

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

July 2024



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(BERRY MOON)

CELEBRATING FATHERS:

On Monday June 17th in Thunder Bay two teams of our staff hosted a Father's Day BBQ Celebration at the Dewe location. Jordan's Principle as well as CFS collaborated on making this event a success. Dads were accompanied by their families where they enjoyed Hamburgers, Smokies, Hot dogs, and Various Side Salads. After being fed fathers and their families were encouraged to participate in some action filled lawn game activities.

Daniel B. was the winner of a fantastic Door Prize! It was a cooler complete with fishing rod, tackle, dip net, fillet knife, snacks for fishing, camping chair for at the river when fishing, Jordan's Principle sweater, and much more. Dan was very excited and happy to win as he said he needed a new fishing rod and gear.

A great big thanks to the CFS and JP teams for putting on an awesome event, and a big shout out to Ally Willan for all the behind-the-scenes preparation she did in organizing the event from the planning, shopping, and coordinating the helpers – great job Ally!



"THE BEST WAY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE
IS TO CREATE IT."
— ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Programming

Soup for the Soul

In June our dedicated team members, Jessica Colvin (Prenatal Infant Care Worker) and Jaime Duke (Early Childhood Intervention Worker), collaborated to bring the community together with two delightful Healthy Soup Luncheons.

The first luncheon took place at Rocky Bay Child & Family Services office in BZA. The atmosphere was filled with warmth and camaraderie as community members gathered to enjoy nutritious soup and engage in meaningful conversations. A special highlight of the event was the familiar face of Ms. Lennzi King, who took home a brand-new crockpot as the lucky winner of our giveaway!



Our second event was held at the Spence Clinic on Arthur Street in Thunder Bay. Participants were treated to a delicious, taco-inspired soup that not only delighted their taste buds but also sparked lively conversations about healthy eating and wellness.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us and made these events a success. Your participation helps build stronger, healthier communities!

A Magical Evening of Reading

This June, Josee Lynch, our enthusiastic Prevention Worker, brought young readers together for a delightful Kids Book Club. The featured book for the month was “The Secret Lake” by Karen Inglis, a captivating story that sparked imaginations and lively discussions among our young participants.



Held on a charming evening, the book club gathered to explore the adventures within “The Secret Lake.” The story’s blend of mystery and time-travel captivated the kids, making for a vibrant and engaging session. Josee led the discussion, encouraging the children to share their thoughts and insights about the book.

No book club is complete without some tasty treats! Participants were treated to a variety of snacks, from classic KD & hamburger to an assortment of chips. The cozy atmosphere, combined with delicious food, made for a truly memorable evening.



Programming Continued

A Canvas of Creativity

This June, our Prevention Worker, Josee Lynch, hosted a unique and inclusive social event in BZA. Unlike our typical “social” gatherings, this event welcomed participants of all ages, fostering a truly intergenerational experience.



The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the artistic showcase. Josee had seven talented artists join the social, each bringing their own flair of creativity to the event. With their magic brushes in hand, the artists painted their hearts out, creating beautiful works that added a splash of colour and imagination to the evening. The joy and focus on their faces as they worked were truly a sight to behold, and their artworks became the evenings centrepiece.



To complement the creative atmosphere, a delicious meal was served. Guests enjoyed a hearty spaghetti dinner, perfectly paired with refreshing sodas. As the evening progressed, everyone indulges in a classic snack combo of chips and dip, which added to the casual and friendly vibe of the social.



The BZA social was a wonderful blend of art, food, and community spirit. It was heartening to see people of all ages come together, share their talents, and simply enjoy each others company. These moments of connection and creativity are what make our community events so special.



Game Night Extravaganza

In June, Raquel Hardy, our RBCFS BZA office Administrative Assistant, brought joy and excitement to the children of the BZA community by hosting a lively kids' social event. It was an evening filled with laughter, friendly competition, and delicious food. Creating lasting memories for all who attended.

The Kids Social featured a fantastic array of board games, providing endless entertainment and opportunities for fun. From the dexterous challenge of Operation to the feeding frenzy of Hungry Hippos, and the strategic moves in Connect 4, there was something for everyone. The room buzzed with excitement as kids immerse themselves into these classic games, fostering camaraderie and good-natures rivalry.



No social is complete without great food, and this event was no exception. Each child enjoyed their very own personalized sub, thoughtfully crafted to suit their tastes. The kids relished their tasty sandwiches, which were paired with refreshing drinks, ensuring they were fueled for a night of fun and games.



Marching with PRIDE

On June 15th, the spirit of community, diversity, and inclusion was in full swing as Jordan's Principle proudly participated in the Thunder Bay Pride Parade. It was a vibrant and joyous occasion that brought together people from all walks of life to celebrate love and equality.

The parade kicked off at Hillcrest Park, where our team, adorned in colourful attire and waving pride flags, joined hundreds of others in the march towards Waverly Park. The energy was infectious as participants walked together, sharing smiles, cheers, and supports for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

The celebration continues at the Pride Festival in Waverly Park, which was bustling with activity. There were booths showcasing a variety of crafts, unique clothing and delicious food, and vital information on local resources. Performances added to the festive atmosphere, making it a memorable day for all who attended.

Jordan's Principle came prepared to make a meaningful impact. They brought an array of t-shirts, buttons, Pride flags, and water to share with participants. Additionally, they provided reading materials with valuable resources and information. Prioritizing health and safety, they also had a first aid kit on hand, ensuring a secure and enjoyable experience for everyone!

The Thunder Bay Pride Parade was a resounding success, we are grateful for the opportunity to be part of such a significant event. Everyone who joined us had a fantastic time, and the sense of unity and celebration was truly heartwarming. We are already looking forward to next year's parade, where we plan to be even bigger, more colourful, and full of PRIDE!

The Parade: A March of Pride and Solidarity

On June 25th, Jordan's Principle hosted a vibrant and joyous Pride Parade in BZA, bringing the community together to celebrate love, diversity, and unity. It was a day filled with color and creativity.

The festivities began on June 24th, with a fun-filled prep day. Community members gathered to create their own signs for the parade, expressing their support and pride. We provided a variety of decorations, ensuring everyone had what they needed to adorn their vehicles, quads, bikes and more. The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement as participants prepared to showcase their creative expressions.

On the day of the parade, participants assembled at the RBCFS office, ready to embark on the main loop of BZA. Leading the parade was Officer Guy Gladeau, setting the pace with his enthusiastic presence. As we paraded through the streets, the community came alive. Neighbors stood in their yards and peeked out from their windows, waving, and cheering us on, creating a heartwarming display of support.

After the parade, everyone reconvened at the RBCFS office for a moment of reflection and celebration. We signed a large banner to commemorate the day and captured the joy with plenty of photos. The sense of community and togetherness was palpable, making it a memorable event for all who attended.

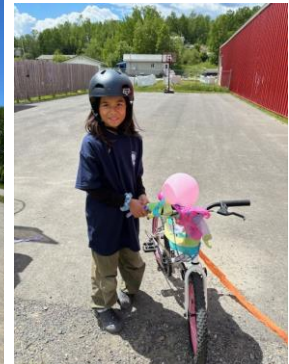
We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated and supported the BZA Pride Parade. Your enthusiasm and presence made the day truly special. We look forward to next year's parade, where we hope to continue spreading the message of pride and inclusion even further.

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THUNDER BAY PRIDE PARADE



BZA PRIDE PARADE



Crafting Tradition

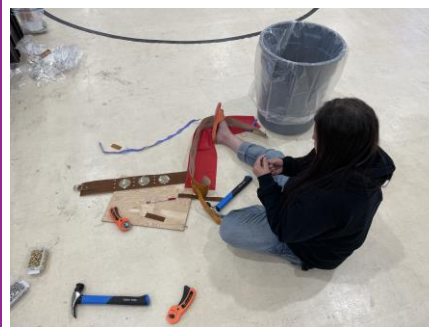
In June, several of our team members from Rocky Bay Child & Family Services embraced the rich traditions of our community by participating in a Regalia Making Workshop. Hosted by Mishkogeeshik Art along with the Band Offices Family well-being worker as well as Family Support. This event was held at the BZA Community Centre, this workshop was a meaningful opportunity for participants to connect with cultural heritage through hands on crafting.

The workshop provided a welcoming space for participants to immerse themselves in the art of traditional regalia making. Guided by skilled instructors, attendees learned the intricate processes of crafting leather belts, beautiful regalia, and designing both ribbon skirts and shirts. Each piece crafted during the workshop not only reflected personal creativity but also hones cultural traditions passed down through generations.

The atmosphere at the BZA Community Centre was one of collaboration and learning. Team members worked side by side, sharing tips, stories, and encouragement as they crafted their items. The workshop serves as a platform for building skills and fostering a deeper appreciation for the cultural significance of the regalia.

Regalia plays a vital role in many cultural ceremonies and celebrations, symbolizing identity, pride and heritage. By learning how to create these garments, participants were able to connect more deeply with their roots and contribute to the preservation of their cultural practices. The workshop was not just about crafting; it was about maintaining and celebrating a living tradition.

We are incredibly proud of our team members who participated in this enriching experience. Their dedication to learning and preserving cultural traditions is inspiring.



Soaring High with Smiles

On a bright and breezy day, the RBCFS team transformed the yard of Spirit Bay school in BZA into a vibrant sea of colorful kites! The Kite Festival Activity Day was a delightful event where local children, with kits in hand filled the sky with colors, enjoying the thrill of flight and community spirit.

Each child received their very own kites, leading to an explosion of creativity and excitement as they flew their new treasures. NO festival is complete without some mouth-watering goodies! The children and their families indulged in juicy cheeseburgers and refreshing ice cream, making the day even more special.

This event was a wonderful blend of fun and bonding, leaving everyone with smiles and cherished memories. A big thank you to the BZA RBCFS team for their effort in creating such a magical day for the BZA community!

Simultaneously, in Thunder Bay, the festive atmosphere was mirrored at Chippewa Park, where Jessica Colvin and Rita Pugliese hosted a bustling booth as a part of the Kite Festival celebration. The park was abuzz with laughter and joy as families gathered to participate in the day's activities.

Visitors to the booth were thrilled to receive their own kites, adding to the kaleidoscope of colors in the sky. To keep the energy high, participants enjoyed delicious hotdogs and refreshing juice boxes, making sure everyone had a great time.

Both events showcased the essence of community spirit and the joy of coming together. Whether it was the vibrant kites soaring over Spirit Bay School or the cheerful gatherings at Chippewa Park, the Kite Festival brought happiness and a sense of togetherness to everyone involved.



A Heartwarming Elders Social

Once again, the Thunder Bay RBCFS Office was a hub of warmth, laughter and community as beloved Winonah Thompson hosted the monthly Elders Social. This cherished event is a staple in our community calendar, bringing together our respected elders for an evening of fun, food, and fellowship.

The room was filled with excitement as the elders engaged in several spirited rounds of bingo. The friendly competition added to the joy of the gathering, with everyone eagerly eating to call out “BINGO!” and win fantastic prizes.

Our elders were treated to a delicious meal featuring tender moose meat, perfectly cooked green beans, and creamy mashed potatoes. The highlight was the dessert – the iconic Thunder Bay delicacy, Persians. These sweet treats were the perfect way to end the meal on a high note.



No one left empty handed! After a wonderful time playing bingo and sharing stories, elders went home with not just full stomachs but also arms full of prizes, making this gathering even more memorable.

The Elders Social is more than just an event; it's a celebration of community, heritage and the bonds that keep us connected. A heartfelt thank you to Winonah Thompson for her unwavering dedication, and for making these gathering such a cherished part of our community life.



Recruitment

June was a bustling month for our team at Rocky Bay Child & Family Services as we took our recruitment efforts to various locations throughout Thunder Bay. Our mission? To inform the community about the enriching programs we offer, particularly those under our Traditonal Care Service Model.

At each location, we saw a remarkable level of interest and enthusiasm. Many community members were eager to learn more about our services and how we integrate Traditonal Care practices into our programs. Our Team was on hand to provide detailed information, answer questions, and share the values that underpin our approach.

The response to our Traditonal Care Service Model was overwhelmingly positive. Attendees praised the model. We were thrilled to see so many people taking pamphlets and contact cards to share with their families to consider how they might benefit from our services.

June's recruitment events were not just about raising awareness; they were about forging meaningful connection with our community. We are grateful for the opportunity to share our vision and excited to continue these conversations.



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