

# THE PROVIDER

Volume 8 Issue 1

NEWSLETTER

March 2008



**PacificCARE**  
Enriching the lives of children and families



CREDIBILITY • INTEGRITY • ACHIEVEMENT



Funded by the Ministry of Children and Family Development

Dear Child Care Provider,



As the new Executive Director I am delighted to join a very resourceful and knowledgeable team. Because I assumed my new position on January 2nd 2008, I would like to share a brief introduction.

For many years my career has involved counselling, teaching, coordinating and management with organizations who support children, families, individuals with disabilities as well as high risk youth and adults. My background includes working with seniors and aboriginal peoples. With the diversity of my work experience and education, I am excited about my contribution to PacificCARE. Like our team, I am an advocate for people and families who require our support and care. Our initiative is to ensure we continue growing, expanding and supporting our children and their families because (as PacificCARE advocates), children are our future.

On a personal note, I have two daughters I love very much who are currently working and going to college, three cats whom I adore and I enjoy playing piano in the community both professionally and as a volunteer for local charities. I live in Qualicum Beach and am considering relocating to Nanaimo.

In January I visited some of our satellite offices and became more aware that each area we serve is unique on its own and the need for services varies. I am enthusiastic about investigating what we can do as a team to provide our caregivers with the support they need.

Our team is meeting in February at a Regional meeting where we will be educated on the new licensing regulations and we will also be able to do some team building as a group. I look forward to visiting with the team to see what the needs are for caregivers in the different communities we serve.

I want to thank all of the caregivers who are so dedicated in providing support and care to our children and their families. I don't think there is a more important job than empowering, caring for, and educating our children so that they can create a positive future for themselves and those they interact with in their lives. It must be a great feeling to know you are all contributing to a better world.

*Dianne Magor*  
Executive Director



## Special Occasions

March 9	Daylight Saving Time Begins-Spring ahead
March 16	Palm Sunday
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 21	Good Friday-office closed
March 23	Easter
March 24	Easter Monday-office closed
April 19	Passover Begins
April 22	Earth Day
May	May is Child Care Month
May 5	Cinco de Mayo
May 11	Mother's Day

## PacificCARE Office Hours For Nanaimo and Courtenay

8:30-4:30 Monday to Friday

Thursday late night opening until 6:00

Last Saturday of each month 9-12

Closed all Statutory Holidays



[www.pacific-care.bc.ca](http://www.pacific-care.bc.ca)

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## Health and Safety

Congratulations to **AGAPE FAMILY CHILDCARE OF VANCOUVER** and **THE GATHERING PLACE GROUP DAYCARE OF GABRIOLA ISLAND** for being the winners of our draw for purchasing Liability Insurance through PacificCARE CCRR. The winners will receive a high back booster seat.



A big thank you to **Coastal Community Insurance Agencies** in Nanaimo for donating the car seats for the draw and six others that will be shared throughout our communities.



Linda Miller is putting together a First Aid class and needs three more participants. If your First Aid Certificate is expiring and you are interested in a course, please contact Linda Miller at 250-729-7429. The dates are Monday April 28 and Tuesday April 29, starting at 6:30.

**UBC Interprofessional Continuing Education** is excited to announce advance notice of the **Childhood and Adolescent Obesity 2008 conference** information is available online at [www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/Obesity\\_Conference.htm](http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/Obesity_Conference.htm) This conference brings together an interdisciplinary group of professionals who work in the field of childhood and adolescent obesity or are confronted with this problem. Issues that influence how we "live", how we "learn", and how we "work" and their implications for childhood obesity.

### Child Care Subsidy Updates

Revisions have been made to the following forms:

- ◆ Medical Condition
- ◆ Self Employment
- ◆ Special Needs Supplement

The Care Provider form is still under revision. A brochure explaining how to complete the current three page Child Care Subsidy Application is forthcoming.

Subsidy rates have been maintained for children who are in Kindergarten who have their sixth birthday between January and June of their Kindergarten year. Previously, rates were reduced once the child turned six.

Contact Information for parents and providers:

Phone: 1 888 338-6622;

Fax: 1 877-544-0699

Web: [http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/subsidy\\_promo.htm](http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/subsidy_promo.htm)

### THE BOARD OF PACIFIC CHILD AND FAMILY ENRICHMENT SOCIETY

Meetings every fourth Monday of the Month 6:30 pm

**Upcoming Board Meetings:**

**February 25 re-scheduled to March 3**

**March 31, April 28, May 26th**

**Everyone Welcome**

The Board is looking for new members.  
If you are interested, please call Dianne Magor at  
(250) 716-2022 Loc 24 or 1-888-480-CARE

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\*Brown bag lunches now permitted for daycare groups. (We are a peanut free zone)

### Welcome to our New Executive Director: Dianne Magor

PacificCARE would like to take this opportunity to welcome Dianne Magor to the team. Dianne has had the opportunity to meet with most of the team and she reports the following:

"One of my priorities (after receiving feedback from the team) is to provide more training and workshops in the communities. We plan to offer Good Beginnings in Nanaimo, Port Alberni and Courtenay in the immediate future. During this year I want to initiate more training and support for caregivers throughout the region based on what the individual communities require. Part of that initiative will be supported by a Coordinator of Programs and Services as well as new Team leader for the Northern areas. With a good team in place, we can work towards greater support for our caregivers throughout Vancouver Island."

### Child Care Providers Needed in All Communities

Parents are contacting PacificCARE anxious for more spaces in all types of Child Care throughout our regions. There is also a demand for Licensed Early Childhood Educators for Group Daycare. If you are a licensed ECE who has been out of the field for more than two years, you may be eligible for the ECE Incentive Grant Program being offered by the Ministry for Children and Family Development. Please see more information about the ECE Incentive Grant Program at [www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/ece\\_incentive/index.htm](http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/ece_incentive/index.htm) or call 1 888 338-6622. If you are interested in providing Family Child Care, please consult you local Child Care Consultant for more information. Local Consultant information is on the back page of The Provider.

## PacificCARE Community Profiles

### Nanaimo/Ladysmith Community Profile



A **Winter Celebration** was held at the Nanaimo office on January 15 with the theme of doing more with less, exploring ways of making the best use of available space and resources in child care environments. There was a wealth of knowledge in the room with care providers ranging from newly opened to seasoned providers of 20 years or more! It was really great to share information over a cup of mulled tea and snacks! Another well attended workshop, "**Challenging Behaviors**" was held in Ladysmith at the Boys & Girls Club on January 17 with a follow up session January 24.

The Nanaimo and Ladysmith consultants have been busy organizing training for **Safe Spaces and Good Beginnings**. Unfortunately Safe Spaces had to be postponed due to low enrollment. **Good Beginnings**, however, is going ahead starting **March 31** and will be offered on six consecutive Monday nights followed by two full day Saturdays. We have also initiated the planning process for the **annual Teddy Bear picnics**, scheduled for **Ladysmith May 10 and Nanaimo May 30, 2008**. Also to celebrate the month of **May as Child Care Month** we are planning a "**Caring for the Caregiver**" event by offering Yoga in the park on May 20. Please check out the Notice Board in this issue of The Provider for details on these and other events!

The **lending library** is being used on a continuous basis. There is a list of back packs and theme boxes available at the office or through email. Please remember that there are extended office hours being Thursday nights until 6:00 PM and the last Saturday of each month 9:00 – 12:00.

### Oceanside Profile



These next few months are a whirl wind of community events in the Parksville/ Oceanside area. **Ready Set Learn** school events will be taking place through out the area from April 14 to the 17. On April 25 there will be a performance by Graham Walker and a silent Art Auction. "**We Believe in Kids Community Day**" will be Saturday April 26. For more information on any of these events please contact BLT at 248-4041. A note to Parksville child care providers, the Art Auction will again be featured at the Ready Set Learn event the night of April 25. Art is asked to be brought to the School district building or to the WOW bus prior to March 14<sup>th</sup>. If you require support in getting art to the school district, please let me know.

**Munchkinland** is continuing to bring in lots of friends to play and learn. Group center spots for Wednesday afternoons are getting booked so please contact me ASAP if you would like to come and play. I am excited about the upcoming workshops in the Parksville area and would like to thank the community partners in advance for offering their time to share their knowledge with us. See the attached Notice Board for a list of upcoming workshops. Please register with me as soon as possible to ensure your spot.

The **Career Center** has offered up their services to support parents who are returning to work with the child care subsidy form. Please contact the Career Center at 248-4154 if you require some support.

The **Toy Lending Library** continues to develop and expand. The lending library has amazing resources for parents, caregivers and community partners that include "Bugs and Birds theme box", "Camping theme box", and parachutes. Please contact me at 1-888-480-2273 if you would like to access any resources from the lending library. Sherry Welte [swelte@pacific-care.bc.ca](mailto:swelte@pacific-care.bc.ca)

### Port Alberni and West Coast Profile



We're getting geared up for a spring filled with SUNSHINE, and many training opportunities!

We are starting off with **Help Me to Grow** a Nutrition information, session on March 5 with guest speaker, **Helene Dufour**, our community Nutritionist. March also brings the start of our **Good**

**Beginnings, An Introduction to Family Childcare.** If you are interested in participating in these two information packed training opportunities, please contact me. Please call me if you are interested in the Good Beginning's program, as I need at least 6 participants to offer the program and there will be a cap of 12 people.

I am enjoying building relationships with everyone and want to commend all the wonderful caregivers I work with who clearly run their centres from a child centered mode! Good job!

I can be reached at my home office 724-3318. As I only work Tuesday-Thursday from 9am- 3pm and it may be quicker to make contact with me via email. [jrushon@pacific-care.bc.ca](mailto:jrushon@pacific-care.bc.ca) - Julie Rushton Child Care Consultant



### North Island Community Profile

The North Island welcomes a new **Family Literacy Coordinator**. Her name is **Sharon Gordon** and she has already found new places to distribute Literacy Kits for young readers. **Literacy Kits** are available to all daycares, if you are interested please contact her at 974-2028. **Mother Goose on the Go** is available to daycares in the Port McNeill area. Songs and storytime with Mother Goose. Contact **Cori Neilson** for more information 956-2254.

### Campbell River Community Profile



It has been very busy in CR over that last few months. We have had very successful family events such as National Family Literacy Day and the Children's Health Fairs. There will be another **Children's Health Fair at Laichwiltach Family Life on March 3 from 10-2**. We have had several workshops: Dealing With Challenging Behaviours in a Child Care Setting; Emergency Preparedness; Becoming a Behavioural Detective: Understanding, Surviving and Supporting Complex Behaviours; and There's Always a Reason for the Behaviour. At the end of February we will have Dealing with Challenging Behaviours in a Child Care Setting, Big Science for Little Hands (folks from Science World) will be doing a free workshop for people working in child care. They will also have a free hands on activity day at North Island College for children and families. I would like to encourage **anyone who has their ECE certification or who is a student in an ECCE course** to give me a call. **We are trying to put some life into our CR Branch of ECEBC.** The next meeting will focus on the \$20 Living Wage strategy that ECEBC is embarking on.



### Comox Valley Profile

We would like to welcome **Sarah Hoffman** back to the Comox Valley team. **Hollie Shewfelt** is still with us, but on a casual basis, helping out with The Provider and filling in as needed. The last few months have been busy with the planning of numerous workshops which seem to fill up faster than we can plan them. We are offering **felt board, die cutting, HOP, Food Flair and Kindermusik workshops**, with more in the planning stages. Our **Valentine Saturday Morning Make & Take** was well received and we are looking at organizing further Saturday workshops. A **Good Beginnings** course begins on February 20 with everyone looking forward to this informative and interactive program. There is still room if you would like to register. Call 338-4288 for more information. Stay tuned for news on upcoming **Caring for the Caregiver** events in the spring!



### Powell River Profile

Please contact Roxanne Penner at 414-9335 for more information on upcoming events in the Powell River area.



**Protecting Child Care Providers in BC  
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Call 1-800-565-6510 ext. 28, or visit our website at [www.pacific-care.bc.ca](http://www.pacific-care.bc.ca)



PacificCARE accepts payment by MASTERCARD, VISA or AMERICAN EXPRESS as well as by cheque

**Criminal Record Review Act Amendments  
IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL CHILD CARE PROVIDERS**

We have been advised that changes have been passed into law regarding criminal record checks completed through the Criminal Records Review Act (CRRRA). Please note, effective January 2008, all individuals are required to undergo a **criminal record re-check every five years**. Please visit this site for more information [www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/criminal-records-review/](http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/criminal-records-review/). PacificCARE will be contacting LNR's once we have our process in place.

Margaret Sinclair  
Administrative Coordinator

**Welcome to PacificCARE**

**Nanaimo**

Seven Acre Wood FCC	Katrina Paruch
LNR	Cindy Geddes
LNR	Fran Stoddart
Kid's Place Child Care GRP	Tina Alyward

**Ladysmith**

LNR	Sandra Lomas
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**Comox Valley**

Momma Joe's FCC	Joanne Maille
Stepping Stones Montessori Preschool	Janet LeBlanc
Fun Club After School Care OOS	Kristine Lagadyn
Apples and Pears GRP	Lisa Kavanagh
LNR	Karlynn Cumming
LNR	Thea Cockerton

**Campbell River**

Blackberry Patch FCC	Elaine Schofield
Let 'Em Loose OOS	Alicia Young
Kid's Klub OOS	Judith Koeleman

**Sayward**

Little Stars FCC	Cassy Kirschner
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**Qualicum**

LNR	Sarina Tryon
LNR	Annirose Graebig

W [www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org) (freecycle sites is your area)  
 E [www.kid-at-art.com](http://www.kid-at-art.com) (recycling used materials for art)  
 B [www.recyclinggarbage.net](http://www.recyclinggarbage.net)  
 S [www.earthday.ca](http://www.earthday.ca)  
 I [www.ecokids.ca](http://www.ecokids.ca)  
 T [www.activityvillage.co.uk/recycling\\_for\\_kids.htm](http://www.activityvillage.co.uk/recycling_for_kids.htm)  
 E  
 S **Check out these websites for neat recycling and Earth Day ideas for children.**

*This newsletter may contain links to websites that are created and maintained by other organizations. PacificCARE does not necessarily endorse all the views expressed on these websites, nor does it guarantee the accuracy or suitability of any information presented.*



**PacificCARE** 9-327 Prideaux St. Nanaimo, BC, V9R 2N4 Office Number: (250)716-2022 or 1-888-480-CARE(2273)  
 FAX (250)716-2023 Web site: [www.pacific-care.bc.ca](http://www.pacific-care.bc.ca) e-mail: [mailbox@pacific-care.bc.ca](mailto:mailbox@pacific-care.bc.ca)

**Hanen Literacy Calendars**

Earlier in the year, a Hanen Literacy Calendar was distributed to care providers in the Nanaimo and Ladysmith areas by the Greater Nanaimo Early Years Partnership (GNEYYP). GNEYYP requested PacificCARE gather feedback from those who received the calendars and we promised care providers their feedback would be published in our newsletter. There were three responses to this call for feedback and a summary was done by the consultants of PacificCARE:

- ♦ A calendar is a good idea, but these ones weren't helpful as the blocks were already written in and information can't be put on it. A bit distracting with words running into more than one block (visually). Suggestion to use the daycare ones that used to be from Manitoba? Or the Family daycare association?
- ♦ Not helpful as the children were older. Passed it on to a daycare. Thank you for the thought though.
- ♦ Not useful, but liked the colours.

PacificCARE would like to thank those who responded, your feedback back is always most important to us.

**PacificCARE STAFF**

**Executive Director:** Dianne Magor  
**Program Coordinator:** T.B.A.  
**Registration and Insurance Coordinator:** Margaret Sinclair  
**Accountant:** Dean Mapstone



**1-888-480-2273  
or 716-2022**

Kathy Rae	Campbell River	286-9790
Sarah Hoffman	Comox Valley	338-4288 Loc 250
Sandra Allen	Comox Valley	338-4288 Loc 236
Charlene Roulston	Nanaimo and Ladysmith	716-2022 Loc 35
Carmen Barclay	Nanaimo	716-2022 Loc 26
Anita Hickey	Nanaimo	716-2022 Loc 36
Sherry Welte	Oceanside	248-8661 Loc 25
Beverly Beadle	Nanaimo	1-800-565-6510 Loc 28
Charmaine Hoet	North Island	949-9425
Julie Rushton	Port Alberni/ West Coast	724-3328
Roxanne Penner	Powell River	(604) 414-9336
Sandy Weeks	Children First Liaison, Ladysmith	245-8183
Lori Tanner	Children First Liaison, Nanaimo	716-2022 Loc 32

**Visit ... [www.islandfamilyinfo.ca](http://www.islandfamilyinfo.ca)**  
 for activities and special events in your community

