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#### **Contact Information:**

#### Northeast:

Fort St. John: 250-263-6000 Dawson Creek: 250-719-6500

#### Northern Interior:

Prince George: 250-565-2150

#### Northwest:

Terrace: 250-631-4222 Smithers: 250-565-2150

# The Latest from Child Care Licensing

Summer 2017 Edition





### Message from the Regional Manager, Community Care Facility Licensing

We are pleased to offer you this midsummer edition of our newsletter. On January 30, 2017 I was appointed as the new Northern Health, Regional Manager for Community Care Facility Licensing (CCFL). I work closely with the Public Health Protection Management Team and staff. As Regional Manager of CCFL, I work in collaboration with Health Service Administrators and Community Service Managers to assist with the integration of CCFL and Public Health Protection with other Northern Health services. I provide direct supervision to the Licensing Officers and work closely with the Medical Health Officers.

I have worked directly or contracted with the Public Service of British Columbia for approximately 20 years in a number of roles. Most recently, I worked as the Manager of Field Services with the Public Guardian and Trustee of British Columbia. I also worked with the Ministry of Children and Family Development as an Integrated Team Leader, Youth Justice Supervisor, After-hours worker, Investigator, Family Services Specialist, Adoptions and Guardianship worker. I graduated with a Bachelor of Social Work from University of Victoria through Okanagan University College and a Master of Social Work from the University of Northern British Columbia. I have also been a small business owner and a CEO for a financial services company. In my spare time, I coach and play basketball, volleyball, as well as, track & field. I also enjoy many other outdoor activities. My office is located at The Prince George Native Friendship Centre 4th Floor – 1600 Third Avenue, Prince George. I can be reached at 250-645-6226 or by e-mail <u>adam.calvert@northernhealth.ca</u>.

Since I am new to this role I bring a new focus on the work we do in licensing. After consultation with licensing programs throughout the province, we have decided to focus on working with Licensees to strengthen child care and residential care in the Northern Health Service Delivery Area. This focus is a three pronged approach: first focusing on our program delivery; second, focusing on supporting Licensees; and third, further developing relationships with associations and committees throughout the North and the Province to be more responsive to the needs of the North.

As we focus on program delivery you will notice a few changes. From time to time we will reassign the work to be completed at your facility to a different Licensing Officer. In the North West service area you will have already experienced changes in Licensing Officers. The Northern Interior Area will be going through this change this fall, while the North East Area will be going through this change in the winter and spring.

As well, as a Licensee or Manager, you will observe that while Licensing Officers spend time with you at your facilities they will continue with their service delivery and will work to bring to your attention those aspects of the facility that may need change or strengthening. They will do this through the use of citations. Along with regular contacts, education and training; citations, are one of the ways Licensing Officers will use to communicate with the Licensee or Manager. In following the act and regulations, citations are used to document the work that a facility is doing to strengthen the practice of caring for children and other vulnerable populations.

Second, we believe, as we work with new applicants, education at the front end of the process will support the Licensee in establishing an effective program. CCFL is here to support the continuous improvement of all care facilities. Part of this improvement will require the use of citations to focus

on the further development of care programs in the service area of Northern Health. As well, over the next two years, there will be development of education and learning opportunities for all care programs in the Northern Health Service Delivery Area.

As we focus on connecting with associations and committees Licensing will be able to understand the more global needs for support and will be able to adjust our services to meet those needs.

Sincerely,

Adam Calvert, Regional Manager, Community Care Facility Licensing

# **Frequently Asked Questions**



**Question:** Can I take an online course to meet the first aid training requirement?

**Answer:** No. You must take an instructor led course that tests your knowledge and skills, as well as, has a practical component. Also, Licensing must be able to verify that the testing was completed by you and was overseen by a qualified person. Please ensure that you keep your first aid requirements up to date through taking an acceptable training program. If you have questions as to what is acceptable, please contact your Licensing Officer and they will assess the program.

#### Question: When does Active Play go into implementation?

**Answer:** As of September 1, 2017 the grace period will end and the Active Play standard will become a required practice. Please ensure all documentation is completed and up to date. As well, during any type of inspection each facility must be able to demonstrate how the Active Play standard is being met.

### **Active Play and Environmental Impacts**

Section 44 of the Child Care Licensing Regulation requires a licensee to provide each child with daily outdoor play periods unless weather conditions would make it unreasonable to do so.

When incorporating active play it is important to assess the environment, temperatures and air quality. Air pollution varies and can include smoke, traffic and dust. Individual health needs of children must be assessed prior to participating in outdoor play. Environmental impacts can be associated with several adverse health outcomes. Facilities can modify the location or time of active play to reduce these risks.

Things to take into consideration when planning outdoor active play:

#### Hot weather

- $\circ\,$  Avoid outdoor activity during the hottest times of the day.
- Keep hydrated and avoid sugary drinks.
- Apply sunscreen and avoid the direct sun. Provide a shaded play area to protect children from the sun.

- · Wear light-coloured, breathable clothes.
- Watch for signs of heat exhaustion, such as nausea, dizziness, cramps, and headache. If you notice any signs, stop activity right away, cool off, and drink fluids.

#### Cold Weather

- Dress for cold weather. If you plan to be active outdoors, wear clothes and footwear that will keep you warm and dry.
- Watch for icy patches to avoid falls.
- Do activities in areas which are sheltered from the wind.

#### • Poor Air Quality:

- Air quality advisories or smoky skies bulletins will be posted by the Ministry of Environment at <u>bcairquality.ca</u>.
  - Information regarding the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) can be found on the <u>link</u> provided below. Please note: not all communities in the north have an AQHI.
  - Additional information can also be found on the <u>Northern Health website</u>.
- Children are especially susceptible to poor air quality since they breathe in more air per kilogram of body weight.
- Assess individual needs of each child who has a chronic condition such as asthma.
- If children are experiencing serious symptoms like difficulty breathing – seek medical attention immediately.
- Keep medication on hand at all times and follow instructions in the care plan.
- Enjoy active play indoors if the air quality in the daycare is better than it is outside. Or, consider environments such as shopping malls, community centres and libraries that have large volumes of filtered air.



 Appropriately sized portable indoor air cleaners can improve indoor air quality. Ensure indoor sources of air pollution are kept to a minimum (air fresheners, fumes produced by cooking, etc).

While air quality advisories and smoky skies bulletins are helpful for alerting us to compromised outdoor air quality, it's important to consider air quality on a day to day basis (idling vehicles, busy roadways, neighborhood smoke from backyard fires or wood stoves can all contribute to our longer term exposures to poor outdoor air quality). Kids with healthy lifestyles (healthy foods and outdoor activity) will have a better chance at combatting the effects of poor air quality. For more information on outdoor air quality, please see Northern Health's air quality web page.

Refer to the following links for guidance and review:

Director of Licensing Standard of Practice – Safe Play Space: <u>http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/</u> <u>health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/child-day-care/safe\_play\_space.pdf</u>

Director of Licensing Standard of Practice-Active Play: <u>http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/</u> about-bc-s-health-care-system/child-day-care/active\_play\_june\_2016.pdf Activity Sheet Resource: <u>http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/</u> child-day-care/active play simple games and activity ideas 2017.pdf

Northern Health Air Quality web page: <u>https://www.northernhealth.ca/YourHealth/</u> EnvironmentalHealth/AirQuality.aspx

BC Air Quality Advisories and Bulletins: <u>http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/air/air-quality/air-advisories</u>

Air Quality Health Index: https://ec.gc.ca/cas-aqhi/default.asp?lang=En&n=E36ED558-1

## **Off-Site Outdoor Play Areas**

Summer's here and it's time to get out and play! Are you thinking about heading out to some of the outdoor play spaces in your community?

Accessing outdoor play spaces in the community can be a way to ensure that children are getting out door play time. However, you need to connect with your licensing officer and outline how you will ensure the health, safety and well-being of the children in your care when accessing outdoor play areas that are not part of your facility. The following questions may help you when it comes to developing an appropriate plan for accessing off site play areas.

Some things to consider before going:

- Have you taken a look at the play space to ensure it's appropriate and safe for the children in your care?
- How far away is the play space and can all children in care make it there safely?
- Are you going to use strollers or wagons to help get the children there?
- If the children are going to walk:
  - Is the route safe?
  - Do you need to cross streets?
  - What kind of shape is the sidewalk in?
  - Is there any way to minimize the crossing of streets?
- If you're going to use transportation, do you have enough age appropriate child safety seats?
- Have you communicated your plan to parents?
- Do you have a reliable means of communication, first aid kit and emergency cards ready to take with you?
- Do you have a plan to deal with any emergency that might arise?
- Do you have policies in place to guide staff when accessing play spaces that are off site?
- · Are appropriate bathrooms available for the children?



• Do you have enough staff to ensure the safety of children while off-site and any needs that might arise such as toileting or first aid?

When you get there:

- Have you checked the play area to ensure it is safe for the children (i.e. free of broken glass, garbage, exposed nail, etc.)?
- Are the children in your care easily distinguishable from other children that might be accessing the same play space?
- Are there any other hazards that need to be addressed, such as ravines, retaining walls or roads that might require extra safety measures?
- · Are the children aware of the boundaries of the play space?
- · Can staff see the children at all times? Are they proving active supervision?

Get out and enjoy some of the great things you community has to offer. Just remember to keep your licensing officer informed and that you've taken the relevant legislation into account when planning your activities.

Adapted from the Fraser Health bulletin: Outdoor Play Areas (Away) Gaining approval to use a play area away from the facility.

### **Records and Documentation**

A collection of documents that are gathered over a period of time containing written information, reference material or statistics to capture events, thoughts, actions and information that may be important at a later date.

The Child Care Licensing Regulation and Standard of Practice for Safe Play Space require you to document specific information regarding employees, children in care, programming, day to day operations, policies and procedures.

To demonstrate standards are being met, Licensing Officers will ask to review the following records:

- Employee Records criminal record letters, reference checks, resume, immunization status, first aid and training certificates. A licensee must validate and keep a record of that validation for all employees, including substitutes who hold ECE Certification issued by the ECE Registry. (ECE, ECE Assistant, I/T ECE, SN ECE). Validation must be done through the Ministry of Children and Family Development's online Certificate Validation.
- Children's Records Registration forms, medication administration, care plans, consent forms, custody orders, emergency cards
- Day to day operations and maintenance records to include:
- Attendance records including time of arrival/departure and present/absent
- Serious incident reports
- Fire drills conducted/recorded monthly
- · Emergency/disaster drills conducted/recorded annually
- Outdoor play area maintenance conducted daily/monthly/annual

- · Minor incident log of illness or unexpected events
- · Menu or record of food served based on Canada Food Guide
- · Program of activities that are offered daily

Policies and procedures for Licensing Officer review:

**Parent repayment agreement:** If fees are prepaid, provide evidence of who has prepaid and who has received a copy of the written statement that the licensee delivers to persons who prepay all or part of the cost of services. Keep on file a current record of each person to whom the written statement is delivered.

**Safe release of child:** Written consent from the parent to authorize individual access to the child. A record is required of any person who is not permitted access to the child.

**Behavioral guidance:** Provide to employees and parents a written statement of the licensee's policy on behavioural guidance.

**Food and drink served to children:** A licensee must make available to parents information on the food and drink offered to children at the facility.

**Health and hygiene:** A licensee must establish a program to instruct children in, and to practise the rules of, health and hygiene.

Care and supervision: Guide employees in the care and supervision of children at all times.

**Program Planning:** Provide to children a comprehensive and coordinated program of indoor and outdoor activities that is designed for the development and care of children, appropriate for the age and development and complies with the program standards set out in Schedule G.

It is important to have a reliable record keeping system that works for you. You should consider how you will ensure this information is available and accessible at all times including when a computer issue, power outage, or emergency situation arises. Facility records must be organized and secure and be reviewed regularly to ensure the information is accurate and up to date.

Licensing Officers will ask to review your policies and procedures and facility records to see that you are operating in compliance with provincial standards. How you record the information is up to you. Information must be kept in a single place at the facility and be readily available at all times for inspection purposes.



### **Repayment Agreements in Child Care Facilities**

The intent of section 19 of the Community Care and Assisted Living Act and section 56.1 of the Child Care Licensing Regulation is to ensure that licensed child care facilities have good business practices and established financial policies where all persons are treated equitably. This requirement aims to help build and establish a trusting business-like relationship between the parent/guardian and the licensee/caregiver.

#### Section 19 of the Community Care and Assisted Living Act states:

If a person prepays any part of the cost of services provided by a class of community care facility designated by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, the licensee or manager of the facility must, at the time of prepayment, deliver to the person a written statement setting out the terms and conditions of when a refund of all or any of the prepayment will be made.

#### Section 56.1 of the Child Care Licensing Regulation states:

A licensee must keep a copy of the written statement, referred to in section 19 of the Act, that the licensee delivers to persons who prepay part of the cost of services, and a current record of each person to whom the written statement is delivered in accordance with that section.

When parents/guardians are required by a licensee to pay for child care services prior to having received those services, the licensee must, at the time of payment, provide in writing, the terms and conditions under which any refunds will be made to the parent/guardian. Therefore, if a parent/guardian is required to make payment for their child care services at the beginning of the month for the child care services which will be provided during that month, they must be advised in writing by the licensee under what circumstances they would receive a refund for any services not received.

The legislation does not dictate the terms and conditions for when a refund should be made; this is left up to the licensee. It is recognized that there are situations that are likely to arise in any child care setting, and a licensee may want to consider the following as part of the terms and conditions of their contract:

- the amount of notice that a parent/guardian must provide to the licensee if he/she wishes to withdraw his/her child from the facility
- the amount of notice a licensee must provide to the parent/guardian if he/she is unable to continue to provide care to a child
- · if a child is sick and unable to attend the facility
- · if the caregiver is sick and unable to provide care to a child
- if the facility is closed due to a statutory holiday, or the licensee/caregiver wishes to take
- vacation time
- if the child does not attend that facility because the parent/guardian is on vacation and/or not working

A clear written policy for the facility, that is understood and agreed upon by all parents and guardians at the time their child is enrolled in the facility, will help to prevent conflict and misunderstanding around financial issues.

#### Adapted from the Fraser Health bulletin: Repayment Agreements in Child Care Facilities

### **Serious Incident Reporting**

An event where a person in care has become ill or injured, has been seriously or adversely affected; or, has gone missing while under the care or supervision of the licensee. Child Care staff must immediately notify the child's parent or emergency contact if child is involved in a reportable incident. The licensee must notify their Licensing Officer within 24 hours of all reportable incidents.

This Newsletter will be highlighting the "SERVICE DELIVERY" category.

Service Delivery problems are a type of incident that has broad range of possibilities and so is often **under reported**. Any condition or event which could reasonably be expected to impair the ability of the licensee or his or her employees to provide care, or which affects the health, safety or dignity of persons in care.

Following examples of reportable Service Delivery are:

- · Unexpected illness of the care provider
- Emergency or disaster (flood, fire, gas leaks)
- Extreme weather events or utility disruptions that may impact the ability to continue to provide care (power outage)
- Staff ratios cannot be maintained and the program has to be temporarily closed

Serious incident report forms are available from your Licensing Officer or on the web page for the electronic version.

https://www.northernhealth.ca/Portals/0/Your\_Health/Programs/Community%20Care%20 Licensing/10-410-7012%20Serious%20Incident%20Report.pdf

## **Using Food as a Reward or Punishment**

The BC Child Care Licensing Regulations support best practices in feeding. Section 48(7) states: "A licensee must ensure that food and drink are not used as a form of reward or punishment for children." In this article, we will take a closer look at not using food as a reward.

Take a look at the scenarios below.

- "You behaved well during quiet time, so you can have some chips."
- "If you go pee on the potty, you can have a cookie."
- "If you finish your lunch, you can have a cupcake."
- "Eat your vegetables then you can have dessert."

In all of the above scenarios food is being used as a reward. We see examples of food being used as a reward for behaviour, for following instructions, and for consuming certain amounts or types of food. Unfortunately, while these scenarios are not uncommon, they are also not best practice.



#### Why is it important that food is not being used as a reward?

"Eat your vegetables – then you can have dessert." Kids may eat the vegetables to please their grownups and get the reward of dessert, but this is not teaching them to like vegetables in the long run. In fact, contrary to best intentions, this may increase children's dislike for those vegetables. It makes sense: If children need to be given a reward to eat vegetables (or any other food, for that matter), we send the message that eating vegetables is a chore and imply that vegetables are not very likeable. This is at odds with our long term goals of raising kids to enjoy a variety of foods, including vegetables.

"If you finish your lunch, you can have a cupcake." When we reward children to eat a certain amount of food, this can cause them to ignore their body's fullness cues in order to get the reward. Kids' appetites change from meal to meal, day to day, and we want to encourage them to "listen to their tummies" so that they can eat the amounts that are right for them (which might be a lot less, or more, than we expect).

Finally, by using certain foods as rewards, we make those foods more desirable and appealing to children. In turn, this can lead to increased intake of these foods when they are available and a tendency to eat these foods for reasons other than hunger. This could also feed into emotional eating. All this makes it even harder for children to respond appropriately to their hunger and fullness cues, and to eat the amounts that are right for their bodies.

#### What do we do instead?

There is no need to reward children for eating. Let their appetite guide how much they eat. If they are not yet comfortable with a specific food, provide more opportunities for them to learn about it and offer it from time to time at a meal or snack without pressure.

If you are offering a dessert, make it available to everybody regardless of how much they have eaten. You can even serve everyone a portion of dessert at the same time you serve the rest of the meal, and let them decide what order in which they want to eat their food.

If it seems necessary to use rewards for behaviour, tasks or accomplishments, choose non-food rewards, such as praise, extra time at the park, a sticker, etc.



Written by Lise Luppens, MA, RD

### **Changes to the Criminal Record Application Process**

On April 7, 2017 the criminal record check application process changed. Starting June 1, 2017 the old criminal record check applications will no longer be accepted.

- With the recent changes you can expect:
- Easier forms with updated instructions

- Faster processing of faxed forms
- · Fewer form re-submissions and repayments
- · Convenient and secure online payment options
- · Quicker results for most applicants
- · New, dedicated fax line for criminal record checks
- · New employee forms can now be emailed

#### **Processing Times**

Employee Applications for employees where payment is online will take about two weeks.

Applications for volunteers or by draw down account holders will take about one week.

Mailed applications and applications where payment is by cheque, money order or credit card form may take 4-6 weeks.

Please review the updated form instructions before submitting your criminal record check consent form.

Form Name	Form Number	Notes
Employee Criminal Record Check	CRR010	Emailed Consent Forms
Consent Form	(PDF)	<ul> <li>Email the form(s) as a PDF or TIF file</li> </ul>
Use this form if you are an employee who works with children and/or vulnerable adults.		<ul> <li>Multiple forms may be emailed as a single attachment or as separate attachments</li> </ul>
If you are an employee of MCFD, use form CRR011 found on MCFD Forms.		<ul> <li>When there is one form, use the applicant's name and year of birth for the attachment (e.g. JOHNDOE1997.pdf or JOHNDOE1997.tif)</li> </ul>
		• When there are multiple forms, combine and save them in one single PDF or TIF as organization name and date of submission (e.g.123daycare2017-05-03.pdf or 123daycare2017-05-03.tif). Applications that are received without the correct file name will not be processed
		Emails must include a list naming all the applicants
		Use the subject line "Employee submission CRR010"
		• The Pre-Authorized Credit Card Usage Form has been discontinued. Do not send it. We will email you your payment options. Please make sure that applicants have included their own email address in Part 1 of the application form.
		Faxed Consent Forms
		• Fax forms to 250 953-0408
		Pages 1 to 2 of the fax must be in numerical order
		No coversheet or ID required
Pre-Authorized Credit Card Usage Form		The Pre-Authorized Credit Card Usage Form is being discontinued.
Discontinued		Payment options will now be issued via e-mail to the e-mail address provided on the Employee Criminal Record Check Consent Form (CRR010)

Form Name	Form Number	Notes
Application for a Fee Waiver Form	CRR017	Emailed Waivers
Fee waivers are available for children aged 12-18 years who reside at a child or adult care facility that is licensed under the <i>Community Care and Assisted Living</i> <i>Act</i> .	(PDF)	Email the form as a single scanned PDF or TIF file
		• When there is one form, use the applicant's name and year of birth for the attachment (e.g. JOHNDOE1997.pdf or JOHNDOE1997.tif)
		• When there are multiple forms, combine and save them in one single PDF or TIF as organization name and date of submission (e.g.123daycare2017-05-03. pdf or 123daycare2017-05-03.tif). Applications that are received without the correct file name <b>will not be</b> <b>processed</b>
		Use the subject line "Fee Waiver submission CRR017"
		<ul><li>Faxed Consent Forms</li><li>Fax forms to 250 953-0408</li></ul>
		Pages 1 to 2 of the fax must be in numerical order
		No coversheet or ID required
Application to Enrol in eCRC	CRR020 (PDF)	No change
Sharing Form	CRR022	Emailed Sharing Forms
Use this form if you have completed	(PDF)	Email the form(s) as a PDF or TIF file
a criminal record check through the Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP) in the last 5 years and you wish to share the results with another organization. To share results both organizations must be registered with the CRRP.		Multiple forms may be emailed as a single attachment or as separate attachments
		• When there is one form, use the applicant's name and year of birth for the attachment (e.g. JOHNDOE1997.pdf or JOHNDOE1997.tif)
		• When there are multiple forms, combine and save them in one single PDF or TIF as organization name and date of submission (e.g.123daycare2017-05-03. pdf or 123daycare2017-05-03.tif). Applications that are received without the correct file name will not be processed
		Emails must include a list naming all the applicants
		• Use the subject line "Sharing Form submission CRR022"
		Faxed Sharing Forms
		• Fax forms to 250 953-0408
		No coversheet or ID required
Employee Organization Information Update Form	CRR025 (PDF)	No change
Use this form if you are an employee organization currently registered with the Criminal Records Review Program and wish to update your organization's information.		

For more information on the changes visit: <u>http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/crime-prevention/criminal-record-check/revised-process</u>

### **Recalls and Safety Alerts**

#### **Recall/Safety Alert: President's Choice brand Pub Recipe Chicken Nuggets**

Loblaw Companies Limited is recalling President's Choice brand Pub Recipe Chicken Nuggets from the marketplace due to possible *Salmonella* contamination. Consumers should not consume the recalled product described below.

Loblaw says the recalled nuggets bear a best-before code of "2018 MR 15" and were sold prior to Wednesday in most of the country at Loblaw stores and at affiliated outlets such as No Frills, Real Canadian Superstore, Dominion, Provigo and others.

If you think you became sick from consuming a recalled product, call your doctor.

Check to see if you have recalled products in your home. Recalled products should be thrown out or returned to the store where they were purchased.

Food contaminated with Salmonella may not look or smell spoiled but can still make you sick. Young children, pregnant women, the elderly and people with weakened immune systems may contract serious and sometimes deadly infections. Healthy people may experience short-term symptoms such as fever, headache, vomiting, nausea, abdominal cramps and diarrhea. Long-term complications may include severe arthritis.

#### Recall/Safety Alert: Caramia Furniture recalls Veronic and Carrera 3 in 1 Convertible Cribs

**Product description:** This recall involves the Veronic and Carrera Convertible Cribs. The recalled crib is a 3 in 1 crib that can be converted to a day bed or double bed (separate extension required). The recalled crib is 154 cm in length X 81 cm in width and 116 cm in height. The Veronic crib was sold in grey, java, white and off white colours with product codes VCB-320, VERO-CR-SG2, VERO-CR-WH1, VERO-CR-CW1, and VERO-CR-JV1. The Carrera crib was sold in espresso colour with the product codes CARR-CR-ES1 and CARR-CR-ES2. The product codes can be found on a label on the lower part of the headboard of the crib. The affected products were sold on their own and as part of collections containing other products.

**Hazard identified:** Some of the bolts supplied with the crib were too narrow for the nuts embedded in the crib, resulting in improper assembly. Improper assembly of the crib or use of substitute hardware could pose a safety risk to the users of the crib.

Health Canada received one complaint in which the bolt and washer came loose from the crib. No injury resulted from this incident.

Number sold: Approximately 2000 of the affected cribs were sold in Canada

Time period sold: The recalled cribs were sold from August 2013 to September 2016.

Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled crib and contact Caramia Furniture Ltd. by telephone toll-free at 1-877-728-0342, Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST or contact the company by email for a hardware kit.

#### Recall/Safety Alert: Dollar Store Jump Ropes (2 per pack)

**Product description:** This recall involves Jump ropes with plastic handles sold in packages of two and offered in two colour combinations: blue and purple, or pink and yellow. Product number 14-3036420 can be found on the upper right corner of the product packaging.

**Hazard identified:** The jump ropes may contain levels of phthalate that exceeds the allowable limit. Studies suggest that certain phthalates, including DEHP, may cause reproductive and developmental abnormalities in young children when soft vinyl products containing phthalates are sucked or chewed for extended periods.

As of July 12, 2017, Dollarama L.P. has not received any reports of incident or injuries related to the use of these jump ropes.

For further information on phthalates in children's products, see <u>Health Canada's Website</u>.

Number sold: Approximately 124,890 units of the affected products were sold in Canada.

Time period sold: The recalled products were sold from March 2014 to June 29th, 2017.

Consumers should immediately take the recalled toy away from children and either dispose of the product or return it to the store for a refund (no receipt required).

# Recall/Safety Alert: Updated and expanded recall - Kids II Canada Co recalls Oball rattles with orange beads

**Product description:** This recall involves Oball Rattles models 81031, 81548 and 11483 available in pink, blue, green, purple and orange. The balls have 28 finger holes and measure approximately 10.2 centimeters (four inches) in diameter. Embedded in the rattles are a clear plastic disc with all orange beads and two clear plastic discs with beads of varying colors on the perimeter.

Only rattles with date codes T0486, T1456, T2316, T2856 and T3065 located on a small triangle on the inner surface of the rattle are included in the recall. Rattles with one clear plastic disc with all blue beads are not included in the recall.



**Hazard identified:** The clear plastic disc on the outside of the ball can break and release small beads, posing a choking hazard to young children.

As of July 13, 2017, the company has received no report of incidents in Canada, and no report of injuries. As of July 13, 2017, in the United States, the company has received 42 reports of the plastic disc breaking releasing small beads, including 5 reports of beads in a child's mouth.

For some tips to help consumers choose safe toys, and to help them keep children safe when they play with toys, see the <u>General Toy Safety Tips</u>.

**Number sold:** Approximately 17,000 units of the affected products were sold in Canada, and approximately 680,000 were sold in the United States. Approximately 1884 units of the recalled

product were re-distributed in Canada after the joint recall.

**Time period sold:** The recalled products were sold from January 2016 to February 2017 at Walmart Canada, Sears, Loblaws Canada, Kids Central, London Drugs limited, Toys R Us Canada and online at Amazon.ca. Additional product was found to have been sold at Walmart Canada stores from May 23, 2017 to July 7, 2017.

Consumers should immediately take these recalled rattles away from children and contact Kids II Canada to receive a full refund. For more information, consumers may contact Kids II Canada Co. by telephone toll-free at 1-877-243-7314 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, or visit the <u>company's website</u> and click on "Recalls" at the bottom of the page for more information.