



Spring/Summer 2020 – Program and Service Update

On March 11th, when the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a Pandemic, it became very clear that the work done at the Link would have to adapt and change to this new reality.

The Link staff and volunteers have worked tirelessly to maintain programming where appropriate and temporarily suspended services for redesign where it was in the best interest of the community. Thank you to everyone who has made this possible!



The Link Food Centre

This essential service remains open. We have stopped serving meals and changed our delivery model to help ensure that clients, staff and volunteers are able to maintain physical distancing and sanitization protocols.

Reminder: having the resources to plan ahead and prepare for emergencies is a luxury. For low income families that struggle to put food on their table daily, being able to stock-pile food and essential supplies is not an option

We have seen a 70% increase in the number of families accessing The Food Centre since February

As the pandemic continues, and the full economic impact hits families in the community, we anticipate this number to increase.



Mobile Food Centre

Emergency funding from Community Food Centres Canada will ensure that this service to Topley/Granisle region and the Southside region will continue through the end of June.

We are looking for grants and donations to keep this service running after June 30th.



Ashurst Children's Centre

The Centre closed to put in place new practices to meet Northern Health and the Ministry of Children and Family Development expectations. We re-opened on May 4th for families of Essential Service Workers. More spaces are being made available as Provincial restrictions are reduced.

Thanks to Carrier Sekani Family Services, children can watch some of their favorite stories being read online. Thanks Nancy!



Community Connections & Healthier Start Program

After being temporarily suspended for several weeks, these programs resumed on May 4th as well.

One of the key objectives of these programs is to reduce social isolation in a general sense and to provide a safe space for women to meet and support each other.

With this in mind and keeping within the guidelines around physical distancing, our programs have adapted. We are creating "Wellness Boxes" to distribute to families. The boxes have crafts and educational activities for small children, as well as ingredients and directions for preparing a healthy meal. Participants then share pictures and stories in a private Facebook Group facilitated by staff. It is a fun and safe way to stay connected.



Community Support Committee

The Link is coordinating and working with other community groups to support members of the community that are in self-isolation or quarantine because of COVID-19