



ELVES SPECIAL NEEDS SOCIETY

Administrative Offices

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August 06, 2020

Dear Elves' Families, Caregivers, and Staff:

We hope that everyone has been able to enjoy the lovely weather that we have been experiencing over the past few weeks. It certainly has been a relief from the rain and overcast skies that we've been having over the past few months.

The wearing of masks in public places became mandatory in Edmonton on August 01, 2020. On behalf of the Elves Community, we wish to thank our Member of Parliament, Kelly McCauley and donor Nicholas Fu for the generous donation of 500 masks and 25 face shields to the Elves FASD Respite Program. MP McCauley has also reached out to offer 25 containers of hand sanitizer to the Program.

Elves is also pleased to recognize and share a communication from our Member of the Legislative Assembly, Sarah Hoffman. Please find her video message to Elves here:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/L8iafNdhxMz8jL2j9>

We thank you MLA Hoffman for taking the time from her busy schedule to connect with Elves!

Elves Adult Program

As there are more clients returning to *At Elves* supports, the use of Disabled Adult Transportation System (DATS) has also been accessed by more families who cannot drive their adult child to Elves. DATS has precautionary measures in place to support the safety of riders. With that consideration, there are limitations should DATS rider need to return home if they become ill while at Elves. DATS will not accept riders who are known to be ill. Therefore, any family or caregiver who is considering using DATS is being encouraged to develop an alternative plan for a return trip home in the event that a client does require to be quarantined while at Elves.

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14205 – 109 Avenue
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School Program

This week, Elves has received notice that the Ministry of Education will support schools to be safe through the acquisition of PPE in the form of reusable masks, face shields and hand sanitizer. There will be two mask per child, student and staff person. Details regarding how children/students can receive their masks will be released once the supplies have been delivered to Elves.

While there will be mask available for everyone, use of a mask must be balanced by each student's medical/respiratory needs and ability to manage the mask use. If families have questions, they are encouraged to speak to the school nurses after August 20, 2020.

FASD Respite Program

Due to the current conditions the Edmonton Fetal Alcohol Network (EFAN) Annual General Meeting will be only open to EFAN members this year on Wednesday, September 9th, 2020.

On August 07, 2020, there will be a free 90 minute webinar and a Q&A period hosted by CanFASD.

Understanding FASD in the Criminal Justice System: A Research Update

Dr. McLachlan's research team will present findings from several recent studies that aim to implement best practices and improve outcomes for individuals with FASD who experience contact with the criminal justice system. Within the presentation there will be overview of the criminal justice contact experiences among adolescents and adults with FASD using data from the Canadian FASD Database. Second, we review findings from a recently completed study evaluating FASD evidence in a review of published Canadian criminal cases. Third, we describe findings from our research characterizing the FASD knowledge, practice experiences, and training needs among forensic clinicians in Canada and internationally. Finally, we present findings from a systematic review of screening tools and approaches for identifying individuals with FASD, including specifically in justice contexts.

To register for the session held on **Friday, August 7, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.** MST please click on the following link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_B-X7Pf6OO9WBeYeC0a1qFw

Other Alberta Government/Federal Government Information:

Program participants, staff, families and visitors must review the self-screening questionnaire each day before going to an Elves building

- *Thank you to Angela Vardy for sharing the links to translated Alberta Health Services COVID-19 Self-screening Questionnaires (PDF)*
- Self-screening questionnaire (PDF)

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Traditional Chinese](#) | [Simplified Chinese](#) | [Hindi](#) | [Punjabi](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Tagalog](#) | [Urdu](#) | [Vietnamese](#)

- As staff return to school, we are asking that all School and Respite personnel undergo voluntary testing. To schedule an appointment via the following link:
<https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/HWAssessLanding.aspx>
- The Government of Canada continues to take evolve supports into take action in helping Canadians facing hardship as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. Resources can be found at <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html>

Contact Elves

We wish everyone a great week ahead. 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

Adult Program at adultprogram@elves-society.com

Respite Program at respite@elves-society.com

Warmest wishes,



Barb Tymchak Olafson
Executive Director