

# Parent Handbook

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2730 Canyon Road  
Enderby, B.C. V0E 1V3  
Phone: 250-838-6404  
Fax: 250-838-6429

## Parent Checklist:

- Registration Package
- Subsidy Forms
- Inside and outside shoes
- Clothing suitable for all weather conditions
- At least one change of clothes
- Immunization status
- Care Card number
- Emergency Contacts
- Diapers, formula, baby food (as applicable)

***Please remember that it is your responsibility to clearly label all of your child's belongings***

Welcome to the Splantsin Tsm7aksáItn (Splantsin Teaching Centre) Society. This handbook will help you understand our policies, procedures, and expectations, and we'll tell you about our centre. If you are unclear about anything in the handbook, please don't hesitate to contact the centre and speak with any of the staff.

### **About the Society and the childcare centre:**

We are a non-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors, who meet monthly to discuss matters relating to the operations of the centre including projects, policies, and finances. Our childcare centre is licensed pursuant to the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act* and *Child Care Licensing Regulations*, and our programming and staff meet all requirements set forth by licensing.

We have programming that is appropriate to all ages and developmental levels of children in care, from newborns to school aged. Our fully secured building and playground offer individual and separate areas for each age group, ensuring the activities in which they participate encourage the health, safety, and dignity of the children. We provide hot, nutritious lunches and snacks in line with the Canada Food Guide, and observe dietary and allergen restrictions for children where necessary.

The philosophy of our childcare centre is that children come first in everything we do, and as such our programs are all designed in the best interest of the children in care. Our goal is to provide culturally appropriate, inclusive care that fosters the ongoing learning and development of the children in the centre.

The Society strives to form a partnership with the parents in fostering the development of the children in our care. We provide diverse programs that recognize the individuality of each child, and are respectful of differences in race, gender, religion, nationality, ability, and family status. We want parents to be active members in their child's care, and provide opportunities for their involvement through meetings, workshops, fund-raising events, newsletters, field trips, language classes, and cultural lessons.

### **Building security:**

For security purposes, all families and visitors are required to enter the building through the front door. When you arrive, you will need to alert staff using the doorbell beside the front door. Staff will come greet you at the door and let you in.

Doors inside the centre are locked at all times, and gates are latched with childproof latches. This ensures that only authorized persons can enter the building and move between rooms, and ensures ongoing safety and security for the children in care. We also have a digital video camera system inside and outside of our centre.

### **Registration and Subsidy procedures:**

Enrollment for all childcare spaces will occur on a first-come, first-serve basis with preference given to full time spaces.

Parents or guardians are responsible for completing the child's registration form upon enrollment. Please ensure that you have all items listed on the checklist on the front page of this document. We recommend that parents visit our centre to become familiar with our programming, and to become acquainted with our staff.

Subsidy must be completed before your child attends our centre.

New children enrolling will be asked to do two orientation sessions that are 4 hours each prior to enrolling full-time. Children will attend with parents for 2 hours and without parents for 2 hours. There is no charge for this orientation. This will allow parents, teachers and child an opportunity to get to know each other.

### **Hours of operation:**

Our centre is open from 8am until 5pm, Mondays to Fridays. We operate from September to June of each year. We have the same schedule as the School District 83 and are closed on all Pro D Days, statutory holidays, and during Christmas Break, Spring Break, and Summer Break.

*\* If there are two Pro-D days in a row – our centre will stay open for one of them. Check with your child's teacher or centre newsletter.*

### **Programming:**

Children develop positive self image by being able to do things independently. We encourage children to do as much as possible for themselves. Our programming is based on best practices and up to date research into child development and early childhood education, and incorporates culturally relevant First Nations topics and activities. Our childcare centre interacts closely with the Society's Language Program to provide Splantsin language programming to the children and staff, and we encourage parents to participate whenever possible.

### **Signing in:**

Each program has a sign-in sheet, where parents are responsible for marking their child in and out each day. Parents are responsible to notify workers when their children arrive and are leaving the building each day. We call this the hand to hand policy. We will only release children to a parent/adult and ask parents to do the same. These sheets are a legislative requirement to ensure the safety and whereabouts of your child at all times when in our care.

### **Enrollment and Payment policy:**

Payment is required on the first business day of the month for which care is being provided. Parent paid payments must be paid in advance of the month. Subsidies must be in place before a child attends.

Payments will be made directly to the Executive Director, or to your child's teacher and a receipt will be given to you. Payment can be made by cash or personal cheque.

If your child is unable to attend the centre for any reason (parent vacation, child illness, etc.), no refund of fees will be provided.

If a child is withdrawn, we require two weeks written notice.

Drop-Ins: Children who are registered full-time have priority. On occasion, there are open seats available for drop ins on request. Parents should phone the child's teacher to ensure there is space for the day needed. The child must have a registration in place and payment is due upon arrival.

Government subsidies are the responsibility of the parents, though centre staff will assist you in preparing the forms and submitting them to the Ministry of Children and Family Development. If you require a modification to the scheduled days your children are to be in care, please provide us with notice in writing two weeks prior, and notify the appropriate contact at the Ministry of Children and Family Development.

Government subsidy will only cover 20 days of childcare in a calendar month. There are some months with more than 20 days of daycare and parents are responsible for payment of the difference.

Parent bills will be provided at the beginning of the month and will be taped to children's cubbies or sent in backpacks if they ride the bus.

If parents require a tax receipt at the end of the year, please notify the Executive Director.

### **Withdrawing your child:**

We require written notice two weeks in advance of withdrawing your child from care. In lieu of notice, you may provide payment of two weeks childcare fees.

## **Repayment Agreement**

We will reimburse any pre-paid fees within two weeks of the withdrawal of your child. If two weeks written notice are not provided to the centre, repayment will be of all pre-paid fees, excepting fees for two weeks of care in lieu of notice.

## **Missed Days Policy**

If your child is unable to attend for the day, please phone and let their teacher know by 9:00am. This is especially important if your child arrives at the centre by bus: when the bus arrives, and your child is not there and we haven't received notice that they will not be attending, we must take time away from programming to ensure your child's safety.

## **Parent participation**

Our facility has an open door policy, and we welcome and encourage parent visits and participation. Parents are welcome to come and have lunch with their child anytime. Lunch is served at 11:30am.

We will have various events throughout the year where parent attendance and participation is especially welcome, such as feasts and field trips such as: Sunflower Picnic (parent participation is mandatory for this day), Kingfisher Salmon Release, Winterfeast, Aboriginal Day and Graduation Ceremony, Splatsin Baby Welcome Ceremony, Family Day Breakfasts for Mother and Father's Day, Welcome Back BBQ, etc.

Parents are asked to become members of our society and these forms are included in the childcare registration package. It is a one time fee of \$1.00 for a whole year of membership. As members of our society you are encouraged to attend our Annual General meeting every June. Parents are encouraged to become Directors of our Society. Directors meet once a month as volunteers to oversee the operations and finances of our centre.

Please note that unregistered children who accompany parents to the centre are the sole responsibility of the parent. The Society is unable to provide care or supervision to children who are not officially registered in care.

## **Drop-off and pick up procedures**

Our centre is open from 8:00am until 5:00pm. We encourage parents to have their child at the centre before 10:00am to ensure they have every opportunity to fully participate in the programming for the day.

Parents who pick up their child after 5:00pm will be charged a late fee of \$1 per minute. This is to be paid directly to the centre staff accompanying your child. Please note that late fees are not covered by subsidy.

For the safety of your children, we will only release your child to the parents or emergency contacts listed on your child's registration forms.

As a last resort, if we are unable to reach a parent or Emergency Contact after 6:15pm, we will contact the Ministry for Children and Family Development (MCFD) or the Splatstn Stmamlt Services.

## Access to Children in Centre - Board Resolution 2015-002

Created May 26, 2015

**Whereas** the Splatstn Tsm7aksaltn is a place of safety for children and their families;

**Therefore** in the event that the Child Welfare Program, MCFD, RCMP, or any other agency request admission to our Centre for the purpose of apprehending children or conducting investigative interviews with children enrolled in the Centre, or with staff employed in the Centre, they will be directed to the Executive Director, who will advise them to arrange those interviews or apprehensions to take place away from the Splatstn Tsm7aksaltn Teaching Centre.

The above policy has been incorporated into the policies and procedures of the Centre for the knowledge and review of all current and future staff.

### Abuse policy

As required by law, any child abuse or suspected child abuse will be reported to the appropriate agency such as the Ministry for Children and Family Development or Splatstn Stmamlt Services. Staff have a duty and obligation to report. However, if apprehensions or interviews are required, they must take place away from the Splatstn Tsm7aksaltn (Splatstn Teaching Centre) Society.

### Safe release of children

We are unable to release children to individuals who are not the child's parent or legal guardian unless we have received confirmation that this is permitted. We must have, in writing, consent to release your child to somebody other than a parent or legal guardian. Without this the child will remain in our care until we can get in contact with a parent or legal guardian. If we are unable to reach a parent or Emergency Contact after 6:15pm, we will contact the Ministry for Children and Family Development (MCFD) or the Splatstn Stmamlt Services.

Verbal permission via telephone will be permitted as long as the parent/guardian confirms detailed information about the pick-up person (name, address, telephone number, relationship to child) and the person presents photo identification to verify said information at the centre. Staff will document the time of the telephone call and the information shared.

The centre will not release any child to any person who appears to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs. In these circumstances, a family member or Emergency Contact must come and pick up the child. If the individual who appears to be under the influence insists on taking the child, the RCMP will be contacted.

### **Custodial and related court orders**

If a custody or court order exists within a family, a copy of the order will be placed in the child's file and the instructions followed at all times. Families need to inform staff of all custody and court order changes. All staff who have access to the child will also initial the court order to ensure that they have read and understand the court order.

The child's file is confidential to our centre staff, who are bound by confidentiality clauses in employment contracts. The information in your child's file about custody and unauthorized access is to ensure the safety and well being of your child while under our care.

### **Release of Information About Children in Care**

Occasionally, natural parents of children in care will request information regarding their child who is in the care of the Splatstn Stsmamlt Services or the Ministry of Children and Family Development. All such requests are to go to the Licensing Manager and/or Executive Director, who will contact the appropriate Social Worker for consent to release the information or to allow the parent to come into the centre.

Please note that centre staff are not able to supervise visitation for natural parents of children in care, as they are required to be fully attentive to the needs of the children in our care.

### **Accidents and Incident reporting**

If your child has an accident that does not require hospital or doctor care – staff will write up an Incident Report Form to inform parents of the nature of the incident. Names of other children involved will not be included. These forms must be signed by the parent, Executive Director, Staff person who witnessed event. The Incident Report Form must be returned to the centre, where they will be filed in your child's file.

As required by legislation, any injuries requiring medical attention will be reported via Incident Report Form to Community Care Licensing by the Centre's Licensing Manager and staff person's involved.

The procedures remain in place while children are in our care at the centre or on field trips or special events.

### **Staff and parent Communication**

Parents are expected and required to communicate with centre staff in a polite and appropriate manner. Physical and/or verbal abuse will not be tolerated.

If you would like to speak about specific issues related to your child, you may make an appointment with their teacher for a mutually agreeable date and time. We encourage open communication between parents and the centre at all times, but recognize that pick-up and drop-off periods can be hectic, and not foster easy and clear communication.

There is a parent notice board inside the centre where we will periodically provide information that may be of interest to you. We also have our Facebook site:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/splatsin/>

Youtube channel: splatsin1

First Voices: <http://www.firstvoices.com/en/home> (Splat sin dialect)

Tsm7aksaltn Newsletters and calendars will go out once per month in the children's cubbies. We will provide weekly reminders about field trips and special events.

## **Bus Service**

Bus service is available to parents who don't have a vehicle or have a medical condition that prevents them from driving. The bus service is a courtesy service that we provide to assist parents on an as needed basis at the discretion of the Executive Director.

Communication to the van driver must be respectful at all times as this is a courtesy service. Communication about the child should occur with the child's teacher not the bus driver. They try their best to stay on schedule but it can be difficult.

As the van can only seat five children, we will do our best to schedule pick ups and drop offs. It is important that you have your child ready at the recommended pick up/drop off time. Parents must come to the van to assist the driver to buckle and unbuckle their child. It is the driver's responsibility to always double check the buckles and straps to ensure the safety of the child. The driver will only release your child to parents or emergency contacts listed on your child's registration form. Again we use the 'Hand to Hand' policy where a child will only be released to another adult that is listed as a parent or emergency contact.

The van run may be cancelled if unforeseen circumstances take place such as: bad weather, van repairs, staff shortages. In the event that happens, the driver or teacher will phone parents to let them know.

If we are short staffed – bus run may also be cancelled. The children in our care take priority and we must always meet staff to child ratios as required by licensing regulations. The Program Supervisor will contact all parent's potentially affected by these circumstances to give them ample time to arrange for alternative means of transportation.

## **Car seats**

The centre encourages the proper use of appropriate car seats for the age of your child. If a parent does not have a car seat to safely transport their child, they may request to borrow one on a short-term basis from our Aboriginal Infant Development Program at 250-838-6404 ext.231.

## **Child illness policy**

Often we have many uncertainties regarding when parents should keep their child at home if they appear sick. We know that having to keep your child home for the day can often be very difficult when you have to work or go to school. We urge parents to always have a back up plan for these unforeseen instances. When children keep returning to the centre when they are ill, viruses spread and we end up with an ongoing sickness in the centre affecting other children, families and staff.

Please do not bring your children to daycare if they are not well enough to participate in the program or go outside. (This is especially true for babies who are not well and just want to be cuddled by their loved one all day.)

Our general rule of thumb is:

**“If children are too sick to go outside, they are too sick to be here”**

To protect the health of centre staff and the other children in care, we request that parents do not bring their child to the centre if they are exhibiting any of the following symptoms:

- They have a temperature of **100°F / 38.3°C** accompanied by general symptoms such as listlessness or sluggishness may be an early sign of an illness that requires a doctor’s attention.
- A common cold or flu symptoms that may include: listlessness, runny nose and eyes, coughing and sore throat, difficulty in swallowing.
- Difficulty in breathing-wheezing or persistent cough
- ear ache (fever / pulling at the ear / severe crying).
- stiff neck (should see doctor immediately)
- infected eyes (swollen or discharge / itchy)
- an **un-diagnosed skin rash**. It is a licensing requirement that children with an un-diagnosed skin rash be asked to attend a doctor and get a doctor’s note to explain what the skin rash is before children can return to daycare. This is to ensure that no communicable diseases (list attached) spread to other children or staff.
- Children with **oozing sores or skin rashes that are considered contagious** or communicable and have pus / or fluid oozing from the sores or rash will not be allowed to attend until all sores have clearly healed over.
- **colored discharge coming from the nose or eyes**. If your child has been sent home with colored discharge from the eyes or nose - they need to stay home until it has cleared up (green and yellow discharge is often a sign of infection that can be spread to other children).
- If the symptoms (runny nose and eyes, coughing) are caused by a **known allergy** (e.g. hay fever, asthma) and the child is not contagious – they do not have to be excluded but must have a doctor’s note.
- They have **unexplained vomiting, diarrhea or loose stool** (may or may not be accompanied with nausea, vomiting or stomach cramps). These symptoms may indicate a bacterial or viral gastrointestinal infection which is very easily passed from one child to another via the hand to mouth and toy use.

- If child has been sent home with diarrhea, they need to have a formed bowel movement for 24 hours before returning.
- They have severe itching, dry skin on either body or scalp caused by scabies, lice or nits (lice eggs). Your child may return when their hair has been treated properly and all nits have been removed. Your child's hair will be checked before being able to return to the program. If your child has scabies, the rash has to be treated and scabbed over before children will be allowed to return.
- They have any known communicable disease.

If your child becomes ill while at the centre, we will contact you to pick them up as soon as possible. If we cannot reach you, we will contact the child's Emergency Contact person. If your child is diagnosed with a communicable disease within 24 hours of attending the centre, please notify our facility as other children may have been exposed.

### Medication policy

Staff will administer doctor prescribed medication to your child only upon receipt of a completed Medication Form. These forms can be obtained from your child's teacher. Medication must be in its original container with the child's name, physician's name, and dosage clearly indicated. Please note: the centre will not administer over-the-counter medication (cough syrup, Tylenol) to any child for any reason.

### Fire drill system

We practice fire drills monthly, in accordance with the *Child Care Licensing Regulation*. As our fire drill system requires us to leave the building, it is important that your child has indoor shoes or slippers at all times.

### Emergency plan

Emergency evacuations are for events that are more serious than just fires, and that may affect the entire community. We practice our emergency evacuation procedure at least once per year. Situations where we may have to evacuate immediately would be fire, natural gas situation, community disaster, etc.

Upon evacuating the centre, we will take all children to the Quilakwa Esso Board Room (above the Tim Hortons at 5655 Hwy 97A, Enderby, BC) and ensure that all children and staff are accounted for. Parents will be immediately notified, and asked to pick up their children. In cases of extreme emergency, we will move to the Splatsin Community Centre at 5775 Old Vernon Rd, Enderby, BC (beside the Splatsin Health Centre and Band Office).

## Field trips

Throughout the year, your child's teacher will organize educational and culturally relevant field trips. Before your child is able to attend, we will require a permission slip or consent form signed by a parent or legal guardian.

Parents are welcome and invited to attend all field trips.

For those field trips that require travel by vehicle, parents will be asked to transport their own children if possible as our van only seats 5 children. The centre is unable to transport all children by vehicle to remote field trip sites. This is especially true for the Sunflower Picnic and Kingfisher Fish Release where parent participation is required.

## Clothing

Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for outdoor play in each season. This may include boots, jackets, snow pants, gloves, and hats as necessary. Your child also requires outdoor shoes, indoor shoes or slippers, and at least one change of clothing.

If your child is not potty trained, please ensure that you provide adequate diapers and wipes.

Ensure that your child's clothing items are clearly identified with their name. The centre is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

## Toys from Home

Children are permitted to bring toys from home to be used during free play and for show and tell. If the toy becomes a distraction, it will be placed in the child's cubby for safekeeping until the end of the day.

Please note that the centre takes no responsibility for the loss or damage of any toys brought from home.

## Child Discipline Policy

Staff of the Splatsin Tsm7aksaltn will appreciate the fact that all children have unique personalities deserving of their respect and total commitment.

Staff will attempt to nurture in each child a positive self-image and caring attitude through modeling and positive reinforcement.

Positive redirection and reinforcement should be extended to all children with additional verbal explanations and clear choices where possible.

Verbal and physical abuse will not be tolerated as methods of discipline in the childcare centre.

In accordance with *Child Care Licensing Regulation* section 27(b), staff will ensure that no child under our care will be:

- Subjected to shoving, hitting, shaking, spanking, or any other form of corporal punishment,
- Subjected to harsh, belittling, or degrading treatment, whether verbal, emotional, or physical, that would humiliate the child or undermine the child's self-respect
- As a form of punishment, confined, physically restrained or kept, without adult supervision, apart from other children, and other staff members.
- As a form of punishment, deprived of meals, snacks, rest or necessary use of a toilet.

Discipline, if necessary, shall occur in the same room with other adults and children to protect both the child and the adult. Simple redirection will be given to the child, such as: "When you are ready, you can join the group". It shall be considered a time-away or cooling-off period until the child is ready to re-join the group.

Children are never to be isolated in a room with or without adult supervision.

Nap rooms and bathrooms are never to be used as discipline areas.

Holding the child to prevent further injury to themselves, other children or staff members will be considered a last resort. If necessary the child may be temporarily removed from the group activity. These techniques will be used only as last resort to give the child a chance to regroup before rejoining the group activity.

### **Food policy**

It is the Society's policy to provide healthy, nutritious food to the children in our care to encourage and assist healthy development and positive eating habits. Our food is based on the Canada Food Guide recommended daily servings for children, and includes breakfast and afternoon snacks and a hot, nutritious lunch. Food will never be used as a reward or punishment, and children will be offered all foods.

We encourage the use of organic, chemical free food for children.

We strive to serve food that is healthy for diabetics. We will eliminate use of white starch products and strive to provide protein balanced meals that are healthy for elders and diabetics.

Our centre has an allergy policy in place, which includes posting information on the child's allergies in their files and in the kitchen, Kia7as room and in each program where food service occurs. Staff who are responsible for preparing food will check the allergy cards daily and ensure that no inappropriate food is served to any child.

We also are a “Peanut Free Zone”. No food that contains potential peanut products will be knowingly served to any child in our centre. We ask that parents check children’s snacks in their lunches to ensure that no peanut products are served. Staff will do their best to check any outside snacks that children bring in to ensure they are peanut free. If they contain peanuts – they will be sent home with the child.

Our centre follows a strict “no junk food” policy. We will not serve candy, processed food items, or food items high in sugar high in saturated fat to children in care, nor will we allow them to eat these food items in the centre if they’re brought from home. The centre ensures that all food items used in the preparation of food follow recommended daily allowances by Health Canada.

## Our programs

Our philosophy is that “children come first” in all that we do. Our centre will provide an atmosphere that stimulates positive learning, growth, and development in your child in a manner that is fun, safe, and positive.

The foundation of our program is to treat all children with respect for their individuality and capabilities. We will provide experiences that allow each child to learn real problem-solving skills, in hopes they develop a view of themselves as capable individuals. Providing children choices as often as possible allows them to feel that they have a sense of power in their own lives.

We strive to incorporate the Splantsin language and culture into all of our programs with activities such as language with the Kia7as, Winterfeast, traditional dancing, singing, hand drum making, crafts, staff language classes, traditional berry picking, curriculum such as the fish and hunting units and field trips like the Fish Release and Sunflower Picnic.

### Fawn Program for children aged 0 to 18 months: 250-838-6404 ext. 224

- **Staff Ratio:** one employee per four children
- **Maximum licensed capacity:** 12 children

The philosophy of the Fawn Program is to nurture and care for babies. It is called the Fawn Program as children gain their walking abilities in our program much the same as baby Fawns do. We will provide a positive environment that helps to develop each child’s specific level of development.

Caregiving is the main curricular focus of the program, and consists of eating, diapering, dressing, and napping. Daily caregiving routines are seen as important learning opportunities for focused one-on-one interactions with children.

### Bear Cub Program for children aged 19-36 months: 250-838-6404, ext. 232

- **Staff Ratio:** one employee per four children
- **Maximum licensed capacity:** 12 children

The philosophy of Bearcub Program is to give the children the words for their feelings and the skills to problem-solve on their own and to help develop their self-help skills. We call it the Bear Cub program as children in this age group are the same as baby bears. Being curious, rough and tumble and testing their limits. We will provide a positive environment that helps to develop each child's specific level of development.

Toddlers are active, curious people who often act on impulse. They "test", sometimes doing things that are dangerous, and sometimes intruding on the rights of others. These are learning situations, and through them children gain a sense of their personal power, as well as reasonable limits and social skills. A major goal of this program is for children be potty trained.

It is our intent that the children in our Bear Cub Program will graduate into our other programs with self-confidence, independence, decision-making skills, and respect for themselves and others.

#### **Salmon Program for 36 Months to 5 years old: 250-838-6404, ext. 222**

- **Staff ratio:** one employee per eight children
- **Maximum licensed capacity:** 25

Children in the Salmon Program will be encouraged to learn problem solving and independence, through the provision of opportunities to promote respect for others and for themselves. It is called the Salmon Program as children in this age group are the same as Salmon fingerlings – learning to swim and find their way in the world.

Children do a lot of learning through free play and outdoor learning activities, which creates opportunity for building social skills. Emergent learning is a big part of the curriculum. Children have an opportunity to learn to communicate with other children and adults about what their needs are. Circle times allow for an opportunity to focus on early childhood development and school readiness activities. Being independent is a big goal of this program.

### **Eagle Program for children aged 5 to 12 years old: 250-838-6404, ext. 223**

- **Staff ratio:** one employee per ten children
- **Maximum licensed capacity:** 15

Our philosophy and goals for the after school program are to provide safe, fun, and encouraging environments for recreation and learning. We will encourage opportunities to promote respect for self and for others in the program.

Our after school program will help give the youth their “wings” by allowing them to be involved in decision-making for the program. As such, our curriculum is based on the interests of the group, and will include culturally appropriate activities.

### **Splatsin Language and Culture Program – 250-838-6404, ext. 225**

Our Society takes pride in the work our Language and Culture Program has done to retain and promote the Splatsin language. By collaborating between the childcare programs and the language programs, our centre is able to offer culturally relevant education to children, as well as develop Splatsin language skills at an early age.

The Kia7as come to our centre every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday to help document, teach, and preserve the Splatsin language. There are less than 1% of the Splatsin people who can still fluently speak the Splatsin language. So the Kia7as participation is vital to preserving our language.

The Splatsin language program also works with other agencies such as UBCO to develop a future game application for teaching the Splatsin language. They are also working on digitizing old audio tapes, video tapes and uploading words to the First Voices app/online teaching tool.

We encourage parents to become involved in our Splatsin language and culture programs. We need help from everyone to help us be successful in our programming.

### **Aboriginal Infant Development Program – 250-838-6404, ext. 231**

Our AIDP Consultant works 1-on-1 with any family in the community who has a child between the ages of 0 and 6 years old to provide support in centre and through home based visits. These services are available to all Aboriginal families.

The AIDP Consultant provides early intervention support and can do DAYC2 Assessments, Ages and Stages Assessments on children at the request of the parent or guardian. We also provide parent and tot groups, parent and baby swimming programs, picnics, cooking classes, Splatsin Baby Welcome Ceremony, winter clothing exchange, parent sewing groups, and other activities that foster cooperation and collaboration in the development of the child.

To help assist in appropriate development of children in the community, we have an extensive resource library, toy lending program, car seat loan program, and baby welcoming gifts.

**Aboriginal Supported Child Care Program – 250-838-6404 ext. 227**

Our ASCD Consultant works with families and children aged 0 to 12 years old with unique needs. Our goal is to have a respectful and confidential working relationship with families and professionals to develop care plans appropriate for children. This could include speech therapy, gross motor development, etc. We are able to do in centre assessments when requested. Our ASCD Consultant will work one on one with children, group activities with children, speech support, home visits, toy lending, resource library, and incorporate Splatsin language and culture wherever possible. Our goal is to have parents involved and informed in the work we do on behalf of your child.

**Speech and Language Support: (250) 838-6404 ext. 227**

We have an in centre Speech and Language Pathologist who will come once a month to provide guidance to staff regarding speech activities for children. She may do some speech assessments if time allows as she is contracted for 4 hours a month currently.

If you are concerned about your child's speech you can request a speech assessment and in centre speech therapy with our ASCD Consultant. We can also do referrals to Interior Health Speech Pathologist. Speech therapy includes Splatsin language and cultural themes in speech activities.