



Aboriginal Supported Child Development Program



www.ascdp.bc.ca

Aboriginal Supported Child Development (ASCD) is a provincially funded program that is designed to specifically meet the needs of children who require additional support. ASCD Programs are developed with cultural values, beliefs and traditions in mind. The Purpose of ASCD is to enable children who require extra supports to be included in child care settings. Such inclusion allows children to participate in settings that will support their development along with their peers. ASCD services address the child care needs of working/student parents with children with special needs. Having a child care setting where their children can get the supports they need to be included, allows the parents/caregivers to continue in their own daily activities of work and learning, and allows their child to grow and learn in a safe and nurturing environment

Our Guiding Principles

- **Inclusion** - all children are supported to fully participate in neighbourhood child care programs
- **Family Centred** – this means that you, the parent, choose what kind of support you want
- **Individual Planning** – each child's unique strengths and needs are recognized and supported
- **Child Development** – children with developmental needs have access to early intervention and developmentally appropriate supports
- **Community based** – programs reflect local needs and priorities
- **Respect for cultural diversity**
- **Support for capacity building in Aboriginal communities**



Who are the Children?

Aboriginal Children who are residents of BC are eligible for ASCD. Children should meet the following three criteria:

1. Child is between newborn to 12 years (services for children 13 to 19 may be provided on an individual basis).
2. Child has a developmental delay or disability in one of four areas:
 - Physical
 - Cognitive
 - Communicative
 - Social/Emotional/Behavioural
3. Child requires additional support in a childcare setting.

Support takes place in...

- Preschool settings and Head Start programs for children aged 3 to 5 years
- Daycare, family child care or Out of School Care
- In a child's home under exceptional circumstances when a child's support needs otherwise prevent him or her from participating in a childcare program

Support can look like.....

- Support and consultation to the family and child care program
- Short term or part time additional staffing to support the child care program
- Ongoing additional staffing in the child care program to support a child to be successful

Who are the Families?

Families can include birth, extended, adopted, and foster families. Aboriginal families can be living on or off reserve. There is no cost for this service.

every child belongs