

CHAPTER NINE: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Emergency Preparedness	Emergency Preparedness – Snow Policy
Revised July 11, 2016	Policy Number: 9.0B (replaces policy 1.25)

Policy Statement:

To establish an accessible, consistent, and reliable Snow Day Policy, this attempts to meet the complex child care needs of families.

Procedure:

1. It is the understood intention of this policy that the NHCS' Children's Centre Program has an 'obligation to be open and to remain open during snow storm days'.
2. So as to accommodate the above expressed policy the NHCS' Children's Centre Program – unless closed by unusual and emergency acts resulting from either nature or human action (i.e. Fire, lack of plumbing, heat, and extreme weather hazards) will be open except for those days designed as statutory holidays. The Children's Centre Program will be open these days- with the approval of Ministry of Education though the ECE personnel may be prevented from being at/on the premises; as long as clause #3 is fully met.
3. The Children's Centre Program will ensure that correct caregiver/child ratios are maintained.
4. To accommodate #2 and #3, staff will be pulled from other programs so as to ensure compliance with the CCEYA. If at maximum ratio, children are to be turned away, giving "essential services" parent's top priority.
5. Should that NHCS' client/users remove their children early on such days, NHCS' program staff will be permitted to leave in the following order;
 - Out of town staff, with the greatest distance to travel will leave first
 - To be followed by staff on sliding scale of distance to be traveled.
6. The centre will remain open even if there are no children present throughout the day.
7. Should NHCS not be able to ensure ratios (either by staff, students, and volunteers) the traditional NHCS' of "first come, first served", will be followed. This could result in children of some client/users needing to find alternate care for their children.
8. The NHCS' Board stresses that as in keeping with the school system, all parents should have alternative back up to the outlined policy.
9. In the event of bus cancellations or buses are sent home early, our After School Programs are cancelled.

