Child Care ASSESSMENT & Action Plan

A Community Plan to Meet Local Child Care Needs in Prince Rupert

Children's Drawing Activity



BY RAIL AND SHIP WE WIN OUR WEALTH
WITH NET AND PICK
CITY OF PRINCE RUPERT
INCORPORATED MARCH 10, 1910

ABOUT THIS PROJECT

The City of Prince Rupert is completing a **Child Care Assessment & Action Plan** and would like your involvement! The plan will provide our community with a clear picture of existing and future child care needs along with actions to realizing space creation targets.

Ways to Get Involved

1) **Parent Survey** – Open from August 15th, 2019 to September 30th, 2019, the purpose of the survey is to hear directly from parents on local child care needs, challenges and opportunities. Paper copies of the parent survey are also available at the Friendship House Association, Roosevelt Hub and Northern Savings Credit Union. When completing a survey, you can enter your name to win one of two prizes for completing the online survey! The Prizes include a $500 RESP from Northern Savings Credit Union and a free swim/skate pass. To take the survey visit engage.princerupert.ca.

2) **Child Care Provider Survey -** Open from August 15th, 2019 to September 30th, 2019, the purpose of the survey is to hear directly from child care providers on local child care needs, challenges and opportunities. To take the survey visit engage.princerupert.ca.

3) **Child Participation Activity (included in this package)**– The purpose of this exercise is to hear directly from children about what they value in respect their care environment. Completed kits can be returned to the City of Prince Rupert (Attention: Veronika Stewart) by September 30th, 2019. The toolkit is also available online (engage.princerupert.ca).

4) **Plan Review** – In February 2020 (exact date TBA) attend the public drop-in session to allow for community review and feedback of the draft plan. For updates visit **engage.princerupert.ca.**

Contact

Veronika Stewart, Communications Manager, City of Prince Rupert
(250) 627-0976 veronika.stewart@princerupert.ca

EDUCATORS' GUIDE FOR CHILD PARTICIPATION & CONSULTATION

Activity facilitated by:
Location of Activity:
Date & Time:
Approximate Age of the child:

Thank you for taking the time to help us gather child perspective and input related to the child care needs in Prince Rupert. This activity, along with other engagement activities, will be helpful in developing the Prince Rupert Child Care Assessment & Action Plan.

***Purpose*:** To support educators to as they implement child participation and consultation.
***Goal*:** To help inform the City's Child Care Assessment & Action Plan from a child's perspective.
***Educator's role*:** To facilitate child consultation with curiosity and inquiry.

STEPS FOR CONSULTATION

1. **Background Reading**
   Read through UNICEF'S Child Friendly Cities Initiative Guiding Principles, located here: https://childfriendlycities.org/guiding-principles/. What are some key principals that stand out to you?

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2. **The Drawing Activity**
   Keeping the UNICEF principles in mind, please use the attached "Drawing Activity" as a guide for child consultation. This activity is designed for child engagement and will focus on what children feel is of value or importance within and surrounding the spaces in which childcare is provided. This is a drawing activity that children can complete independently or with some assistance of an adult if necessary. If a child requires an adult to draw or write for them, please note this on the page. The language used in the script below is geared towards a child who is of school age, however it can be adapted to suite a younger child. It may be helpful to include observations, wonderings, or thoughts as you facilitate this activity.

Important to Note:

- It is the child's choice to participate in the activity. If the child is not interested in participating or wants to discontinue participating part way through, the activity will stop immediately.

- Adult assistance with the activity may be necessary, however please refrain from making any suggestions to the child as they may end up writing down what you have suggested in an effort to please the adult.

- Please do not include the child's name on the worksheet. Submitted worksheets should guarantee the child's anonymity. If the child does write their name, please black it out with marker to ensure the child's name is not legible.

- Parent permission is required for the child to participate. See authorization within the consultation package.

Wording or instructions are as follows:
"The City of Prince Rupert would like to know what kids like or value about their childcare space by asking them to draw or write down things they like or value about childcare (daycare) space. You don't have to participate in this activity, but we would love to have your help. Would you like to draw or write down some of your ideas to share with the City?

Your ideas might be mentioned in a report made by the City, and when new childcare spaces or daycares are built, they might include some of your ideas in the design. There are no right or wrong ideas and your worksheet won't be given a mark like at school.

ACTIVITY / SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

The box is where you put your ideas about what you currently like in your childcare (daycare) space (inside or outside). You can draw a picture, write words, paint or draw a diagram to show what you like. Completed packages can be dropped off at the City of Prince Rupert, 424 3rd West.

PARENT PERMISSION

Consent: I grant the City of Prince Rupert and their consultants the permission to use my son/daughter's drawing in the development of the City of Prince Rupert Child Care Assessment and Action Plan, at perpetuity.

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Parent Signature Date

Information is being collected, as per Section 26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for the purpose of better informing the City's child care needs assessment and action plan development. If you have any questions pertaining to the protection of your privacy, please feel free to contact: Veronika Stewart, Communications Manager, City of Prince Rupert, 424 3rd Avenue West, Prince Rupert, BC Phone: (250) 627 0976
Email: veronika.stewart@princerupert.ca

Child Care ASSESSMENT & Action Plan



Your age _____

Show us what you love about your child care space.

For more information: https://engage.princerupert.ca

VALUE OF CHILD CONSULTATION

Child consultation in the planning process might be considered a form of qualitative research for the purpose of discovering and implementing child-centered approaches or changes to a particular design element of a child's life. In this qualitative format, the goal of consultation is to view the planning of cities from a child's perspective, in order that the planning objectives might include a child-centred approach. The following examples provide insights into the value of child consultation in planning.

Framework

Eliano Riggio's article "Child friendly cities: good governance in the best interests of the child" provides an essential framework in understanding the value of designing child friendly cities. Writing in 2002, Riggio points out that, at the time, nearly half the world's population of children were living in urban centres, and that cities have not historically been provided the tools for planning with children in mind. This suggests that children have not been prioritized in the planning process, nor have their experiences been taken into account during any or all consultation processes. Indeed, she writes "Young citizens usually lack opportunities for expressing their very special needs and aspirations and for proposing alternatives from a child perspective" (2002, p. 42). Founded upon the Convention on the Rights of the Child, a child friendly city requires a planning process that includes child participation.

Child Consultation and Participation

UNICEF's child friendly cities initiative was launched in 1996, and partners with UN-Habitat with the expressed purpose of guaranteeing the well-being of children. The initiative is founded upon the Human Settlements resolution that aims to "make cities liveable places for all" and that the children are the primary indicator for the success of this goal (Child Friendly Cities Initiative UNICEF). Several projects have branched from this strategy and the city has marked several key completed projects resulting from this initiative and promotion of child rights.

Outcomes

While these resources provide a simple, and cursory, overview of the role of child consultation in planning, it is clear that valuing the voice and experience of the child, as a key stakeholder in city design, is important and vital. The overall health of a city depends on the overall health and wellbeing of the child. And, as a result, children become increasingly aware of their local and national citizenship, taking ownership of rights to continue participating in safe, active, and healthy communities.

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Wilks, J. (2010). Child-friendly cities: a place for active citizenship in geographical and environmental education. *International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education*, *19*(1), 25-38, doi: 10.1080/10382040903545484