

# MNTRECC NEWS

December 2022 Edition 23

## MISSION STATEMENT

MNTRECC provides statewide leadership by creating partnerships, resources and supports that serve to connect and strengthen early care and education for American Indian children and their families within the State of Minnesota.

## VISION STATEMENT

Healthy, Thriving American Indian Children and Families.



*Minnesota Tribal Resources for  
Early Childhood Care*

## MNTRECC PROGRAM MANAGER – PATTI TURNEY

### Patti's Hi-Lites:

Greetings All,

**Happy Holidays!!** I hope everyone is doing well. I have been busy with a couple of surveys that MNTRECC has had open. I know we usually don't do too well with getting surveys turned back in, but I do appreciate you taking the time to fill these out and return. Your information is valuable and this helps set the stage for some of the work that we do. We had our Training Needs survey that was mailed out to all of you with a pre-stamped, self-addressed return envelope. We only received 14 back out of about 85 surveys mailed. I will be sharing these results with the Districts in which the surveys came from, this way they can schedule trainings that reflect the training request of our Tribal Providers. I will also share the results with the Child Care Aware Coordinating Office. Congratulations to the two lucky recipients for the 2- \$50.00 gift card drawings that we did for returning the survey in time. Congratulations to Sara Newton and Kaylee Shepard, you can watch for your gift card coming to you in the mail soon.

If you are looking for training, please go to [www.developoolmn.org](http://www.developoolmn.org)

The other survey that we had was the "Identified Needs and Barriers" through survey monkey, this link was in the last newsletter, it was posted on our Facebook page and on the Leech Lake Early Childhood Website. We closed this on November 30, 2022. We received 13 surveys through social media and 2 paper copies back. This survey will help the MNTRECC Planning Team Members come up with a plan to address the Identified Needs and Barriers in the Early Childhood Field. This will be added to our Strategic Plan in April. I am excited to see what these plans will be 😊.

We are still looking for a Professional Development Advisor position to be filled at MNTRECC. If you are interested or know anyone that is interested, please have them get in contact with me at 218-335-8381 or [Patti.turney@llojibwe.net](mailto:Patti.turney@llojibwe.net) Here are some of the requirements: **License/Certification Requirements:** Valid MN Driver's License,

current insurance or be insurable. **Summary:** Will work in conjunction with Child Care Aware of MN (CCA) to enhance the quality and accessibility of statewide Tribal Early Childhood Professional Development opportunities.

**Education Requirements and Experience:**

- Possess a Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood Education or related field.
- Administrative and supervisory experience preferred.
- Experience in public relations & public speaking preferred.

Our next MNTRECC Planning Team Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 12, 2023. As much as we like to meet face-to-face, we decided with everyone being so busy and the un-predictable weather in January we will have our meeting virtually. The White Earth Child Care will be hosting the next Face to face meeting in April.

Hope you and your family have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!! Stay Warm,

Patti

**Helpful Resources:**

Statewide website: <https://mn.gov/childcare/>  
Parent Aware: [www.ParentAware.org](http://www.ParentAware.org)  
Wayfinder: [www.childcarewayfinder.org](http://www.childcarewayfinder.org) or 888-986-8207  
Building your Child Care Business [www.FirstChildrensFinance.org](http://www.FirstChildrensFinance.org)  
To find your local Child Care Aware organization: [www.ChildCareAwareMN.org/contact-us/](http://www.ChildCareAwareMN.org/contact-us/)  
Anytime Learning (ATL) courses are self-paced. And Eager -to-Learn are instructor-led, online courses on a variety of topics Visit the Eager-to-Learn website.  
Pine Technical Community College Live Online Training via zoom trainings can be found on the [www.developtoolmn.org](http://www.developtoolmn.org)  
If you are interested in a career in Early Childhood you can go to [EmpowerToEducate@childcareawaremn.org](mailto:EmpowerToEducate@childcareawaremn.org)

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Making a New Year’s Resolution:

A New Year's resolution is a tradition, most common in the Western World but also found in the Eastern World, in which **a person resolves to continue good practices, change an undesired trait or behavior, accomplish a personal goal, or otherwise improve their behavior at the beginning of a calendar year.**

**Top 5 Resolutions:**

- To enjoy life more. This one's obvious; we all like to have fun and enjoy ourselves. ...
- To eat better and exercise more. Let's be realistic for a second: you're probably not going to go to the gym every day and eat only vegetables. ... (For me anyway) 😊
- To learn something new. ...
- To quit smoking. ...
- To manage money better.

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**OUTREACH/CHILD CARE STARTUP AND RETENTION NAVIGATOR – MICHELE FREDRICKSON**

Greetings! Wow, Winter is really giving us a run for the money. We have more snow at home than we have in years past. Our offices were closed for a few days due to the snow and horrible road conditions. We are back to work and Friday feels like a Monday in the office.

The past few months have been busy. I am scheduled to have a booth at the “*Together We Grow*” Conference in January, to be held at the Grand Casino Mille Lacs. We are excited to finally see some providers face to face and share our program information with others. We had a fun booth at the “Boo Bash” held at the Boys and Girls Club in October.

We have updated our brochure and working on getting the pages of our website current. Our Facebook page has program information on it as well. The newsletter is created quarterly and has a lot of good info within it. We have added the Tribal Spotlight, Library Corner, and each of us has recipes or activities we add along with our program updates.

We had a Metro Work Group gathering in October, held at The Link @ Playworks. During this meeting, we had a two hour Native American Parenting Program session. This is the fourth session we were able to fit into our MWG meeting in the past few years. If you would like more information on training/trainers, contact Diane Smith at 218-335-8226.

I have also been attending the licensor meetings for NE and NW District. It is good to have that knowledge of what other districts are doing around licensing and support.

Wayfinder training has slowed some, we meet a few times a month now. I am concentrating on the marketing piece of recruiting potential childcare providers through ads in newspapers, social media, website, etc. We will be creating a few billboards to be placed on or near the four tribal areas which license their own Child Care Providers. If you know of someone who is considering becoming a childcare provider, please send them my way. I can be reached at 218-335-8390 (work phone) or email at [michele.fredrickson@llojibwe.net](mailto:michele.fredrickson@llojibwe.net). The Wayfinder website is <https://www.childcareawarewayfinder.org/>.

Michele ☺

To be MNTRECC eligible, the provider must fit into one of the following categories:

- Are an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe **or**
- Are a first or second generation descendent of an enrolled member **or**
- Are licensed or funded by a Tribal Government **or**
- 50% of children in care are of American Indian descent

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**Metro Work Group Mission Statement**  
 To strengthen the cultural heritage of American Indian children residing in the metro area by promoting and supporting early childhood services that foster skills for school and life success

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**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – (position posted, currently vacant)**

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**CULTURE AND LANGUAGE – DIANA SMITH**

Culture and Language

We will be hosting 2-day training of the adult Learning Modules 1: & Adult Learning Modules 2: Design. The training will be at the Holiday Inn Express in Baxter on Thursday, February 23rd and Friday, February 24th Vicky Hawley will be the trainer. This training is open to our approved Cultural trainers, those in the process of being approved as a Cultural Trainer and anyone interested in becoming a cultural trainer. If you are interested or know of anyone interested in becoming a trainer please send them our way.

This spring we are planning on having a Training of Trainers (TOT) in the Native American Parenting Program (NAPP) in the metro area, we started a list of people who are interested in the NAPP curriculum and will start the process of being a trainer prior to the TOT event. If you are interested in becoming a trainer in the Native American Parenting Program curriculum, please contact our office we would enjoy working with you on becoming a trainer.

The work to consolidation the Dakota Language kit is complete, instead of having a Dakota Language kit and Dakota Resources Kit, we consolidated the kits into one with a mixture of spiral and saddle stitch books, flash cards and matching game cards, the Dakota Guidebook will be updated to include the updated Early Learning Indicators of progress Ages 3 – 5 years and parent aware components.

I'm currently working with Nyleta seeking an Ojibwe Language speaker, to complete the audio component.

We are planning on hosting a Training of Trainer in both the Dakota and Ojibwe Language curriculum, sometime later this spring or early summer.

The work around Trainer recruitment has slowed way down, and that seems to be the trend during the winter months. I've been working with six individuals through the Cultural Trainer approval process and the Tribal Training Advisory Committee (TTAC) will meeting virtual to screen/interview these applicants and make a recommendation in December. Time seems to be the biggest factor for both the applicant and the TTAC committee.

I sit on the *Together We Grow* Conference planning committee, this year the conference will be at the Grand Mille Lac Casino & Hotel on Friday, January 27th and 28th. The highlights of this conference, Friday evening there will be a group tour at the Mille Lac Indian Museum and on Saturday morning Kim Lage will be doing a 2-hour NAPP training/Mother Nature training. MNTRECC will also have a booth and we hope you will have the opportunity to join us.

It's been busy and looking forward to be getting the curriculums and resources out into the tribal communities. Until next time, take care, be safe and stay warm. Diane

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In an effort to showcase the Ojibwe Language kits, here are some words in Ojibwe along with a children’s activity from one of the weekly themes.

*The intent of the Ojibwe Language project is to provide a vision tool to the Ojibwe tribes. We also acknowledge that there are several different dialects in the language.*

Credits for the Ojibwe Language can be found in the Curriculum Guidebook that is included in the language kits, these words are taken from various weeks of the guidebook, only the children’s activity will credit the page number and weekly lesson plan title.

Ojibwe Language – (lessons in time and season)

Spring – ziigwan	Summer – niibin
Fall – dagwaagan	Winter – bibbon
Santa – minwendamwenini	Jingle bells – zjomawa’oojigana
Reindeer – addikwag	Gift – miigiwewin

Lesson Plan Title: Christmas

Grade Level: 0-5 years

Goal: Introduction words related to Christmas cookies (these are just a few of the words)

Flour – bakwezhigan	Mix it – ginigawinan
Sugar – ziinzibaakwad	Butter – doodooshaaboo-bimide

Materials needed: Sugar Cookie Dough  
Colored Cookie Sprinkles  
Paper Sugar Cookies printout

Learning Activities:

- Introduce words, review color words.
- Decorate paper cookies, using glue, glitter and colored cookie sprinkles.
- Mix up real cookie dough, practice words associated with this activity.
- Cut out cookies, decorate and bake, practicing words associated with this activity.

Resource: Ojibwe Curriculum Guidebook - Length of Unit: fourteenth week of school (page 36)

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In an effort to showcase the Dakota Language kits, here are some word in the Dakota Language along with a children’s activity from one of the weekly themes.

The intent of Dakota Language project is to provide a vision tool to the Dakota tribes. We also acknowledge that there are several different dialects in the language.

Credit for the words Dakota Language can be found in the Curriculum Guidebook that is included in the language kits, these words are taken from various weeks of the guidebook. Only the children’s activity will credit the page number and weekly lesson plan title.

Dakota Language – (lessons in time and season)

Spring – wetu	Summer – bdoketu
Fall – ptanyetu	Winter – waniyetu
Santa – waziya	Jingle bells – hdahdana
Reindeer – wazi tahca	Gift – taku wicakupi

Lesson Plan Title: Christmas

Grade Level: 0-5 years

Goal: Introduction words related to Christmas cookies (these are just a few of the words)

Flour – aguyaoi bdu

Mix it – iccahiya

Sugar – canhanpi

Butter – asanpi ihdi

Materials needed: Sugar Cookie Dough  
Colored Cookie Sprinkles  
Paper Sugar Cookies printout

Learning Activities:

Introduce words, review color words.

Decorate paper cookies, using glue, glitter and colored cookie sprinkles.

Mix up real cookie dough, practice words associated with this activity.

Cut out cookies, decorate and bake, practicing words associated with this activity.

Resource: Dakota Curriculum Guidebook - Length of Unit: seventeenth week of school (page 37)

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### Slow Cooker Shredded Chicken

Makes: four Cups

Ingredients

2 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breast

½ tsp. Salt

½ tsp. Pepper

1 cup Water or chicken broth (eliminate the salt if using salt)

Place chicken breast in the slow cooker crock. Add liquid, salt and pepper to the chicken

Cover and cook on low 6-8 hours on low or 3-4 hours on High. Chicken should have an internal temperature of 165 F.

Remove cooked chicken and shred with two forks.

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### Chicken Taco's

Makes: 4 servings

Ingredients:

2 cups Slow Cooker Shredded Chicken

2 tsp Chili Powder

1 tsp Ground Cumin

½ tsp Garlic Powder

2 Tbsp Lime Juice

4 corn tortillas or floured tortillas

Suggested Taco Toppings: Pickled onion, diced tomatoes, sliced avocado, shredded lettuce, diced onion, sliced jalapeno's, chopped cilantro, shredded cheese, salsa

Combine warm slow cooker chicken with the chili powder, cumin, garlic powder, and lime juice in a medium bowl

Spoon ¼ of the chicken mixture into each tortilla & top with your favorite toppings.

Recipe credit: MyPlate: SUPER simple Cookbook

# Tribal Spotlight Fond du Lac Child Care

We work towards supporting families to make childcare choices to support them and their children. By working closely with tribally licensed providers as well as community partner providers, families are able to find care that fits their needs while creating positive outcomes for their children.

At Fond du Lac, we work out of the Fond du Lac Human Services Division, in the Social Services Department. This makes our services a good access point for Tribal Social Workers; Foster Care Specialists and Advocates as they work with families in crisis to try to minimize impacts on children.

For Families Fond du Lac Offers:

- Subsidy (Child Care Development Fund)
- Help in finding child care that meets a family's needs
- Child seat safety training

For Providers Fond du Lac Offers:

- Tribal licensing and monitoring
- Support in getting materials and equipment
- Training and reimbursement for training
- Resources and support for Ojibwemowin and cultural applications
- Technical Assistance

**\*\*\*\*Coming Soon\*\*\*\***

## Fond du Lac's New Child Care Center

**Projected opening Summer 2023**

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### **Mn.gov/childcare page updates**

The [Child Care / State of Minnesota childcare \(mn.gov\)](https://mn.gov/childcare) site has been updated and expanded as of Monday, September 19, 2022. This widely used tool created during the COVID-19 pandemic will now feature information and resources related to child care and early education for providers, families, and communities. A team of subject matter experts from multiple state agencies worked together to compile, review and create this updated content. We ask that you share the following message with your networks as appropriate.

### **Program Update Tool**

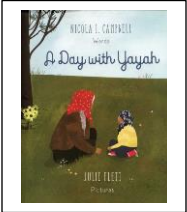
Fall and the back-to-school season are underway making this the perfect time to remind programs to update their business information using the Program Update Tool. The Child Care Aware of Minnesota Program Update Tool is the fastest and easiest way to update child care business information and Parent Aware profiles. Programs can update their hours of operation, ages served, and rate information in just a few minutes.

The [Update Tool link and instructions](#) are available on the Update Tool page of the Parent Aware website.

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## Library Corner

In *A Day with Yayah*, a First Nations family goes out to forage for edibles in the woods. Grandmother passes down her knowledge of plant life. This picture book is set in the Nicola Valley, British Columbia. This book is written by Nlaka’pamux, Syilz, and Métis author Nichola Campbell and illustrated by beloved children’s illustrator and author Julie Flett, who is of Cree-Métis heritage.



"Campbell captures the matter-of-fact cadence that wise Indigenous elders emanate with charm and subtle authenticity. . . Flett adds to the rich themes of resilience and resurgence with her enchanting, folk-like paintings. Together, Campbell and Flett transport readers on a bilingual learning journey with the intergenerational characters as they savour the pronunciation of each syllable of Nlaka’pamux words slowly, together. The book offers a phonetic breakdown and each Nlaka’pamux word is elegantly illustrated by Flett. . . The distinct and unbreakable resiliency of Indigenous people is affirmed in this loving portrait of generational courage and fortitude."

— *Quill & Quire*

*A Day with Yayah* can be found at the [Debra S Fish Early Childhood Resource Library](#) (a Minnesota public library) as well as your local library. If your library does not carry this title, you can make a request through [MNLink](#), Minnesota's statewide interlibrary loan service. All you need is your regular library card.

Questions? Contact Jennie at [librarian@thinksmall.org](mailto:librarian@thinksmall.org) or (651) 641-3544

Check out these Native booksellers to add to your personal collection:

[Birchbark Books](#): Native bookstore owned by author Louise Erdrich, member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians

[Black Bears & Blueberries Publishing](#): a Native owned non-profit company that publishes children’s fiction and non-fiction paperback books and ebooks, reading levels K-6, on Native topics serving a regional audience, including the Dakotas, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

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