ca/files/Resources/pandemic\\_planning/ACDS\\_Community\\_Access\\_Program\\_Guidance\\_Jun10.pdf](https://acds.ca/files/Resources/pandemic_planning/ACDS_Community_Access_Program_Guidance_Jun10.pdf)

Although services are expanding, digital resources, window visits, and resource delivery to those clients who will be unable to return to Elves at the current time will remain.

The Therapy Team continues to update the on-line resources and activities which can be found at <https://sites.google.com/elves-society.org/elvesathome>

You can easily access this site by bookmarking this link in your web browser.

### **Elves School Program**

The Ministry of Education announced that the province has developed a plan for three scenarios. The Ministry of Education will advise schools which scenario to be operating in and there is a responsibility for each school to determine the best course of action for their school community. With these considerations, the Elves team held a Town Hall with School Program families to share an overview of the plan as well as the practical protective measures that will be carried out in our school where children and youth will not be able to social distance and who will be requiring more intensive supports during the school day. Associated information can be found at: <https://www.alberta.ca/k-to-12-school-re-entry-2020-21-school-year.aspx> and <https://www.alberta.ca/student-learning-during-covid-19.aspx>.

As we reflect on the crazy year it has been for children, students, and families, we need to celebrate the great accomplishments. Sadly, Elves will be saying goodbye to many of the children and students who will be graduating. Families and associated staff will have received the link to join us in congratulating our upcoming graduates. If you have not receive an invitation please contact the office at 780 454-5310.

We encourage you to access the internally developed website resource by the School Program Therapists. The link to the site is found at <https://sites.google.com/elves-society.org/elvesathome/home>

### **Elves Summer Program**

Elves' Social Workers have been contacting Family Supports for Children with Disabilities (FSCD) to determine whether there will be funding in place for the 2020 Summer Program. To date we have not received confirmation of funding.

Thank you to the families, caregivers, staff, and friends of Elves as we enter the third month of the COVID-19 response. We are grateful for the health of everyone and support of the community. Your engagement in so many small and large ways is helping to make us a stronger group.

### **Other Alberta Government/Federal Government Information:**

- In her presentation, Dr. Harvey talks about positive messages and connecting with others as an avenue to support mental health and well-being. The Test for Hope Program offers one-way communication through daily messages intended to help contact negative thoughts and feelings.

#### **How to Connect**

- ❖ Text COVID19HOPE to 393939 to subscribe.
  - ❖ Text4Hope-Addiction Support and Text4Hope-Cancer Care are also available and designed to help Albertans dealing with psychological issues related to addiction and cancer issues. The expanded services are funded by the Mental Health Foundation.
  - ❖ Text Open2Change to 393939 to subscribe to the addiction program.
  - ❖ Text CancerCare to 393939 to subscribe to the cancer program.
- The most current updates from the Alberta Government, including weekly updates from the Dr. Hinshaw can be found at: <https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx#statement>.
  - COVID-19 Self-Assessments are available for those persons who are asymptomatic. To schedule a time for a drive-through assessment, please complete the Self-Assessment Questions to complete to forms and schedule a time. The updated assessment site can be found at: <https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/COVID-Self-Assessment.aspx> or by calling Health Link at 811.

**Contact Elves**

We are here if you need support. All questions can be forwarded to the program that is serving your child.

**School Program** at [execassistant@elves-society.com](mailto:execassistant@elves-society.com)

**Adult Program** at [adultprogram@elves-society.com](mailto:adultprogram@elves-society.com)

**Respite Program** at [respite@elves-society.com](mailto:respite@elves-society.com)

Warmest wishes,



Barb Tymchak Olafson  
Executive Director

### PROGRAM DIRECTORY

<u>ELVES CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE</u> (10825 - 142 Street) .....	780.454.5310
<b>Nicole Quildon</b> , Principal (M-F).....	ext. 204
<b>Kiera Peyton</b> , Special Education Supports & Learning Coach (M-F) .....	ext. 205
<b>Ashley Lumme-Levesque</b> , PUF Coordinator (in charge of transportation) (M-F) .....	ext. 232
<b>Vivian Ross</b> , Family Support Worker (Wed) .....	ext. 231
<b>Joanne Dam</b> , Family Support Worker (Tues-Sat) .....	ext. 230
<b>Rosathya Ros</b> , Family Support Worker (M-F) .....	ext. 236
<b>Patricia Moyer</b> , Speech Language Pathologist (M-F).....	ext. 228
<b>Lonneke de Groot</b> , Speech Language Pathologist (M-F).....	ext. 228
<b>Sally Habashy</b> , Occupational Therapist (M-F).....	ext. 210
<b>Wilna Boshoff</b> , Physical Therapist (Thur).....	ext. 210
<b>Holly Thompson</b> , Physical Therapist (Tues).....	ext. 210
<b>Tara Vanstone</b> , OT/PT Assistant (M-F) .....	ext. 224
<b>Rachel Grenis</b> , SLP Assistant (Tu/Th).....	ext. 210
<b>Lindsay Soderberg</b> , SLP Assistant (M-F).....	ext. 210
<b>Janice Wong</b> , SLP Assistant (M-F).....	ext. 210
<u>ELVES FASD RESPITE PROGRAM</u> (10825 - 142 Street) .....	780.454.5310, ext. 233
<b>Raelee Grier</b> , FASD Respite Program & FOP Coordinator (Tues-Sat) .....	780.920.5342
<u>ELVES SATELLITE CLASSROOM</u> (Room 9 - 14205 – 109 Avenue).....	780.484.3078
Please ask for <b>Patricia Moyer</b> or <b>Sally Habashy</b> if you wish to speak to a therapist.....	780.454.5310
<u>ELVES ADULT &amp; YOUTH CENTRE</u> (10419 - 159 Street) .....	780.481.5335
<b>Mitch Pogonowski</b> , Adult Program Director (M-F) .....	ext. 201
<b>Shauna Williamson</b> , Adult Program Staff Training/Volunteer Coordinator (M-F) .....	ext. 239
<b>Connie Daynes</b> , Adult Program Activities Coordinator/Behavioural Consultant .....	ext. 202
<b>Angela Vardy</b> , Family Support Worker for School Program (M/W/F).....	ext. 212
<b>Kathy Anino</b> , Occupational Therapist for School Program (Tu/W/Th).....	ext. 219
<b>Samantha Treloar</b> , Occupational Therapist for School Program (M-F).....	ext. 219
<b>Wilna Boshoff</b> , Physical Therapist for School Program (Tu/W/Th).....	ext. 211
<b>Holly Thompson</b> , Physical Therapist for School Program (Tu/W/Th).....	ext. 211
<b>Cheryl Assenheimer</b> , Physical Therapist for School Program (Tu/W/Th).....	ext. 211
<b>Leslie Quapp</b> , OT/PT Assistant for School Program (M-F).....	ext. 211
<b>Stefanie Gallace</b> , OT/PT Assistant for School Program (M-F).....	ext. 219
<b>Laura Masters</b> , Speech Language Pathologist for School Program (M-F).....	ext. 209
<b>Julie Sorensen</b> , SLP Assistant for School Program (Mon-Thur).....	ext. 209
<u>Elves Nursing Staff:</u>	
<b>Melonie Kimmerly</b> , Charge Nurse, RN for School Program @ EAYC.....	780.481.5335, ext. 220
<b>Diane McCook</b> , LPN, Elves Child Development Centre .....	780.454.5310, ext. 206
<b>Marilyn Vendiola</b> , RN, Adult Program .....	780.481.5335, ext. 208
<b>Tina Marsh-Woodcock</b> , Adult Program LPN.....	780.481.5335, ext. 208