

## Foster Parent Newsletter Tłıchq Region



**April 2018  
Issue 3**

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## Current News: April 2018

### **Foster Parent Sharing Group**

The second foster parent sharing group was held March 19, 2018 with 8 people in attendance. The group discussed how to build extended family connections with children in care, upcoming training, and planned a cook out for our next event.

### **Foster Rate Increases**

The Department of Health and Social Services has adjusted and increased foster care rates as follows:

	Current	New
Behchokò	\$33	\$42
Gamèti	\$36	\$36
Wekweèti	\$38	\$42
Whati	\$36	\$42

In an interview with CBC North (April 4, 2018), Tammy Krivda, Executive Director of the Foster Family Coalition, applauded the decision and stated that foster parents will be better able to care for children in their care and won't have to spend money out of pocket.

The new foster rates will be applied to the next foster



care cheques, issued May 10, 2018.

### **Adoption Subsidy Change**

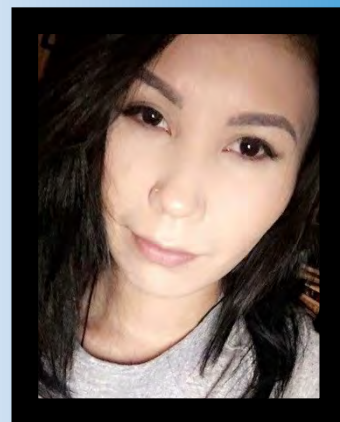
Subsidized adoption rates will increase from 60% to 90% of the basic maintenance rates for approved adoptive parents. This change will help families who want to adopt but were unable to due to financial strain.

### **Cookout planned**

Cookout and sliding will take place at the Culture Centre April 16th, 2018 at 5pm. Please bring your own sleds. See you there for hotdogs and burgers!

### **Newest Staff member**

Stephanie Rabesca completed her practicum placement in April 2018, and has accepted an internship with BCFS as a Community Social Services Worker. Please welcome Stephanie to our team!



### **Finalizing Annual Reviews**

Foster parents with outstanding documentation for their annual reviews will receive a letter indicating which documents are overdue. Please contact your social worker with any questions

## Fostering Questions and Answers

### **Can I bring my foster child with me out of the country?**

Yes! We encourage our foster parents to travel with their foster children as this amazing opportunity expands their worldview and helps children feel every much a part of the family as biological children who may be travelling. It is important to let the social worker know of your plans early, so the worker can get everything prepared for the passport application. There is also travel allowance that you can request to assist with the fos-

ter child's experience. A travel letter will be prepared by the social worker as well.

### **What do I do if my foster child has an appointment in Yellowknife?**

You are encouraged to take your foster children to all of their appointments, as you are responsible for their day to day care. After the appointment, updating the social worker about any mediation or further testing is important for our records.

### **Are there any summer camps for foster children?**

There are many summer camp opportunities for foster children, and the cost of camp can be covered by BCFS. All of our children are invited to participate in CAMP CONNECTIONS. There are also overnight camps organized by various church groups, community agencies and non-profit societies. Talk to your social worker for more details.

Camp Connections. Photo credits <https://www.fcnwt.com/>



AT **Camp Connections**  
Always...&



## Camp Connections Adventure!

- Camp Connections is an on-the-land adventure based camp for children ages 7-18 who are currently, or have been involved with Social Services. The camp was started in 2003 and has remained one of the FFC-NWT's biggest projects. Hundreds of

kids in foster care or adopted have benefited from the life skills, artistic, athletic opportunities, and most importantly FUN that is at Camp Connections!

### 2018 Camp Schedule

Session	Ages	Date
Session #1	7-11 coed	July 3 - July 9
Session #2	12-14 coed	July 14 - July 20
Session #3	7-11 coed	July 25 - July 31
Session #4	12-18 coed	August 5 - August 11
Session #5	7-11 coed	August 16 - August 22