

Fort Smith's Madeline Bird Daycare a success story after first two summers ^[1]

The Fort Smith Metis Council's new Madeline Bird Daycare recently capped off a second successful summer

Author: Taylor, Tom

Source: NNSL Media

Format: Article

Publication Date: 30 Sep 2024

AVAILABILITY

Access online ^[2]

Excerpt

The Fort Smith Metis Council's new Madeline Bird Daycare is going strong after its second summer in the community.

"We just had an end-of-summer family barbecue where we invited all of our daycare families," said Kristie Vyse, the head of the Fort Smith Metis Council daycare program. "[It was a chance to] kind of come and hang out and socialize, see where their kids are spending their days."

The new daycare facility quietly opened in the spring of 2023, following about a year and a half of construction.

It was built to address a long-standing need for childcare services in the community of just under 2,300 people.

"There's always been a really great need for childcare in Fort Smith," said Vyse. "Currently we have two licensed daycare facilities and one licensed day home — that's it for licensed full daycare."

The need for the new daycare was apparent from the moment the new facility opened, as it quickly reached capacity.

"It's been really busy," Vyse said. "We have a wait list already."

"There's a lot of interest, and we're looking at expanding into different age groups just to fulfill the need for the community."

The opening of the new facility certainly helped reduced Fort Smith's need for childcare services in the short term, but it also aims to curb the problem long-term, by collaborating with Aurora College to train staff for careers in the childcare sector.

...

Related link: N.W.T. a quarter of the way to creating 300 new child-care spaces by 2026 ^[3]

Region: Northwest Territories ^[4]

Tags: access ^[5]

expansion ^[6]

Source URL (modified on 2 Oct 2024): <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/24/10/fort-smiths-madeline-bird-daycare-success-story-after-first-two>

Links

[1] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/24/10/fort-smiths-madeline-bird-daycare-success-story-after-first-two> ^[2]

<https://www.nnsl.com/home/fort-smiths-madeline-bird-daycare-a-success-story-after-first-two-summers-7552168> ^[3]

<https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/24/06/nwt-quarter-way-creating-300-new-child-care-spaces-2026> ^[4]

<https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/7861> ^[5] <https://childcarecanada.org/category/tags/access> ^[6] <https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/9026>