

Faro Childcare Centre Society

Faro

Started: 1971

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The Faro Childcare Centre Society started as a cooperative of parents who banded together to swap childcare. The Faro Childcare Co-op, as it was first called, soon moved forward to open one of the earliest licensed daycare centres in the Yukon. The centre is currently not open due to the mine closure.



Community benefits: The childcare centre provides a stable environment to kids with working parents and has been effective at bringing parents in the community together. Board and staff have also built a cooperative and supportive relationship. During the second to last shut down, the society struggled to keep the centre going as they believed strongly in providing stability to the kids and a focal point for the parents.

Lessons learned: Although trained staff was not a regulatory requirement when the centre was set up, it was a goal of the society to have quality care. The society successfully lobbied Yukon College to come to Faro to provide Early Childhood Education courses. The board also made it a goal to support the upgrading of staff skills, paying for course fees whenever it was financially feasible. Although the centre has closed a few times when the mine shut down, the society has typically been kept in existence, with standing procedures and policies. This has made each start-up easier.

Future of the project: The childcare centre is currently closed and the society is inactive. However, parents and past staff continue to talk about options for providing a preschool and/or daycare service. Unfortunately, the overhead costs of running the Dawson Drive facility prevent even its casual use by volunteer caregivers. The centre's future depends on future employment and population levels in Faro.