

## **What is Family Child Care and How to start a Registered Licence Not Required (RLNR) Child Care**

In a family child care home, a caregiver provides care to a small group of children of various ages in the caregiver's own home.

There are different types of family child care: **licensed, licensed-not-required or registered license-not-required, and in-home multi-age child care.**

### **Licensed Family Child Care**

If you want to care for 3 or more children, you must have a family child care license issued by the local health authority under the Community Care and Assisted Living Act.

### **In-home Multi-age Child Care**

If you are certified as Early Childhood Educator, you may become licensed to care for no more than 8 children of various ages in your own home. You must have an in-home multi-age child care license issued by the local health authority under the Community Care and Assisted Living Act.

### **License-not-required or Registered License-not-required Child Care**

A LNR or RLNR child care provider is someone who may care for 2 unrelated children, in addition to their own, OR 1 sibling group, at any one time. You must be at least 19 years of age. For more information about registered license-not-required child care, contact your local CCRR.

### **Starting Off Right**

Opening a family child care is not a decision to be taken lightly. New businesses take time and attention before they become financially strong.

You must never have more children in your care at any one time than the regulation and/or your license allows. It is important to protect your business reputation by operating legally at all times.

Becoming a successful quality family child care provider takes time, work and money. There are many things to consider. You need to think about your feelings, your knowledge and your hopes for the future. It is important to consider how other important people in your life feel about your bringing up children in your home.

There are some important first steps to take before you are ready to begin operating your family child care. These include learning about quality child care, acquiring a variety of toys and other equipment, organizing your home safely for child care, developing written policies, learning about the business side of your work, and considering ways to market your business.

### **Benefits of Family Child Care**

Family child care is a very natural style of caring for children that offers great benefits. Children can learn a great deal from other children who are either younger or older than themselves. Younger children can benefit from observing the play and language skills of older children and learn appropriate social behaviour. Preschoolers and kindergartners can learn to be patient, kind and responsible when helping younger children. Children from the same family can remain together in the same child care setting. An only child gets a varied living experience from a mixed aged group, perhaps having the chance to try out being a big brother or sister as well as a younger brother or sister. Every child in the family child care learns about making friends and helping others.

## How to Register as a LNR

Below are the Provincial requirements to become a RLNR with the Vancouver Child Care Resource & Referral Program:

### Complete:

1.
  - Attend Information Session at CCRR
  - LNR Registration Form
  - Self-Evaluation Questionnaire
  - Two acceptable references from non-relatives
  - A criminal record check for all persons in your home over the age of 12 years who will be in contact with the children you care. Must be completed through the CCRR.
  - An approved first aid training course, must offer at least 8 hours of instruction.
2. **Call your CCRR Child Care Services Consultant to arrange an appointment to:**
  - Talk about your Self-Evaluation Questionnaire.
  - Complete the Caregiver Interview at Westcoast CCRC
3. **Proceed with completing the following requirements over the next 12 months:**
  - Completion of or commitment to an approved family child care training course
  - Signed VCCRR Caregiver Commitment Form and Consent & Agreement Form
  - Safety Home Assessment including an approved Parent Package
  - Purchase of caregiver liability insurance (strongly recommended)

### There are some costs related to becoming registered as a License-not-required Caregiver

- Criminal Record Check \$28.00 per person (no fee for persons under 19 years of age)
- Approved Family Child Care Course
- Approved 8 hour first-aid course
- Caregiver Liability Insurance recommended

RLNR Child Care Providers have access to all CCRR services including child care referrals, resources, consultations, newsletters, workshops and more! And eligible families in your care receive a higher rate of the Affordable Child Care Benefit.

Please note: *If you want to look after more than two children who are unrelated to you, you need to have a license. Contact Vancouver Coastal Health at 604-675-3800, and ask to speak to a Child Care Licensing Consultant.*

**If you have any further questions, please call your VCCRR Child Care Services Consultant at 604-709-5661.**