

CHILD FRIENDLY LENS



Child Friendly Lens

Through a City Council Special Initiative, the City of Edmonton is taking action to make our city a more child friendly place that recognizes and reflects the needs of children, young people and their families.

The Child Friendly Edmonton Strategy is based on the International UNICEF Child Friendly Cities Initiative. It promotes the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child at the level where it has the greatest direct impact on children's lives; in the cities where they live.

The purpose of the Child Friendly Lens is to assess the child friendliness of programs, services, facilities, and policies. This tool can be used as a planning support, or to assist you in evaluating programs and policies to determine their level of "child friendliness." Ideally, it will help identify areas for change and innovation and consider what can be done to make every decision more positive for children and youth. The tool is designed to assist City of Edmonton Departments, external partners and agencies understand what makes a community child friendly and then take action based on what is learned.

How to use the Child Friendly Lens

The Child Friendly Lens reflects the values that guide the Child Friendly Edmonton Strategy. The Lens is composed of five views. Each perspective view may be used individually, or in any combination depending on what is being assessed. Use the tool to review a variety of topics: policies, programs, services or other aspects of your operation. The five views of the Lens are:

Children have voice, influence, and understand responsibility to themselves and others

Children feel safe and are protected

Children join in and participate freely

Children play, have fun, make friends and develop skills

Children feel welcome, respected, and have a sense of belonging

This self-assessment tool asks you to rate the level of agreement with a series of statements, which assess the child friendliness of your program or service from a number of views. The tool uses a scale from one to five, where ONE means strongly disagree, TWO means disagree, THREE means a NEUTRAL opinion, FOUR means agree, and FIVE means strongly agree. Use the responses gathered through the tools to assist you in completing the "actions" section.

A. Children have voice, influence, and understand responsibility:

Completed by: _____

Organization: _____ Topic Being Reviewed: _____

Date: _____

A.1 Children/youth and their families have a choice and influence the program and service opportunities.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

A.2 Children/youth have the opportunity to contribute, make decisions and take action on things that impact them.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

A.3 Children/youth are given the opportunity to gain experience addressing community issues that impact them.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

A. Children have voice, influence, and understand responsibility: Page 2

A.4 There are opportunities for children/youth to volunteer and participate in leadership activities.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

A.5 There are opportunities for children/youth to participate in planning processes.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

A.6 Children/youth and their families are involved in evaluation processes.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

Action:

Given the above self-assessment of **Children have voice, influence and understand responsibility** consider what actions you will take to increase child friendliness.

B. Children feel safe and are protected:

Completed by: _____

Organization: _____ Topic Being Reviewed: _____

Date: _____

B.1 The space meets all of the facility and safety requirements.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

B.2 There is sufficient space for the number of children/youth in the group and for the activities planned.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

B.3 The space used by children/youth is regularly inspected for potential hazards.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

B.4 First aid kits are complete with supplies and easily accessible.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

B. Children feel safe and are protected: Page 2

B.5 Staff working with children/youth have current first aid certificates.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

B.6 All staff and volunteers have appropriate reference and police security checks.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

B.7 Staff are trained on child abuse/neglect issues and are aware of the actions to be taken if necessary.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

B.8 There are procedures in place to deal with the following:

- Lost children/youth
- Drop off/pick up of children/youth
- Emergency situations

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

B. Children feel safe and are protected: Page 3

B.9 The staff-to-child ratio is appropriate, given the age range of participants and activity.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

B.10 There is a system in place to ensure the ongoing maintenance and safety of the equipment being used.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

B.11 Training on safety procedures has been provided to children.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

B.12 Information on safety policies and procedures is provided to parent/guardians.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

B. Children feel safe and are protected: Page 4

Action:

Given the above assessment of **Children feel safe and are protected** consider what actions you will take to increase child friendliness.

C. Children join in and participate freely:

Completed by: _____

Organization: _____ Topic Being Reviewed: _____

Date: _____

C.1 Efforts to regularly seek out, identify and address any barriers to participation that might exist are given due diligence.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

C.2 The space is accessible by public transit.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

C.3 The space is accessible to children/youth with disabilities.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

C.4 The program/service is accessible and available regardless of social, culture or economic status.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

C. Children join in and participate freely: Page 2

Action:

Given the above self-assessment of **Children join in and participate freely** consider what actions you will take to increase child friendliness.

D. Children play, have fun, make friends and develop skills:

Completed by: _____

Organization: _____ Topic Being Reviewed: _____

Date: _____

D.1 The activity is fun for children/youth.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

D.2 There is a learning component to the activity.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

D.3 There is a health and wellness component to the activity.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

D.4 Outdoor spaces, when part of the program, service or activity, provide a variety of surfaces suitable for different types of play.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

D. Children play, have fun, make friends and develop skills: Page 2

D.5 There are opportunities for children/youth to interact with other children/youth and adults to build social skills and make friends.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

D.6 The activities provide hands-on participation.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

D.7 The activities are responsive to individual differences in abilities and interests.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

D.8 The activities provide opportunities for participants to express themselves in a variety of creative ways.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

D. Children play, have fun, make friends and develop skills: Page 3

D.9 Activities provide opportunities for age-appropriate life skills development.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

D.10 Staff have the appropriate qualifications and training to work with children/youth.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

Action:

Given the above self-assessment of **Children play, have fun, make friends and develop skills** consider what actions you will take to increase child friendliness.

E. Children feel welcome, respected and have a sense of belonging

Completed by: _____

Organization: _____ Topic Being Reviewed: _____

Date: _____

NOTE: The following questions are an assessment of how the participants in your activity/program feel. It will be important to ask the children/youth about these statements.

E.1 Children/youth have a sense of belonging.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

E.2 Children/youth feel valued and respected.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

E.3 This program/service/activity encourages children/youth to have pride in their community.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/> _{R5}

Comments: _____

E. Children feel welcome, respected, and have a sense of belonging: Page 2

E.4 Staff and volunteers make children/youth and their families feel welcome.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5	<input type="checkbox"/> _R5

Comments: _____

E.5 Staff recognize, accommodate and are sensitive to the diversity of children/youth.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5	<input type="checkbox"/> _R5

Comments: _____

E.6 Staff are caring and kind with children/youth.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5	<input type="checkbox"/> _R5

Comments: _____

Action:

Given the above self- assessment of **Children feel welcome, respected and have a sense of belonging** consider what action you will take to increase child friendliness.

For more information, contact:

Child Friendly Edmonton Coordinator
496-5905

www.edmonton.ca/childfriendly