

# Philosophy

Every child has the right to develop his or her full potential as a spiritual, emotional, social, and physical being. Our program thrives to instil a sense of pride and a desire to learn, provide parenting skills, foster emotional and social development, increase confidence, and improve family relationships. The Aboriginal Head Start class room endeavours to be culturally appropriate in curriculum and atmosphere. Studies show that Early Childhood education programs such as Head Start better equip children to learn while fostering good health, child development, and support to parents in their role as caregivers.



## ABORIGINAL HEAD START

*Urban & Northern Communities*



### Aboriginal Head Start Program

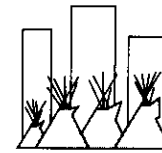
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Public Health  
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé  
publique du Canada



Grande Prairie  
Friendship Centre

## Aboriginal Head Start Program



GRANDE PRAIRIE  
FRIENDSHIP CENTRE  
Aboriginal Head Start Program



The Public Health Agency of Canada provides the primary funding for the Aboriginal Head Start program. Their overall mission is to help the people of Canada maintain and improve their overall health outcomes for all people. The mandate for PHAC focuses on the following six key components:

1. **Culture and Language**
2. **Education**
3. **Health Promotion**
4. **Nutrition**
5. **Social Support Programs**
6. **Parental and Family Involvement**

**Voted Early Childhood  
Service Provider of  
the Year 2017**

## Welcome to the GPFC Aboriginal Head Start Program

The GPFC Aboriginal Head Start is the only program of its kind to be Accredited in Alberta. We offer children from 3-5 years old the opportunity to develop to their potential by *learning through play*.

### **Our program offers:**

- Two full day programming
- Trained and qualified staff
- An Educational Assistant in the classroom
- Breakfast, lunch and snack daily
- Parent Education classes
- Swimming lessons

*"Thank you for the great year. I appreciate everything your program did for my daughter and our family. We will cherish our time at AHS and use all the cultural teachings for the rest of our lives. Thank you!" ~ Parent*

- Cooking activities
- Bussing
- Cultural teachings
- Social skill development
- Nurturing environment
- Family supports and referrals
- Daily smudging
- Speech assessments
- Family events
- And much more!

