Eastside Family Place Values and Guiding Principles

1   ESFP believes that an enriched play experience is vital (key) to the well-being and healthy development of children.

2   ESFP is committed to providing an accessible, safe, supervised drop-in that encourages positive interaction between children and caregivers in a child-oriented, family-friendly environment.

3   ESFP recognizes that all parents and caregivers are in need of support and often feel isolated. Therefore, ESFP is committed to providing programs and support services that help create networks and foster community.

4   ESFP believes that family and children are a point of commonality across cultures and life styles.

5   ESFP is a focal point of entry for families in the community. ESFP is committed to ensuring that programs/services reflect the diverse community it serves.

6   ESFP is committed to ensuring that staff, Board and volunteers reflect the neighbourhood they serve.

7   ESFP is actively seeking the participation of parents and caregivers from communities traditionally underrepresented in society as a whole.

8   ESFP believes in ensuring, within its mandate, broad accessibility to ESFP's programs/services.

9   ESFP believes that children and caregivers deserve the support of a fully trained staff that is able to respond to their needs. Therefore, ESFP is committed to paying wages that are fair and to the best of the ESFP's ability, reflect current wage scales.

10   ESFP is committed to recruiting, training, and supporting staff, volunteers and Board members to ensure the efficient and accessible running of ESFP.

11   ESFP believes in recognizing volunteers for their commitment to the ESFP.

12   ESFP believes that co-operative decision-making is the most effective way of meeting the needs of the community. Therefore, ESFP strives to develop and maintain decision-making processes that include staff, volunteers, board members, participants and members of the community wherever possible.

13   ESFP believes that community participants know best what their needs are. Programs/supports/services will be based on and developed in response to the identified needs of the community.