



Family and Community Support Services Programs

Family and Community Support Services
Policy G9

Policy:	G9 – Family and Community Support Services Programs
Policy Department(s):	Family and Community Support Services
Adoption Date:	January 11, 2016
Adoption Reference:	CM20160111.1035
Effective Date:	January 11, 2016
Last Amended:	July 11, 2022

Policy Purpose

The policy purpose is to provide guiding principles to the County of Grande Prairie Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) in establishing and operating FCSS programs.

Policy Statement

County of Grande Prairie FCSS will provide, either directly or through grant support, programs that will enhance the social well-being of individuals and families residing in the County of Grande Prairie, through awareness, prevention or early intervention strategies as outlined in the FCSS Act and Regulations.

Such programs are:

- Home Support Program
- Early Childhood Programs
- Community School Liaison Program
- Other programs as approved by Council

Definitions

“County” means the municipality of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 having jurisdiction under the Municipal Government Act and other applicable legislation.

“FCSS Board” means the Board established by Council to provide advise to Council regarding County and community programs and services.

“Prevention” means a proactive process that strengthens the protective factors of individuals, families, and communities to promote wellbeing, reduce vulnerabilities, enhance quality of life, and empowers them to meet the challenges of life.

Policy Guidelines

FCSS Programs



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1. Programs will adhere to the FCSS Act and Regulations and meet the needs of diverse demographics within the County.
2. The FCSS Director and staff will conduct formal and informal needs assessments as needed to determine program needs of residents.
3. Throughout the year, the staff will deliver various programs and conduct program evaluations for continuous improvement.
4. Administration will complete all reports required by the Ministry and share copies of those reports with the FCSS Board.
5. The FCSS Board will review and provide input and feedback to FCSS staff on:
 - 5.1. Program ideas and trends and issues observed in the community; and
 - 5.2. Budgeting process.
6. County residents will be given priority placement in all programs.
7. Fees for all programs will be reviewed annually by Administration and approved by Council in the Schedule of Fees.
8. All FCSS staff are required to submit a Criminal Record Check (including Vulnerable Sector Check) and Child Welfare Check before commencing employment.

Home Support Program

9. Home Support Services will be provided on a prorated fee schedule according to client income.
10. Prior to commencement of service, administration will conduct a home visit with the client to assess needs and financial resources to determine an hourly fee.
11. Home Support Services to be provided by FCSS may include but are not limited to:
 - 11.1. Assistance with light housekeeping
 - 11.2. Meal preparation
 - 11.3. Parental substitute to help overburdened families
 - 11.4. Respite care
 - 11.5. Reasonable travel to local medical appointments and shopping,
 - 11.6. Companionship.

Early Childhood Programs

12. Early Childhood Programs provide an opportunity for prevention and early intervention strategies to be operationalized for children ages 0 - 6 and their families.
13. The location of programs will be determined by community needs and budget considerations.



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14. A playschool program will not be located in a school which has a junior kindergarten program.
15. Licensing:
 - 15.1. All playschool programs must meet the criteria for a licensed program and submit licensing applications to Children's Services Ministry to maintain licensed status.
 - 15.2. Parent and Tot programs do not require licensing but shall follow best practices associated with a licensed program.

Community School Liaison Program

16. The Community School Liaison Program provides an opportunity for prevention and early intervention strategies to be operationalized for students and families of Peace Wapiti Schools within the County of Grande Prairie boundaries and Valhalla Community School.
17. Funding of the Program:
 - 17.1. This program is cost shared between the County of Grande Prairie and the Peace Wapiti School Division.
 - 17.2. Other school divisions/boards will be approached for funding as deemed applicable

Attachments

N/A

References

Legal Authorities	FCSS Act and Regulations
Related Plans, Bylaws, Policies, Etc.	Policy B1 – Policy Development Family and Community Support Services Bylaw Schedule of Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw
Other	

Revision History

Review Date	Description
July 11, 2022	Reviewed and Amended CM20220711.008
August 19, 2019	Reviewed and Amended CM(motion number)
January 11, 2016	Adoption Date CM20160111.1035