

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2024

ECE NEWS

ElderCare Edmonton Society
for Adult Day Programs

Message from the Executive Director BY NATALIE JOLY

Happy new year! 2023 was a year of tremendous change for ElderCare, and I'm excited about what 2024 brings. This year, we are excited to start our services at the South East Edmonton Seniors Association location, and to continue our journey at our Central and West sites. This year will also see the ElderCare team focus on opportunities for continuing education to support our clients and their caregivers to the best of our ability. We are also focused on continuing to advocate for our clients and their caregivers as the Alberta Health system that we operate within undergoes major restructuring in the coming months. Thank you to everyone for joining us on this journey!



Above, our Vitality team show off their handmade toques gifted this Christmas by our talented board Vice-Chair, Dr. Deborah Hurst!

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Our Connections Program

has moved to the

South East Edmonton Seniors Association (SEESA)



We are very excited to announce that as of early January 2024, our Fulton/Connections Program has moved locations to the South East Edmonton Seniors Association (SEESA)!



Our new location features a bright and welcoming program space, alongside the comfort and familiarity of our wonderful staff and activities.

SEESA is a non-profit organization dedicated to fostering a community for individuals 55+ where “positivity, togetherness, and joy thrive”.

We look forward to welcoming clients/caregivers to our new space, and are excited to become apart of the SEESA community.

Staff Spotlight: Melanie

Head Office

Most clients and caregivers know Melanie as the voice of ElderCare! As one of ElderCare’s longest-serving employees, Melanie’s knowledge and support for others is invaluable. In addition to keeping all the head office staff in-line over 2023, she was also the staff person behind getting several clients signed up for the Christmas Bureau gifts this year - We couldn’t be more thankful for her service!

Melanie graduated Bachelor of Arts Degree major in Economics in the Philippines, and completed Medical Office Assistant Diploma after she immigrated to Canada. Prior to joining ElderCare in 2012, Melanie worked with other senior-serving organizations where she developed a passion for both nonprofit organizations and the families they serve. Her commitment to improving the quality of life of the seniors and caregivers served by ECE make her the heart of our head office staff!

“Mel knows everything” - All the head office staff



2024 Fees

Thank you to everyone for your support through timely payment of monthly invoices! Alberta Health Services has provided information for clients about changes to program fees starting in April 2024; please see the letter from us dated January 2, 2024 for more information. This is the first time rates have increased since 2018.

With 30% of respondents of our client survey indicating that cost is a barrier to increased participation, we ask that anyone unable to pay these fees to contact their AHS Case Manager to discuss options.

For those who are able, donations to ElderCare help our ability to subsidize lower-income clients. We're thankful for the support of all our donors!

January-March Program Fee: \$10/day
April-December Program Fee: \$15/day
DATS tickets: \$19.75/10-ticket pack



Transit (DATS) Fares

As a reminder, there are different options for purchasing transit passes. Please contact Edmonton Transit to purchase monthly or annual passes & let your program manager know if you have one of these.

We have also been advised that although ETS paper tickets and passes are still available for purchase, they will eventually be phased out and replaced with Arc cards in the future.

Monthly Pass: \$35
Annual Pass - Low Income (income between \$29,381 and \$32,318): \$139
Annual Pass - Low Income (income below \$29,380): Free



Community Events & Resources

BY ELDERCARE STAFF

As we advance into 2024, we have some exciting new opportunities and resources to share! This month, we'd like to highlight an opportunity to join our board, and the EPL2YOU Program from the Edmonton Public Library.



Board Member Opportunity

We are recruiting volunteers to serve on our board!

Are you, or do you know someone who is interested in giving back to the community as a volunteer board of directors? Please let them know we would like to hear from them!

The ECE Board is responsible for the strategic direction for our organization and providing guidance to our daily operations. Our board meets virtually or in-person in the evening of every third Monday of each month, for approximately two hours. We ask that individuals serve on our board for a minimum commitment of three years. We're particularly interested in board members who could bring experience from the legal, communications, fundraising, or finance industries, or medical professionals who serve seniors.

For more information about ElderCare as an organization & our board, please check out the 'About' section at www.eldercareedmonton.ca.

If you would like to learn more, please reach out to our head office at info@eldercareedmonton.ca and we can connect you with our board chair.



The EPL2YOU Program at our local Edmonton Public Libraries has expanded to allow for many specialized services for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

Services include the utilization of amplified loop systems in the library to lessen noise for those who use hearing aids, as well as extended loan periods to ensure you have plenty of time to read your favourite books.

Additionally, if you are unable to make it to the library, they are now offering a Home Service that brings the books, CDs, DVDs, etc. straight to your door! To register, you just have to contact your local EPL branch.

Upcoming Closures

Feb 19

Family Day

March 29

Good Friday

