

July 29, 2020

Dear Elves' Families, Caregivers, and Staff:

On July 29, 2020, the City of Edmonton passed a bylaw indicating that masks must be worn inside of all publically accessible indoor spaces until the end of 2020, effective August 01, 2020. Included in this category are retail stores, restaurants, entertainment venues, recreation centres, and vehicle-for-hire services in Edmonton.

The Edmonton Journal cites that the rule won't currently apply to buildings under provincial jurisdiction including schools, hospitals and child care facilities, but city council does have the authority to amend the bylaw to include these areas. However, to ensure the safety of our community, Elves will be adopting the practice for all staff and non-personnel effective next week. Due to the cognitive and physical needs of the population that Elves serves, mask use will not be enforced for those Program Participants who cannot manage the donning and doffing of masks independently.

Elves Adult Program

Alberta Council of Disability Services (ACDS) has been preparing for professional development and family learning events to be held from **October 19 to October 23, 2020**. There will be a cost associated with these sessions, and each day will have one 90-minute webinar followed by a 30 minute Q&A period.

This series will cover topics such as:

- Dementia Capable Care of Persons with Developmental Disabilities
- Sexuality and People with Developmental Disabilities
- Diversity Training: Culturally Sensitive Care
- Mental Health & Trauma: Coping & Recovery for the Caregiver
- COVID-19: Reflections of Learning

Registration and pricing for this webinar series will be announced in early August. Elves will post the updated information when it is made available, or you can find it at the ACDS website at: <https://acds.ca/training/index.html>

School Program

Elves is preparing for the startup of the 2020 2021 school year. The School Program is currently at full capacity and all intakes will be placed on a waiting list.

There will be a Town Hall for the Elves School Program that will be held on **August 20 at 10:00 am** to address the management of child and staff safety with the startup of School.

The meeting link is: <https://meet.google.com/cpx-rthh>

If families cannot participate via computer and would like to be called into the meeting through the phone, please email Rosathya at sw3@elves-society.com. Town hall presentations and Q&A's will also be emailed to families by Monday, August 24, 2020.

FASD Respite Program

There will also be a Town Hall for families and staff associated with the FASD Respite Program that will be on **August 20 at 1:00 pm**. If families cannot participant via computer and would like to be called into the meeting through the phone, please email Rosathya at sw3@elves-society.com. Town Hall presentation and Q&A's will also be emailed to families by Monday, August 24, 2020.

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

Adult Program at adultprogram@elves-society.com

Respite Program at respite@elves-society.com

Warmest wishes,



Barb Tymchak Olafson
Executive Director