



Invites you to attend an

Early Childhood Education Spring Conference

April 7, 2018

8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Riverside Center, 20575 Thorne Avenue, Maple Ridge, BC. 604-466-6555



BETTER TOGETHER!

This is an opportunity for early childhood educators to come together and celebrate! Educators, families, communities, and government are finally working together to improve early childhood services for our children.

Earn 6.0 hours of professional development.

Cost is \$60.00 per person Early bird cost (before Mar 23) \$50.00 per person
Includes breakfast, lunch, and workshop information

8:00 am – Registration, Breakfast & Keynote

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Emily Gawlick, Executive Director of ECEBC

Emily will bring us up to date on what ECE professionals can expect from our current social and political environment. What does 1 billion dollars in government funding mean for us?

A question and answer period will be offered at the end of her keynote.

Presenter Bio - Throughout her career Emily has been engaged at the community and provincial level in a number of different projects and events highlighting the specialty of the ECE sector. In May 2010, Emily accepted the position of Executive Director of the Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC) and relocated her two teenage boys to Vancouver from the small coastal community of Prince Rupert.

Since that time, Emily has been engaged in strengthening and building connections and educating the community regarding the value of Early Care and Learning. She has also expanded current ECEBC programs Emily is actively engaged with the Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC (CCCABC) and ECEBC on the joint project, "A Community Plan for a Public System of Integrated Early Care and Learning in BC", or better known as the "\$10aDay Child Care Plan."

Morning Sessions: 9:30 to 12:00

Session MA Inspiring Environments

This workshop will provide a wide range of ideas about how to change your environment using materials that suit everyone's budget. Wanda and Stephanie will demonstrate how to use loose parts, provocation bins, and other materials to promote a Reggio inspired environment and curriculum.

Stephanie Cosby

Stephanie studied Early Childhood at the University of the Fraser Valley. She spent several years supervising in a multiple of preschools and daycares settings before opening a Multi-age group daycare. Her love for the ECE field is evident in the 22 years she has committed to providing quality childcare. Stephanie has been exploring the Reggio Approach and Place Based Learning for a few years now – she is excited about the possibilities for the future, and about sharing these inspirations with other educators in the Fraser Valley and beyond.

Wanda Cole

Wanda studied Early Childhood Education at Capilano University. She has been teaching since 1998 in a variety of childcare settings. One constant has been her passion for the Reggio Emilia Approach to teaching, which was ignited many years ago when she attended a conference at Capilano University with Leila Gandini. Wanda's love for nature, creating aesthetically pleasing, functional environments for children, and working in a co-constructive manner alongside others is fulfilled when teaching in a Reggio inspired way.

Stephanie & Wanda started the Fraser Valley Reggio Emilia Network in 2015. Through a grant from the Vancouver Reggio Emilia Consortium, they created curriculum resource boxes which are available through the Abbotsford CCRP for use in the community.

Session MB Leadership in Early Education

What do children need to be successful in life? Research has found that emotional intelligence (EQ) is four times more likely to predict a person's success than IQ. I believe the best way to prepare children to have successful lives as adults is to foster leadership skills from a young age. This two and a half hour workshop will explore what leadership is and how leadership skills can be learned at an early age through connection, emotional intelligence, creativity and opportunities for bravery.

Katelyn Moon has been an early childhood educator since 2008. Her passion is to support children in developing social and emotional skills that will grow with them throughout their lives. In 2015, Katelyn returned to school to further her education in leadership, teaching, and childcare licensing. Her new education has shaped her views of the importance of teaching leadership to young children.

Session MC **1 2 3 – Tell Stories with Me**

This session will demonstrate how we can engage children in the joys of listening to, and telling, oral stories. Oral storytelling is a perfect tool for the childcare center. This workshop will look at ways everyone can use storytelling as a way to engage all children. Participants will have opportunity to join in with stories and will walk away with a collection of stories to use in their own programs.

Loretta Jackson is an instructor at Ridge Meadows College, and has been an early childhood educator for many years. She studied early childhood education at the University of the Fraser Valley, went on to complete her Child and Youth Care degree at UFV, and completed a M.Ed. at Simon Fraser University. She has owned her own preschool, where she explored her love for story-telling with children, and has worked as an instructor at UFV and SFU.

Session MD **Truth and Reconciliation: What it means for Non-Indigenous Early Childhood Educators**

Have you heard about the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action? The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples? Do you wonder what they mean to you as your role as an early childhood educator or administrator? In this interactive workshop participants are encouraged to engage with an open mind, ask their questions about truth and reconciliation, and join the journey of a Canada moving away from its colonial past.

Together we will explore what it means to be a settler, Canada's historical relationship with Indigenous people, where we are now, and can go from here. We will discuss what it looks like to practice cultural humility, leadership in reconciliation, and how to build a safe space for Indigenous children and families in your program.

Presented by Kirsten Bevelander – a Provincial Child Care Advisor for BC Aboriginal Child Care Services

12:00 to 1:30 Lunch

Attendees will eat, listen to a *local musician* who is also an early childhood educator, browse our *community information booths*, indulge in some shopping at our *vendor tables*, and try to win a *raffle prize*!

Afternoon Sessions: 1:30 to 4:00

Session AA **Environmental Education for Young Children**

What is the joy of spending the entire day outside? What do children learn? What do educators do?

- Children learn the wonders of nature and feel the passion it brings to learning.
- Educators facilitate free open emergent education as the environment presents itself to children
- Children's natural curiosity encourages the construction of knowledge
- The learning environment is flexible
- The forest becomes the teacher and educators become co-learners

Bev Moulds has been an Early Childhood Educator for over 35 years and has vast experience working with children in preschool, daycare, and out of school care. She has been an administrator in a large centre as well as a community partner on the Board of the Ridge Meadows Child Development Centre. Bev is now finishing her career as the co-owner and founder of Windy Willows Environmental Centre and enjoying the rewarding field of outdoor education.

Danielle Elder has been in the field of early learning for 24 years. She is Co-owner and Founder of Windy Willows environmental Centre of Pitt Meadows as well as a Volunteer Recreation Coordinator of the Ridge Meadows Child Development Centre. In her spare time she volunteers and is the parent representative of Ridge Meadows Child and Youth Mental Health Collaborative and has helped to create the Youth Wellness clinic of Maple ridge. She has been Vice President of the Community Education on Environmental Development Centre and has had the pleasure of facilitating many parent support groups for parents who have children with anxiety and ADHD. In her involvement with environmental education, she has taught classes that pertain to Environmental Early Learning in partnership with Kanaka Environmental Educational Partnerships and is currently working on advocating for the forest learning and mental health.



Session AB **Puppets in ECE Programs**

Participants will be introduced to puppets and puppet show styles that are enchanting for young children. You will walk away with ideas to create and use puppets of your own.

Loretta Jackson is an instructor at Ridge Meadows College, and has been an early childhood educator for many years. She studied early childhood education at the University of the Fraser Valley, went on to complete her Child and Youth Care degree at UFV, and completed a M.Ed. at Simon Fraser University. She has owned her own preschool, where she explored her love for story-telling with children, and has worked as an instructor at UFV and SFU.

Session AC Infants and Toddlers – Relationship and Environment

This session will discuss the importance of relationship in infant and toddler programs, and provide ideas for setting up safe, inviting environments and activities for our youngest children. Vicki says *“In my experience I have discovered that the most important consideration in infant toddler programs, in fact in all programs, is that of supporting the young child’s healthy attachments. Beyond nurturing these meaningful relationships, the primary task of an early educator is to provide an environment that is filled with unlimited possibilities—possibilities that encourage children to make discoveries, to experiment with their own ideas, and to interact in meaningful ways with other people.”*

Presenter: Vicki Piir

I have been actively working in the ECE field for over 35 years in a variety of early learning settings. I worked extensively with infants and toddlers in the early years of my career, which led me to co-found the Tri-Cities Child Care Resource and Referral in Coquitlam. My most recent adventures included working in Strong Start programs and overseeing Family Resource centers. My passion for working with young children has been a life long adventure which has led me to being the team leader at Maple Montessori/Reggio Children’s Center in Hammond. I have made my home in Maple Ridge for 25 years and share it with my husband and our two teenage girls who remain the joy of our lives.

Session AD Tour of the Katzie Program

A bus will transport participants to the brand new multi-service program located on the Katzie land. Torrie, the ECE program manager, will explain the importance of culturally relevant programming for indigenous children, and provide examples of the curriculum. At the conclusion of the tour the bus will return participants to Riverside.

Torrie St. Louis (James) ECE ITE SNE

Hello, my name is Torrie St. Louis (James) I am a proud, strong Katzie Woman, a mother, a hard worker and very committed early childhood Educator. I have committed the past 20 years of my life to working in the childcare field. My goal is to make a difference, to support families and to provide foundations for development that will last a lifetime for each child who I have the pleasure of working with. To date the Katzie Early Years Centre is my biggest accomplishment and the one to which I am most proud (other than my children of course). I have always gravitated to working in environments that respect, celebrate and implement our First Nations Culture. I believe we are the strength, the history and the future. I started in ECE right here on Katzie many years ago when we opened our first daycare, I have traveled the province and been fortunate to work in Haida Gwaii and Sto:lo Nation and today I manage the Katzie Early Years Centre, I have come full circle. I have a comfortable and natural ability to integrate culture in programming and authentic learning experiences. I hope to assist other people and educators alike to learn about our culture community and how to seamlessly incorporate our ways into ECE.



Registration form

Payment includes: Breakfast and lunch, Keynote session, Morning and Afternoon Workshops, Ticket for the raffle, Access to the vendors and to Community Information Booths.

Cost is \$60.00 per person Early bird cost (before Mar 24) \$50.00 per person

Registration for Keynote and Workshops							
Keynote Address							
Morning Sessions							
<i>Please rate your session preference in order from 1 to 4</i>							
Session MA <i>Inspiring Environments</i>		Session MB <i>Leadership in ECE Programs</i>		Session MC <i>ABC Tell Stories with Me</i>		Session MD <i>Truth and Reconciliation</i>	
LUNCH							
Music Vendors Raffle Community Information Music Vendors Raffle							
Afternoon Sessions							
<i>Please rate your session preference in order from 1 to 4</i>							
Session AA <i>Environmental Education</i>		Session AB <i>Puppets in ECE Programs</i>		Session AC <i>Infants and Toddlers</i>		Session AD <i>Tour of the Katzie Program</i>	

Name (Please print clearly)

Phone Number

E-mail contact

ECEA ECE Other
Please indicate position

Registration can be made in cash, by cheque, or using Visa or MasterCard if made in person at Riverside Center, 20575 Thorne Avenue, Maple Ridge, BC.

Registration by Phone 604-466-6555 or Fax 604-463-5437 will require the following:

Card: Visa__MC__ Card Number_____ Expiry Date_____

Cardholder Name: _____ Amount_____