



Downtown Parents

Neighbourhood Corner

Outdoor Family Play Days Communities 4 Families outdoor play Pilot

This exciting new project has brought lots of downtown families outside to play, in the cold snow and in the spring puddles. Luckiest of all, both days were very sunny!

An outdoor play event was held during spring break, on Friday March 27 and a second was on Friday April 20. It was a true pleasure to welcome so many young families out to play.

March Event Highlights:



The mud kitchen we had planned turned into a colourful kitchen party! That big March snowstorm was perfect for playing in the spring sunshine! The kids got creative and went wild with the snow painting and even decorated snow cupcakes!

The loose parts section turned into many cool forts, tents and cozy snack spots. So many kids (and cooperative siblings!) were showing us grown-ups the real ins and outs of fort construction and hideout design.

The painting area was a beautiful hit, especially in that warm corner of the school!

April Event Highlights:

The biggest (surprise!) hit of the day? Puddle running of course. Good



thing we brought along a few extra pairs of boots (thinking the park itself might be a bit wet) which got shared by many running feet. Lucky for us, the soccer field was filled with huge puddles, perfect for running, splashing and general spring silliness!

The mud kitchen got its first true debut with lots of puddle water and goopy mud for delicious mud pies, mud smoothies and of course, cupcakes... decorated with all of spring's finest. Thanks chefs for teaching us a few new recipes!

Of course, the loose parts were turned into picnic shelters and robots in no time! Way to go kids. You all worked so hard, and so WELL together! Way to go! Watch out Moms and Dads... we've got lots of engineers and talented builders in our midst.

Thanks to all the families and volunteers who came out to each event and showed us a great time!

Communities 4 Families
(Downtown Parent-Child Coalition)

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Sound fun? Feel like you're missing out? Well, you're in luck! We are hosting another Outdoor Family Play Day!

Tuesday May 29
9:30-11:30 am
Orioles Community Centre
448 Burnell Street

As always, expect lots of fun and silliness to share with your kids

- Mud Kitchen
- Bubbles
- Painting + Chalk
- Loose Parts (random building materials)
- and of course, snacks!



Summer Ideas for the Family

In summer you need practical ideas for kids' entertainment, things for kids to do *by themselves*, or as a family. Otherwise, they may end up getting too much screen time. If you need ideas for every day, check out this list of things to do.

- **Play outside in the rain.** Smell the rain on the pavement; splash in puddles; make mud pies.
- **Camp out or Camp in.** Put the sleeping bags on the floor and have a family slumber party.
- **Stargaze.** Invite friends and make a party of it.
- **Invite friends over for a game night.** Have a kids' games table and an adult one too.
- **Stop to smell the flowers.** (Go to a park or garden.)

- **Talk to the animals.** (Go to the zoo.)
- **Get wet.** (Go to a spray park.)
- **Play a card game.** Maybe crazy eights, spoons or poker. Take your pick.
- **Play a board game.** Candyland, chess or Monopoly, depending on age and inclination.
- **Make good use of nearby parks.**
- **Pack a picnic.** And plop down to eat it just about anywhere, at a free concert, in a park or in your own backyard.
- **Experiment with new hairdos.** Let the kids try out not-permanent colors or braids. Or maybe a spiked look.
- **Dig in the sand at the beach.**
- **Set a goal and complete a home project.** Find ways to let the kids help.
- **Take an early morning bird walk.**
- **Grow vegetables.** And then eat them.

- **Grow flowers.** And then arrange them.
- **Let the kids cook dinner.** In fact, make a tradition of it.
- **Host the kids' friends for a sleepover.** And then maybe your kids will be invited next—giving you a free evening.
- **Go to a museum that you've never been to before** or go to your favorite local museum ... again
- **Decorate your walkways with chalk.**
- **Take a hike.** Choose a route near your house or take a bus to a more distant park.
- **Plant a butterfly garden.** Watch the butterflies flutter by.
- **Make fresh lemonade.**
- **Read a chapter book aloud.**
- **Teach the kids a game you haven't played since you were a kid.**

Free Summer Activities

When summer festivals such as the Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival (July 19-30) and the TD International Winnipeg Jazz Festival (June 14-24) are in full swing, head to **Old Market Square** for free entertainment on The Cube Stage.

Watch popular 2000s movies at Movies on Memorial (Every Tuesday in August)

Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet puts on spectacular performances for **Ballet in the Park** at the Lyric Theatre in Assiniboine Park. July 25-27

Canada Day offers a whole host of activities and festivities spread across the city. Osborne Street in Osborne Village is shut down to traffic and filled with vendors. For family fun, make your way over to Canad Inns Family Fun Day at Assiniboine Park. The Forks features live entertainment, a public market, arts and crafts for kids and plenty of fun for all.

Visit our website at
www.communities4families.ca

Featuring links to the City of Winnipeg's NOW Winnipeg site.



- **Meet friends at the playground.** Not ground-breaking, but always popular nonetheless.
- **Jump rope.**
- **Press summer flowers.** Make a pressed flower picture.
- **Blow bubbles.** Make your own!
- **Build a fort.** Try pillows in the living room or cardboard boxes in the yard.
- **Make fairy houses.** Use moss, bark, and leaves in a dwelling fit for Thumbelina.
- **Make and fly a kite.**
- **Run in the yard or a park.** Kickball, wiffleball, Frisbee, tag ...
- **Make paper airplanes.** See whose goes the farthest.
- **Write in a journal.** At the end of the summer share selections with each other about the highlights of the season.
- **Create a treasure hunt for kids.** Do it on your own property or around town.
- **Make music.** Either make your own instruments or play traditional ones.

From <https://www.verywellfamily.com/summer-fun-ideas-kids-and-parents-3542627>

Free Summer Activities

Free Swim

Free Swim Apr. 6–Sept. 4
Cindy Klassen Recreation Complex, 999 Sargent Ave.
Sat. 5-6:30 p.m.
Sat. 7-9:45 p.m. youth swim (9-19 years)

Kinsmen Sherbrook Pool
381 Sherbrook
Fri. 1-5 pm
Sat. 2:30-5 pm

Freight House Outdoor Pool
200 Isabel St.
Daily 1-7 p.m. June 29-Sept. 3

Spray Pads

Great places for children of all ages to cool off on a hot summer day.

Open 7 days/week
10 am-9 pm
May 26–September 3

Central Park
400 Cumberland Ave.

Freight House
200 Isabel St.
Opening July 1

Vimy Ridge Memorial Park
821 Preston Ave.

Keep in mind that these areas are unsupervised.

Skateboard Parks

For boarders of all ages and skill levels.

Broadway Neighbourhood Centre
185 Young St.

Sargent Park Skate Park
Wall St. and Wellington Ave.

Jacob Penner Park
569 Wellington Ave.
(corner of Notre Dame Ave. and Victor St.)

Indigenous Day Live

Saturday, June 23, 2018

Various FREE events at
The Forks, Winnipeg, Manitoba
11:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Music and dance performances, storytelling, food vendors, traditional demonstrations, kids' tent, Round Dance and much more! LIVE concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

At the Library

The library has hundreds of programs, workshops and concerts for all ages, for free. Get a copy of At the Library for more details, of go [online](#).



Have fun and learn with your children through active play, games,

action songs and a healthy snack. Parents and their children, ages 1 - 4 years old, are invited to this drop-in program. These programs will continue in the summer:

Canadian Muslim Women's Institute, 201-61 Juno Street
204.943.8539
Saturdays 11 am -1 pm (after Ramadan)

Mosaic Newcomer Family Resource Network
Knox United Church, Central Park
204.774.7311
Tuesdays and Thursdays
11:15 am – 1:15 pm
(July 10-Aug.16)

Filipino Women's Institute
Sargent Park School
2 Sargent Park Pl.
Spring–Mondays from 3:45- 5:45pm
Summer–Wednesdays 3-5 pm

Ellice Street Festival

The West End Cultural Centre's annual Ellice Street Festival takes place **June 8th & 9th, 2018**.

The opening night (Friday, June 8th) will feature a performance by JD & The Sunshine band as well as Drag Queen Bingo. This event will take place inside the West End Cultural Centre starting at 7pm.

The street festival is take place Saturday, June 9th from 12-4pm on Ellice Avenue in front of the West End Cultural Centre. The festival will include live music by Silence Kit, The Deeds, Trampoline, and Madame Diva, along with performances by our MC Shanley Spence. Along with these performances, there will be community groups and vendors set up, kids activities, and hot dogs for sale.

All events are free and everyone is welcome to attend the Ellice Street Festival.

If you have further questions, please contact Jesse at 204.783.6918 or community@wecc.ca.

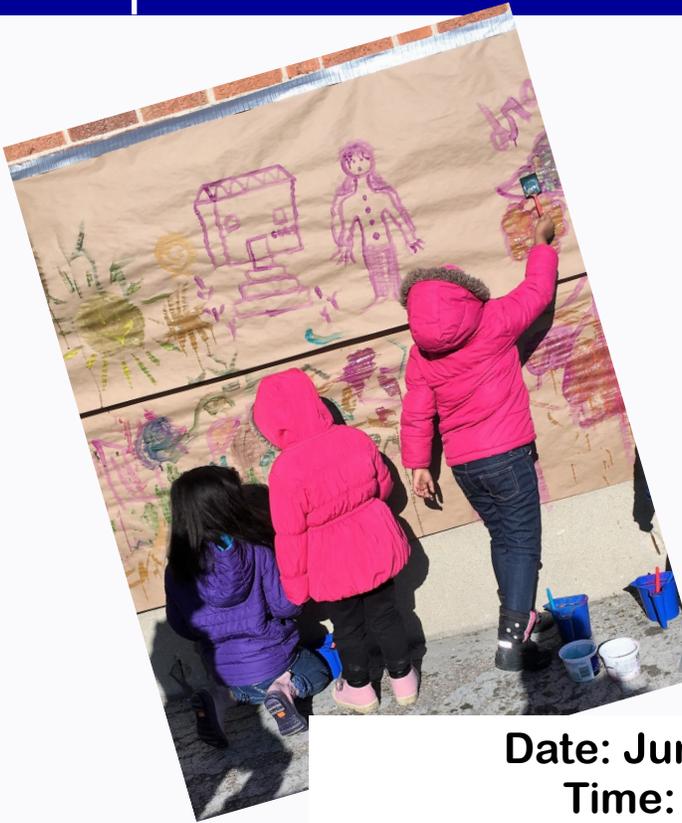


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June 20, 2018

Communities 4 Families Annual General Meeting



Date: June 20, 2018
Time: 1:00 pm

West End Commons Assembly Hall
641 St Matthews Ave .

- Learn more about our new pilot —the Outdoor Play Project
- Hear about the work of the Coalition in the downtown
- Join us for coffee and refreshments

You are always welcome at our monthly meetings. Find out when they are and more about what's happening in your community at our [website](#)

“Like” us on [Facebook!](#)