

NEWS & VIEWS

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR STUDENT FAMILIES AT UVIC



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In addition to weekly programs, the Family Centre is open Monday (9:30-12), Tuesday (11-3), Wednesday (9:30-3:00) and Friday (9:30-12). For more information contact the Family Centre through Facebook or by email at familyc@uvic.ca.

Community Services

UVic Family Centre Celebrates 20 Years

**Join friends, colleagues & students
to celebrate families at UVic
Wednesday April 1st, 2015**

**Face
Painting**

4:30-6:30pm

UVic Family Centre

2375 Lam Circle

**Vikes Cheer
Team**

**Crafts and
games**

University of Victoria | Human and Social Development

**Food &
drinks**

FREE

Contact Information:
tel: 250-472-4062 email: familyc@uvic.ca <http://web.uvic.ca/family-centre/index.php>

Help us Celebrate Twenty Years of Supporting Families!

This year the UVic Family Centre is celebrating **TWENTY YEARS(!)** of supporting student families and we need your help to celebrate. We are putting together a special edition of the Newsletter and want to feature your stories, thoughts and photos. What does the Family Centre mean to you and your family? Do you have a great memory of the Family Centre to share? Experience something funny, inspiring, moving within our walls? Write whatever comes to mind. Please send you thoughts, stories and photos to familyc@uvic.ca by **March 5th**. (Keep submissions between 50-100 words.)

Volunteers Needed!!

The Family Centre is seeking volunteers to help with the 'Celebrating Families' event on April 1st. We are looking for volunteers to help with set-up, clean-up, serving food and drinks, face-painting, facilitating activities or sharing a special talent!

If you are interested please contact us at familyc@uvic.ca letting us know your availability and what you would like to do.

Volunteer shifts are approximately 30 minutes long and you can do one or all! Thanks in advance!

Spring Break Camps

There are a variety of Spring Break Camps being offered around the city for the weeks of March 9th and 16th. From musical theatre to basketball, it is available. Check out the Kids in Victoria events calendar, Saanich Recreation and Oak Bay Recreation websites for more information.

Ministry of Education Scholarships and Awards Review

BC's Ministry of Education has been providing scholarships to high school students since 1987. There have been some changes over the years, but the time is right for a comprehensive review. The focus will be to look at the current program and find innovative approaches to recognizing student learning and achievement, particularly in light of the new directions in BC's education transformation.

The first step is engaging students, parents, educators, and employers to gather feedback about modernizing the Grade 10-12 scholarships and awards. Complete the online survey by March 10th at: engage.gov.bc.ca/Scholarships. You can also email your comments to Scholarships@gov.bc.ca or call 250-356-7561.

A new program design will be announced this summer, with changes to be phased in starting in the 2015/16 school year.

Family Centre Weekly Programs

Monday – Family Learn and Share	10:00am-12noon
Monday – Make and Take	7:00-9:00pm
Wednesday – Early Learning Program	10:00am-12noon
Thursday – After School Care	3:30-5:00pm (until April 2nd)
Friday – Early Learning Program	10:00am-12noon

After School Program Final Announcement

As the school semester comes to a close for both Ju Hyun and I, that also means the After School Program will be coming to a close as well. **Our last program date will be on April 2nd, 2015.**

This has been an exciting couple of months for us at the Family Centre, specifically in the After School Program. The kids were incredibly creative with their ideas for activities and we did our best to cater to even the most outrageous propositions! We cooked and baked, we did numerous messy crafts, we played outside A LOT and we generally had a really excellent time with every single child.

I speak for both Ju Hyun and I when I say that this has absolutely been a learning and educational experience, which satisfies our practicum requirements, but it has also been really fun and created some super joy filled moments, positive relationships, and memories!

Thank you for letting us hangout with your children this year!

- Kerianne Werth

Creations from the After School Club Kids:



Egg drop challenge!



Individual puzzle pieces made by each child



Cupcake baking and decorating

UVSS Elections Important Dates and Referendum

University of Victoria Student Society Elections take place this month. All individuals who pay UVSS fees are eligible to vote for elections to the Board of Directors, as well as for Referenda. In addition to electing a board of directors, there are four referendum questions this year.

March 2nd, 2015 – All Candidates Forum in the SUB Upper Lounge (3:00 pm PST)

March 3rd, 2015 – Chairperson Debate in the Sub Upper Lounge (3:00 pm – 4:30 pm PST)

March 4th, 2015 – Voting Opens at webvote.uvic.ca (9:00 am PST) for UVSS Elections, GSS, Senate, and BOG

March 5th, 2015 – Voting Closes (9:00 am PST) for UVSS Elections

March 5th, 2015 – Election Results Announced on UVSS Elections Office website (12:00 pm PST)

March 6th, 2015 – Voting Closes (4:30 pm PST) for GSS, Senate, and BOG

Programs and Events

Family Learn and Share

On Monday mornings from **10am-12noon** the Family Centre hosts a drop-in program for families to interact and learn from one another. Each week there is a designated focus topic and facilitator. Please contact us by email, phone or Facebook if you have any questions or suggestions. Jane Wismer, Public Health Nurse, will be joining us on **March 9th** this month.

Early Learning Program:

Families are welcome to this drop-in program that runs **Wednesday and Friday** mornings from **10:00 am to 12:00 pm**. Learning through play is encouraged by providing an environment that promotes children's inherent love of learning and sense of wonder. Each morning session concludes with a storytime with songs/music as well as an opportunity for outdoor play.

After School Club:

School Aged Kids (Grades 1-6) are invited to the Family Centre's After School Club on **Thursdays from 3:30 - 5:00 pm**. We will be doing a variety of activities each week. These might include outdoor games like soccer, tag, and croquet, as well as puzzles, projects, board games, talent shows and crafts. **Last Program Day: April 2nd.**

Mom's Time Out!

Do you need a 'time-out'? The Family Centre is open on **Monday nights from 7-9pm** for women to get together, have a cup of tea and chat. Feel free to come for half an hour or stay for the whole time. If you don't have children – don't let the name deceive you! You are more than welcome. (Note: Nursing infants are welcome.)

Book Club:

The Family Centre has a book club that meets on **the third Thursday of each month** to discuss a novel chosen by the group. If you enjoy reading and would like to get together with others please come along. To find out more join our Facebook group or send us an email at familyhousingbookclub@gmail.com.

Community Events



Beginner's Birder Basics

Island View Beach Regional Park

March 1st, 9:30-Noon

Discover why so many people are picking up binoculars and heading to the fields and forests in search of feathered fauna. This program will introduce you to the basics of bird watching. Wear warm clothes and bring binoculars if you have them. Binoculars will be available for loan. Meet at the grassy area adjacent to the picnic shelter off Homathko Rd. 12+ years.

IdeaFest

University of Victoria

March 2nd-7th

Join UVic thinkers, innovators and artists from across campus as they explore dozens of world changing ideas at the university's fourth annual IdeaFest. With over 50 panels, workshops, exhibits, lectures and tours, the hardest part will be choosing which events to attend! All events are free. www.uvic.ca/ideafest

Home Alone Program Preparing Youth

Gordon Head Recreation Centre

March 28th, 9-12pm

The before and after school times or occasional outings for parents are easily dealt with when your child is H.A.P.P.Y a Home Alone Program Prepared Youth! Program focuses on home and personal safety and emergency procedures. Booklet and Parent/Guardian handout included. For 9-14 year olds. Call Saanich Recreation or register online. Cost: \$31

Little Kids HUGE Garage Sale

Gordon Head Recreation Centre

March 28th, 9-12pm

Children's clothes, games, books, toys, sports equipment and more!