

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2023



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BOKWAAGAME- GIIZIS
(BROKEN SNOWSHOE
MOON)

March Break 2023!

The RBCFS staff from the main office in BZA assisted the BZA band administration in hosting events for the March Break this year. We are always grateful for being involved with activities in the community. We would like to thank the BZA administration for inviting us to take part in the events again this year.



Families enjoyed several theme-filled days throughout the week of March 13 – 17. The week began with Pajama Day. Little Monsters Day on Tuesday, 100 Days of Work on Wednesday, Superhero on Thursday, and St. Patty's Day on Friday. The wind up events included a dance party complete with pizza and wings supper, spot dances and prizes, followed up by fireworks.

A few contests that took place were the: Deadly Uncle Shirt, Auntie Bun, guessing jars, penny auction and bingo (for both children & adults), St. Patty's cake decorating. Nail driving competition, log sawing, tug of war, potato sack race, and find the pot of gold were just a few of the games held.



March Break BZA Draws

Auntie bun contest:

- 1st - Keira Hardy
- 2nd - Khalani Tyance
- 3rd - Cathleen nobis

Uncle shirt:

- 1st - Scott McSheffrey (only entry)

St. Patty's Cake Contest:

- 1st - Mercedes Hardy
- 2nd - Tymara Hardy, Mylie Hardy, Jason Jr
- 3rd - Cathleen Nobis

Family Collage – “what family means to you”

- 1st - Mercedes Hardy
- 2nd - Cathleen Nobis
- 3rd - Caleb Carson, Creighton & Caylan Hardy

Participation Winners:

- Adult – Wayne Onakanakis (Somerset Boho Daybed)
- Kids – Hayley Lesnick (Aqua Water Mat)

Attendance Winners - \$150 Cineplex Gift Card:

- Adult - Tammy Bouchard
- Kids - Cade Wawia McGuire



If you would like a copy of the monthly newsletter emailed to you, please contact Joann at jlesperance@rbcfs.ca to provide your email address. Newsletters will also be posted on our Facebook page.

The RBCFS satellite office in Thunder Bay hosted daily events throughout the March break week. Families enjoyed snow tubing at Mount Baldy Ski Hill. Participants were treated to hotdog, fries, and pop for lunch. The weather was perfect for tubing.

Family Swimming participants received swimming passes and a Little Caesars gift card and enjoyed an afternoon of swimming at the Canada Games Complex.



Family Sledding took place at the Balsam Pits Sliding Hill where families enjoyed hot chocolate and received a McDonalds gift card for supper. It was a great afternoon of sliding fun.

A Family Dance was held at the Oliver Road Recreation Center. Taco in a bag was served for supper along with fruit, cupcakes, and refreshments. A fishing pond and several games took place along with attendance draws.



Family Dance	Prize	Winner
Door prize - Adult	Ninja Food Blender	Amelia Boothe
Door prize - youth	Assorted basket	Precious Thompson
Door prize - child	Summertime Juicer	Kai Ogima
Musical Chairs - youth	Cineplex goodie basket Cineplex goodie basket	Kai Ogima Dan Bonear
Musical Chairs - adult	Spa goodie basket	Vanessa Goodman
Guessing Jar Contest - several prizes awarded		

Participation Winners for March Break Week:

Adult – James La Duke (Somerset Boho Daybed)
Kids – Julianne Lightfeather (Aqua Water Mat)

Attendance Winners for March Break Week: **- \$150 Cineplex Gift Card:**

Adult – Juliette Debassige
Kids – Jack Hardy



The week ended with Family Movie Day at SilverCity theatre and families were treated with a SilverCity gift card for a movie of their liking and a gift card for food.

MORE MARCH BREAK FUN!



Prevention/Intervention Events

Prevention Worker Josee Lynch hosted a Bonfire at the BZA office on March 12th. Participants roasted hotdogs, smokies, made smores, and had hot chocolate. The attendance draw winners were Kylie who won the basket, Maryann won a key chain and safety clip, Shauna, Taya, Savannah, and Hailey all got a pop and bag of chips. Everyone had the best time but ended up inside as it was a little chilly outside. The kids played Connect Four and Yahtzee .



The BZA Prevention program hosted a hot lunch for the students at the Beardmore school. The kids were treated to sloppy joes, fries, and refreshments.



Family Movie Night took place at the BZA office on March 19th. Participants had nachos, taco chips with dip, and refreshments.



They watched the Bad Guys cartoon and everyone had a lot of laughs. Aiden and Taya both won a basket.



Cynthia Wynne, Family Support Worker at the BZA office hosted the Adult Social on March 6th. It was a small crowd of 2 people so both were able to take home an attendance prize. Jolene and Dino enjoyed pizza and pop and had great fun. Meegwech for attending.

Early Childhood Intervention worker Alexandra Robinson hosted a Homemade Baby Food Workshop on March 2 at the satellite office in Thunder Bay. The Thunder Bay District Health unit did a presentation on how to make your own baby food. Blenders and food supplies were provided to participants to bring home i.e., frozen peas, chickpeas, eggs, and apples.



Parents also received the book "Food to Grow On". Handouts were provided with information on how to make homemade baby food as well as when to introduce solids. Snacks and refreshments were provided.

Parenting Support Events

Parenting Support Worker, Kayla Thompson from the BZA office hosted a Parents' Bingo on March 9th. Everyone who attended left with at least a prize or two. Participants snacked out on nachos and refreshments. The winner of the door prize was Penny Lesperance who took home a loaf of bread and milk.

Kayla also hosted a Family Craft Day on March 25th. Participants created their own customized t-shirts. A light lunch was provided. Taya Hedican was the attendance draw winner of the \$50 Zechners' gift certificate.



The Parenting Support program in BZA held a Window Painting contest throughout the month of March. The theme was a character from a favorite Disney Movie. Winners are as follows:

Childrens

- 1st – Brayden - \$50 Roblox card & easter decorating kit
- 2nd – Shauna - Bubble machine, and kinder chocolate
- 3rd– Keira - giant egg
- 4th – Khali - giant egg

Adults

- 1st– Amanda - \$50 visa card with easter decorating kit
- 2nd– Kyler - \$50 Zecher's gift card and kinder chocolate
- 3rd– Marian (Poki) - \$50 spirit bay gas certificate



The Parenting Support program in Thunder Bay hosted a Parents' Food Bingo on March 9th with a full house! Snacks and refreshments were provided.

Prizes were \$25 Walmart gift cards. Cheyanne traverse was our full house winner. Alexandra Robinson, Early Childhood Intervention worker provided childcare in the playroom and kept the children busy while parents enjoyed their bingo games.



Traditional Care Program

The Traditional Care team are still looking for those who are interested in becoming a Traditional Care Provider. For those who are interested in learning more about becoming a Traditional Care Provider please email Ashley Baxter at abaxter@rbcs.ca.

Last month our Traditional Care Recruitment Worker set up a recruitment table for Traditional Care Providers at the Waverley Library, Mary J.L. Black Library, BZA Community Hall, and Communities Together for Children EarlyON Centre. The draw prize winners were Zayda Argueta, Rosemarie Mareisu, Sarah Gorofalo, Marin Gorofalo, Catherine Nobis, Finn N and Crystal N.

In March, our Traditional Care Home Workers hosted a movie night for our Traditional Service and Traditional Care providers and their families both in BZA and Thunder Bay. Families came to watch Finding Dory! Supper, snacks, and drinks were provided. The Team also hosted the Swimming and Sliding March Break events in Thunder Bay. It was great seeing all our community members come out to participate and reconnect with each other.



This month our Traditional Care Home Workers will be celebrating our Traditional Care Providers on April 20th for Kinship Appreciation Day by providing flowers, hosting a paint night and dinner in honor of all they do for the children and youth they care for.

We hope to see you all at our upcoming Open House which will take place in BZA. Watch for the poster!

Miigwetch from the Traditional Care Team

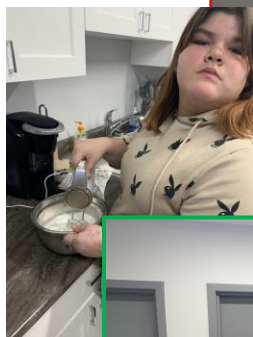
March Break – Swimming & Sliding:



Youth Liaison Program

The Youth Liaison program hosted Kids Game Night on March 2nd. The kids had pizza and made cookies, and played Kerplunk, Perfection and Jenga. Tennessee and Emma both took home \$10 Apple gift cards.

Robin Thompson, Youth Liaison Worker in BZA hosted the Teens in the Kitchen on March 7. The teens made lemon and banana cream pies. Attendees enjoyed pizza and pogos. Kaydence won a \$25 Canadian Tire gift card and Emma won a \$15 Apple gift card for attending.



The weekly music classes have ended and we would like to thank Robin for sharing her musical talent and skills with the children who attended the program. Students learned about guitar chords and songs on the guitar. They also had fun doing karaoke songs.

The Youth Liaison Program hosted a high school food bingo on March 9th. Winners were Aiden who won \$25 Xbox card, Victoria won a \$25 Lars gift card, and River won a \$25 Canadian Tire gift card. Food and refreshments were provided.

On March 30th Robin Thompson, Youth Liaison Worker brought a group of grade 11 and 12 students from BZA, along with students from Thunder Bay to the Northwest Job Fair that was hosted at the Valhalla hotel in Thunder Bay. The job fair featured more than 80 employers across a variety of sectors including mining, transportation, food services, health services, education, government, and construction. Students got to see the many opportunities available to them once they have completed their education. They were treated to supper afterwards and got to socialize with friends and family.

BZA ELDERS' SOCIAL:

The BZA Elders' Social took place March 27th at the RBCFS main office in BZA. Participants enjoyed an evening of bingo and a penny auction. Cheeseburgers, fries, tarts, and refreshments were served for supper. As always there was plenty of laughter and fun had by all.



Elders Corner

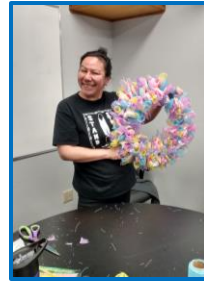
The Thunder Bay Adult Social was hosted by Miss Mona Hardy on March 6th. Attendees enjoyed Swedish meatballs with noodles and side of sweet buttery carrots. The group was filled with stories, laughter, and bingo players enjoy their winnings. Meegwech for all your hard work Mona.



Drumming with Elder Diane Hardy continues to take place bi-weekly on Tuesday evenings at the Thunder Bay satellite office. Drummers enjoyed socializing, snacks and they continue to fill the office with beautiful songs. Their practice and dedication to the group shows in their ever-growing performances of various hand drum songs. Meegwech Diane.



Elder Christine Hardy hosts the bi-weekly Family Craft Nights held on Tuesday evenings at the satellite office. This month families created gnomes for St. Patrick's Day, and beautiful Easter wreaths and baskets. Snacks and refreshments are provided, and Christine shares her traditional knowledge and craft skills with participants. Meegwech Christine.



The Thunder Bay Elders' Social was hosted by Miss Mona Hardy on March 27th. Mona made her awesome chicken pot pies served with a side salad and her homemade dressing, followed by butter tarts for dessert. Attendees enjoyed an evening of bingo and plenty of laughter. Meegwech Mona.



RBCFS ELDERS' OUTING:

The Elders' Committee were treated to an outing in Duluth, Minnesota. In appreciation of the work and teachings they provide to the members, RBCFS took them on a trip across the border where they had breakfast, spent the day exploring and shopping, and offered their asema. Plenty of laughs and conversations took place.