

Alder Academy Annual Report 2022-2023

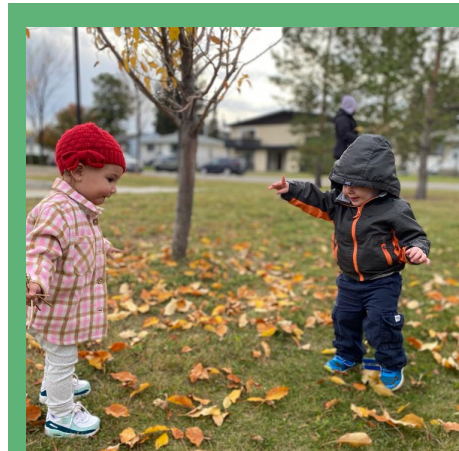




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LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

As we wrap up another successful year for our organization, I first want to say thank you to all parents, volunteers, stakeholders, supporters, and students of Alder Academy. The important work in furthering early childhood education is something I care about deeply and I am very proud of what our organization achieves.

It has been a busy year for the organization. Our Head Start Program which ran out of Dovercourt School was closed earlier this year. Work is ongoing to transition the upstairs space in the West End location. We hope to start construction progress in 2024. This space will provide flexibility for future programming and some room for expansion. We successfully completed a programming audit by Alberta Education where it was clear our organization is viewed as a leader in the space. Our programs are back to full enrollment as well, demonstrating a full recovery following the pandemic. 2023 provided some stability and foundation for the future and I am excited for what is to come in 2024 and beyond.

This year also marked my fifth year as a director and my third year as chair of the board. In the interest further growth and vision for the organization I will be resigning my position effective conclusion of the AGM. I became involved with the board when my two children went through the program as toddlers. I have gained perspective first as a parent and then as a director, which has allowed me to see this organization from two divergent viewpoints. As a parent and as a director, I have witnessed the energy and passion brought by staff and volunteers. It has been humbling to say the least and I strive to bring the commitment I have seen to aspects of my life. This program is looked to as a leader across early childhood education space and is set up to continue this leadership. It has been a privilege to serve on this board. I wish nothing but the best for everyone involved with Alder Academy.

Respectfully submitted by
Andrew Phelan, Board Chair



Alder Academy Early Learning Society was founded in May 1980 and formerly known as Oliver Centre Early Learning Programs

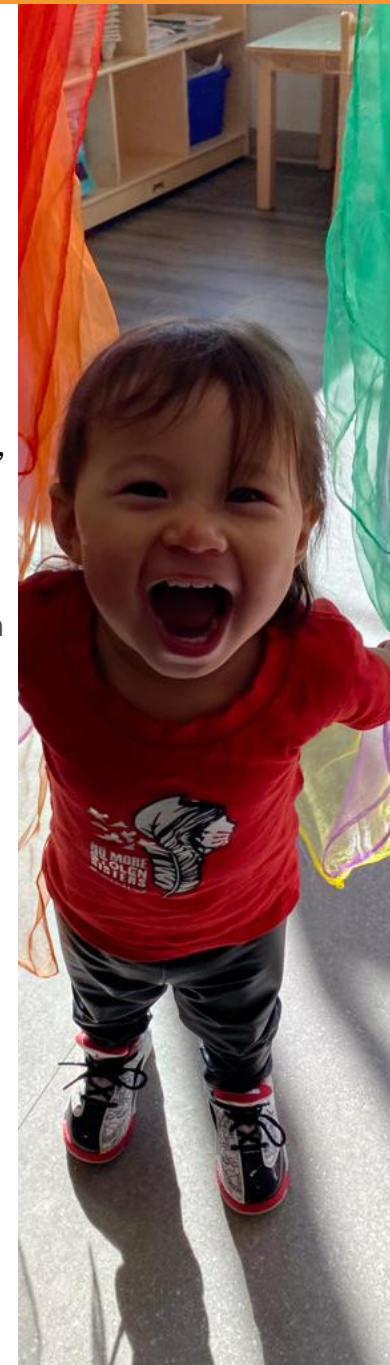


Letter from the Executive Director

As I sit and think about the highlights of the past year I ponder over all of the wonderful things that I have experienced. As the Director of an organization that works with young children and their families I have been fortunate enough to witness tremendous growth and development throughout the programs. When you have the luxury of seeing their smiles as they enter the program or the excitement in their eyes as they accomplish a task for the very first time you realize that those moments are special moments. Moments that will carry them throughout their lives. Building positive connection and relationships are the most important parts of brain development. Igniting those sparks of curiosity and challenging them to explore, grow, and learn along the way gives them the confidence that will carry them through life. I find myself thankful for the position I have and the work I am able to do. Whether it is collaborating with the board, staff, or partners, advocating with my colleagues, or getting to know parents, I am fortunate to be in an organization of such compassionate and knowledgeable people.

When I took the role of Executive Director the organization had been operating with two locations for the past 30 years. The waitlists were so large and there was no room to support other families. I knew we had to take a risk and open new sites. In 2018 Alder Academy opened a program in the south to support school aged children and their families. This program was the very first in Edmonton to be offered a purposed built space and a 20 year lease. A few months later another program opened in the west. Alder Academy went from two locations to four, from three programs to six. Today, the organization is working towards adding a seventh program to support an out of school care program in the west site. The organization continues to grow and support children in their communities. This is all possible through donations, grants, and very educated staff. Alder Academy offers high quality programs that are tailored to the community they are located in throughout Edmonton. Many families believe that daycare is a place to bring your children to be care for and supervised throughout the day. These things are very important but Alder Academy believes that daycare should provide children with a foundation that will support their growth and development. The ways this takes place, is by ensuring that staff are well educated and have an strong understanding of young children's brain development through their early years, that they have a passion for working with children, and are reflective of the community Alder Academy supports. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are a big part of the hiring process for the organization. Ensuring that children's needs are met so that they can grow and thrive. All of these components ensures high quality.

As I close off 2023 my hope is that I was able to provide families with some insight on a high quality child care program that supports young children to become strong, independent, capable learners!



OUR WORK: HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2022-2023

Completed 412
Health &
Developmental
screenings

Completed 160
Home Visits

412 Children
supported



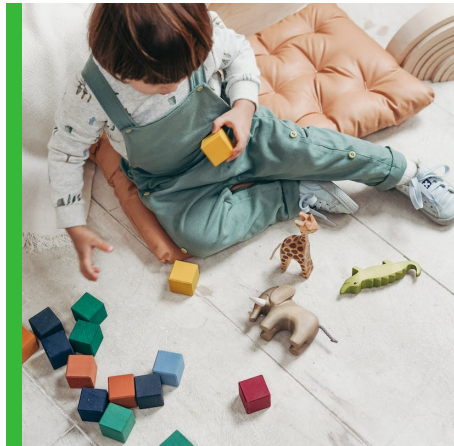
122 Volunteer
hours

33 Parent Groups

2210 Operational
hours

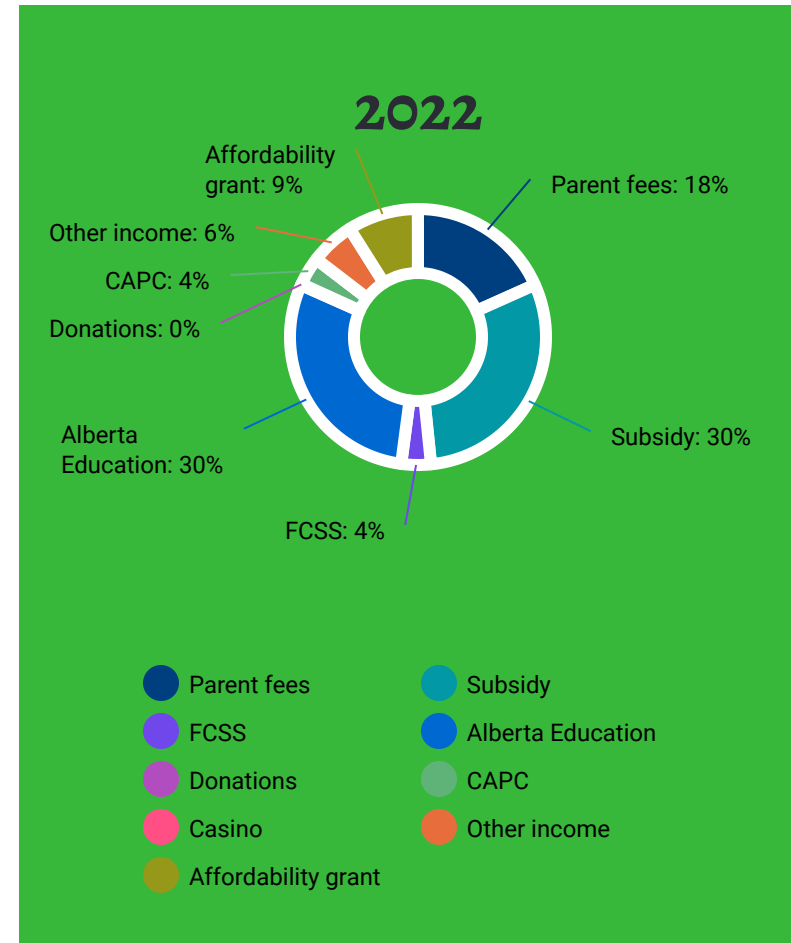
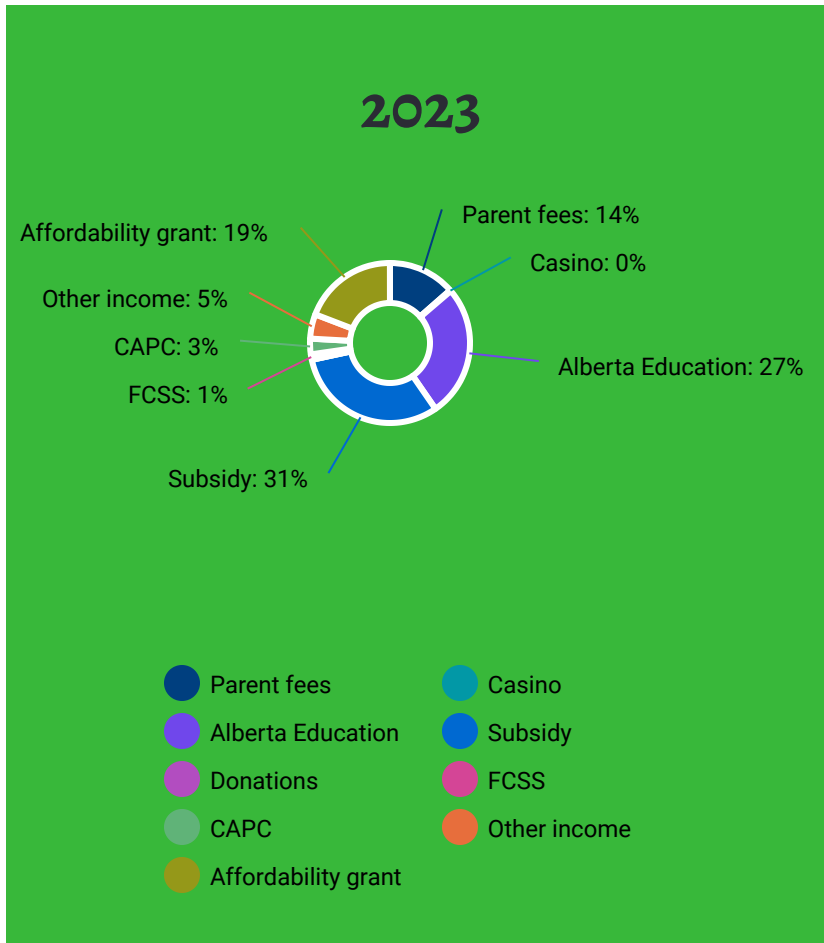
397 referrals

14 Partnerships



FINANCIALS

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 2022-2023



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS 2022 – 2023



**\$3,671,6610.IN
GRANTS &
SUBSIDIES**

from Government
funding to support our
programs.




**TOTAL INCOME:
\$4,848,288**

**\$52,806.
RECEIVED IN
MUNICIPAL
FUNDING**



**\$151,696.
RECEIVED IN
FEDERAL FUNDING**



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS 2027 – 2028

**COST OF FOOD:
\$149,354**

Budget spent on food for children.



**COST OF
SPECIALIZED
SERVICES:
227,216.**

Therapists Intervention



**PROGRAM SUPPLY
COSTS:
\$55,696.**

Costs for children's toys and equipment




**TOTAL EXPENDITURE:
\$97,862**

HOW TO DONATE:

Canada Helps.org





CONTACT US

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Alder Academy Early Learning Society - Central