



# CHILDREN the Heart of the MATTER



**15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EARLY CARE AND  
LEARNING CONFERENCE**

**New Early  
Bird Price  
This Year!**

**February 3rd & 4th 2012**

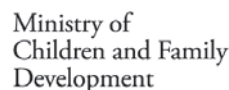
**Bell Performing Arts Centre  
6250 144 Street Surrey, BC**

# Welcome

Children: The Heart of the Matter conference brings together all those involved in the care and education of young children. Our purpose is to raise the awareness and profile of child care and early childhood development services, family resource programs and others through professional development, networking, and sharing of information and resources. Certificates of attendance will be provided for the completion of each two hour workshop and keynote presentation. Please join us February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at the Bell Performing Arts Centre in Surrey!

This conference will be of interest to all those who work with young children and families in child care settings, family resource programs, primary school grades and other community programs. These include early childhood educators, teachers, community health professionals, parents, grandparents, government officials and parks and recreation staff.

**We gratefully acknowledge the following sponsors of our conference:**



# Conference Planning Committee

The conference committee is made up of volunteers from the community working in the field of Early Care and Learning. Committee members put in endless hours to ensure this is a well planned and organized conference. It is because of these hard working volunteers that we are able to keep the cost of the conference affordable for all care providers and other professionals working with young children.

## 2012 Conference Co-Chairs

**Danielle Jimeno**, A Place to Grow  
Surrey Hospital Community Childcare Society

**Ruth Beardsley**, Child Care Options  
A Program of Options Community Services

## 2012 Conference Planning Committee

Angela Garcha	Child Care Options /Options Community Services
Barb Walks	ECEBC Surrey Branch
Bonnie Mackwood	Surrey School District
Cathy Robinson	The Centre for Child Development
Colleen Strachen	City of Surrey
Erin Balmer	City of Surrey
Jolene Campbell	Semiahmoo Family Place
Karen Came	Langley Child Development Centre
Karen Norman	Options Community Services
Katherine MacIntyre	BC Family Child Care Association
Laura Soon	Office of Early Childhood Development Learning and Care
Leona Chutskoff	Early Childhood Educator
Michelle Davies	Child Care Options /Options Community Services
Sharlene Wedel	Child Care Options /Options Community Services
Sherrie Jamieson	Reach Child and Youth Development Society
Tina Thomlinson	Langley Child Development Centre
Dr. Vanessa Lapointe	The Wishing Star Lapointe Psychology Services

# Conference Overview

## FRIDAY FEBRUARY 3<sup>rd</sup>

5:30 pm to 9:30 pm	Marketplace and Community Displays Open
5:30 pm to 7:00 pm	Registration Desk Open
5:30 pm to 6:45 pm	Conference Welcome Reception <b>NEW!</b>
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm	Keynote Address by Gordon Neufeld

## SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am to 3:30 pm	Registration Desk Open
8:00 am to 1:30 pm	Marketplace and Community Displays Open
9:00 am to 9:15 am	Conference Welcome in Theatre
9:15 am to 10:15 am	Keynote Address by Charlotte Diamond
10:45 am to 12:45 pm	Session A Workshops
12:45 pm to 1:45 pm	Lunch in the Gym
1:45 pm to 3:45 pm	Session P Workshops
3:45 pm	Conference Close



# Conference Highlights

## WELCOME RECEPTION

Come join us for our opening reception, Friday February 3rd starting at 5:30 pm. This informal gathering will feature some light appetizers, live music and a chance to catch up with old friends and colleagues as well as meet some new ones. This is a great time to visit our market place and community displays as well!

## VISIT THE IMAGES OF LEARNING PROJECT

The Images of Learning Project is an exhibit using pedagogical narrations to show the amazing, important work that early childhood educators are engaged in daily with children, and to demonstrate how capable, thoughtful and creative children are. Viewers are invited to interact and leave 'traces' of their understanding by adding thoughts to the 'Freedom Tower' and the Book of Self Portraits.

## VISIT THE COMMUNITY DISPLAYS

Visit our community displays and get connected with the resources available in your area.

## VISIT THE MARKETPLACE

Be sure to stop by the marketplace for a look at the latest toys, equipment and materials available in the early learning and care field! Please note there is no ATM located on the premises.

## GET CONFERENCE UPDATES

### Visit Our Website

<http://www.childcareoptions.ca/conferences.php>

### Follow Us on Twitter

<http://www.twitter.com/chcareoptions>

### Follow Us on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Child-Care-Options/107784582582045>



# Keynote Speakers



Dr. Gordon Neufeld is a Vancouver-based developmental psychologist with 40 years of experience with children and youth and those responsible for them. A foremost authority on child development, Dr. Neufeld is an international speaker, a bestselling author (*Hold On To Your Kids*) and a leading interpreter of the developmental paradigm. Dr. Neufeld has a widespread reputation for making sense of complex problems and for opening doors for change. While formerly involved in university teaching and private practice, he now devotes his time to teaching and training others, including educators and helping professionals.



Charlotte Diamond is an internationally recognized, award-winning recording artist, singer, composer, and performer of family and children's music. She is also known as an educator, and has participated in many provincial, state and national educational conferences as a keynote speaker and workshop leader. Her musical presentations are lively and entertaining with an emphasis on participation. In both Canada and the USA, Charlotte's music is part of many classroom curriculums, as the songs are easily singable, teachable, and relevant.

# Workshops at a Glance

A 1	Who's in Charge? Children in the Lead with Nowhere to Go
A 2	Sex Talk. No Sweat
A 3	Honouring Children's Religious and Spiritual Identities
A 4	Motor Cognition Connection and its Impact on School Readiness
A 5	Guiding Toddlers
A 6	Where the Wild Things Go
A 7	Creating a Rich Sensory Learning Environment for Infants and Toddlers
A 8	The Importance of Boundaries in our Work with Children
A 9	Images of Learning: Enriching Your Practice with Pedagogical Narration and Reflective Practices.
A 10	Helping Children Learn to Manage Stress: Tools for Resiliency
A 11	Early Childhood Development Learning and Stories of Success
A 12	Balancing Cultural Differences <b>PRESENTED IN PUNJABI</b>
A 13	Learning in the Forest: Drawing Inspiration from Forest Schools

P 1	When Goodbye is Too Hard: How to Support Children AND Parents Through Separation Anxiety
P 2	Sign Me a Story (Volume 2)
P 3	Circle Time Tool Box
P 4	Policies and Procedures in Licensed Child Care Facilities
P 5	Journey to the Emergent Curriculum Room
P 6	Balancing Cultural Differences <b>PRESENTED IN ENGLISH</b>
P 7	Creative Wings: Integrating Drama and Dance into Children's Programming
P 8	Connecting Children with Nature
P 9	The Joy of Singing Leads to a Love of Language
P 10	Create a Character for Circle Time <b>Bring Scissors</b>
P 11	Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition for Early Childhood Educators
P 12	Fostering Resiliency with Aboriginal Children and Their Families
P 13	Parental Mental Health Issues Affecting The Lives of South Asian Families <b>PRESENTED IN PUNJABI</b>

# Session A Workshop Descriptions

## A1 WHO'S IN CHARGE? CHILDREN IN THE LEAD WITH NOWHERE TO GO

It doesn't feel natural when children try to take charge, lead or dominate adults that are supposed to be responsible for them. The problem may be one of dominance and children who have risen to this Alpha position may be full of resistance, frustration and anxiety. They steadfastly see themselves as the boss and don't understand when others take charge. The issue at hand for children in the dominant or Alpha position is not one of strength as it is often misperceived but one of desperation. Regaining one's place in the lead is critical for their ongoing development. Strategies for inviting dependence and returning to the right relationship with them will be discussed.

### **Presenter: Dr. Deborah MacNamara**

Dr. Deborah MacNamara is a clinical counsellor and educator in private practice helping parents, teachers, and child care professionals make sense of children and adolescents in their care. She has over 15 years experience as a teacher and counsellor in mental health and educational settings. Deborah interned with Dr. Gordon Neufeld and is on faculty at the Neufeld Institute.

## A2 SEX TALK. NO SWEAT

During this open and informational session participants will learn about the sexual health of children, and understand how it fits into their lives at each stage of development. Attendees will discover how to help parents overcome embarrassment when talking about sexual health, learn words and concepts that are easy to use, and leave well equipped to clearly answer the questions children ask. The workshop is light-hearted, but delivers straight and current facts on how parents, caregivers and child care professionals can work together to help young people make smart decisions about their bodies for a lifetime.

### **Presenter: Brandy Wiebe**

Brandy has extensive experience teaching sexuality at the university level, but now focuses her attention on the elementary, middle and high school settings. She loves working with parents and teaching "Body Science" to children and teens in a way that is fun, comfortable and meaningful. Though Brandy has only recently joined the Saleema Noon Sexual Health Educators team, she has been involved in the field of sexual health education for nearly ten years.

## A3 HONOURING CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL IDENTITIES

When children from diverse backgrounds share their fears, concerns, wonderings and delights with us, it is up to us to assure them that they are completely valued. When we acknowledge and honour a child's religion and spirituality, we help that child develop a sense of identity and become a better global citizen. In this workshop, we will watch a locally produced documentary, share dialogue, and learn about some local programs and resources developed by Surrey Libraries, DIVERSEcity Community Resources Society, Himar Productions Ltd. and the Surrey Neighbouring Faiths Programs.

### **Presenter: David Dalley**

David Dalley is the Program Coordinator for the Surrey Neighbouring Faiths Program ([www.snfp.ca](http://www.snfp.ca)) and the father of two young children. On weekdays, he is a Pediatric Physiotherapist. On weekends, he facilitates a range of multi-faith programs for children and families. He is passionate about creative, inclusive and child-friendly communities.

# Session A Workshop Descriptions

## A4 MOTOR COGNITION CONNECTION AND ITS IMPACT ON SCHOOL READINESS

This interactive session will take a look at brain development and how babies and toddlers organize their cognitive skills with motor activities. Participants will explore the role of the parent and caregiver to provide motor activities that support school readiness and the six building blocks for motor development that are critical for life long learning and school success.

### **Presenter: Christine Roberts**

Christine Roberts, the founder of Nurturing Pathways presents nationally at NAEYC, NHSA and conducts keynote presentations for Early Head Start Programs. Christine consulted with ZERTOTHREE to develop the motor curriculum for the first national online degree course, Mentoring Infant and Toddler Teacher project for Head Start

## A5 GUIDING TODDLERS

These little ones are so new to the world and trying to understand how to get what they want and also feel safe. How can we help toddlers achieve these goals in positive ways? How can our centre be a peaceful and caring environment? Participants will have the opportunity to look at these issues from the child's perspective. There will be a chance for discussion and problem solving.

### **Presenter: Roni Cahen**

Roni Cahen is an instructor in the Burnaby ECE Program. Inspired by the Reggio Emilia approach, she has a strong image of the child as being capable of having constructive relationships. She has worked with toddlers, teaches an infant toddler course, and observed each of her seven grandchildren's behaviour intently.

## A6 WHERE THE WILD THINGS GO

A workshop totally dedicated in learning how to work, support and manage over-active children a.k.a. "The Wild Ones". An interactive and motivational workshop giving participants insight into the world of kids having boundless energy, little focus and the need for constant attention. Learn some great games, activities, strategies and program initiatives focused on facilitating and supporting children with a wild side. Kids with loads of energy, a sense of creativity and the willingness to learn can be some of the best kids in your group. They can also be the ones that make or break their group and those supervising them.

### **Presenter: Jeff Willis**

As a skilled and energetic speaker, facilitator and workshop presenter, Jeff has spent over 18 years working with a number of communities, businesses, public/independent schools, community programs, camps, school age child care programs and outdoor educational centres across Canada. Jeff specializes in developing collaborative staff teams that work towards a stronger identity, effectiveness and foundation.

# Session A Workshop Descriptions

## A7 CREATING A RICH SENSORY LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS

This workshop examines ways in which infants learn through their senses, and how the senses are interconnected. These sensory connections are the infant's building blocks for increasingly complex thoughts and concepts that develop throughout childhood. We will explore how we as child care providers can enhance the infant's opportunities for sensory learning through thoughtful practice, using natural elements, and a variety of simple props and equipment.

**Presenter: Ward Nakata**

Ward Nakata has worked in child care for over 16 years. He is currently employed at UBC Child Care Services at Little Goslings Infant Centre.

## A8 THE IMPORTANCE OF BOUNDARIES IN OUR WORK WITH CHILDREN

Boundaries are essential when working with children as they maintain order and keep things identifiable. They help us maintain rules and limits, help children to use good behaviour and promote good choices. Boundaries tell us where we end and somebody else begins. The participants will learn about boundaries in contemporary culture, why do we need boundaries, what is a personal boundary and what is not, how boundaries are developed, the family impact on boundary development and boundaries challenged.

**Presenter: Nada Banic**

Nada is an engaging presenter and creates a comfortable group environment. Her courses are filled with fun and creative activities.

## A9 IMAGES OF LEARNING: ENRICHING YOUR PRACTICE WITH PEDAGOGICAL NARRATION AND REFLECTIVE PRACTICE

In this workshop we invite participants to reflect on how they view children. We discuss cultural and historical perspectives and how these perspectives frame our practice with children. We open up discussion around the rules we have in our centres, what our values about children are, and what barriers exist that make it difficult to bring our values to our practice. Danielle and Kim will talk about pedagogical narrations and share some examples.

**Presenters: Kim Atkinson and Danielle Davis**

Kim Atkinson has 27 years of experience in the field of Early Childhood Education, working with both children and adults. She facilitates workshops for parents and ECEs, and as a writer her work appears regularly in a number of BC publications. Danielle Davis has been in the field of Early Childhood Education for 14 years. She is currently participating in the 'Investigating Quality Project' at the University of Victoria and 'The Early Childhood Educators of BC Leadership Initiative.

# Session A Workshop Descriptions

## **A10 HELPING CHILDREN LEARN TO MANAGE STRESS: TOOLS FOR RESILIENCY**

Research demonstrates that stress, both positive and negative, has a profound impact on the development of a child's brain. A child's ability to cope with stress in the early years has consequences for physical and emotional health throughout life. This interactive workshop focuses on ways that early learning and care professionals and caregivers can become more aware of and attuned to the signs and symptoms of stress in children and provides concrete and practical examples of techniques and approaches that have been shown to be effective in reducing and helping children learn to manage stress.

### **Presenter: Claude Painter**

Claude is an instructor in the Early Childhood Education department at Langara College and a trainer with the Psychology Foundation of Canada's Kids Have Stress Too! Program.

## **A11 ECD LEARNING AND STORIES OF SUCCESS**

The ECD settlement projects across the lower mainland work in unique and collaborative ways to support refugee children and their families. The goal is to provide early childhood development, outreach and clinical support to help children achieve their fullest early childhood milestones, be prepared for school entry, and to assist families to parent in the Canadian context, while integrating with mainstream ECD services. The facilitators will provide an overview of the newcomer and refugee classifications and pre-arrival experiences that need to be considered when providing service. Further, there will be discussions around implementation of supports to children, family, program and environmental design, that lead to more successful outcomes for refugee and newcomer clients.

### **Presenters: Daljit Gill-Badesha, Jane Sauer and Janice Greenidge**

Daljit is the Co Manager of First Steps ECD Settlement Project and Director of Family Services at DIVERSEcity Community Resource Society with oversight responsibility for the education, prevention and outreach programs. Jane has worn several different hats in the social service field for approximately 10 years. Currently she is the Program Manager of the Early Years Refugee Pilot Project in Langley. Janice Greenidge is the Project Manager with Mosaic for the Newcomer Centre for Children and Families in Burnaby.

## **A12 BALANCING CULTURAL DIFFERENCES PRESENTED IN PUNJABI**

This workshop will address child development from the caregiver's perspective. In particular, Dr. Shergill will focus on several aspects of cultural development, including balancing cultural differences and building a bicultural identity, as well as, understanding how a caregiver's world views and history impact their interactions with children. In addition, this address will touch on the different teaching and learning styles of caregivers and strategies to work with parents in order to facilitate a child's healthy development.

### **Presenter: Dr Amritpal Singh Shergill**

Dr. Amritpal Singh Shergill is a Registered Psychologist. He has previously served as Director of Operations for Columbia Health Centre, an Accreditation Surveyor with the Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, member of the National Ethno-cultural Advisory Committee for Corrections Canada, and a past board member for Options Community Services.

# Session A Workshop Descriptions

## **A13** LEARNING IN THE FOREST: DRAWING INSPIRATION FROM FOREST SCHOOLS

Nature is a wonderful teacher, and free play in natural places is important for children's early learning and sense of place. Discover why adult mentors play such an important role in nature education. Learn about the growing movement towards forest schools and how you can incorporate elements of this style of outdoor learning into your own classroom. If you don't have a forest or a stream nearby, how can you provide excellent outdoor learning opportunities for your students?

### **Presenter: Tricia Edgar**

Tricia has been designing and leading nature programs for children and adults for 15 years. She is also the president of Fresh Air Learning, a new nonprofit for children modeled on the forest school.

# Session B Workshop Descriptions

## **B1** WHEN GOODBYE IS TOO HARD: HOW TO SUPPORT CHILDREN AND PARENTS THROUGH SEPARATION ANXIETY

Due to the wonderful workings of the human brain in its efforts to keep us physically and emotionally safe, one of the most stressful things for a child is to "face separation" from their parent. And while we often recognize this as expected and even typical behavior for many children, where it sometimes becomes difficult is when the parent is as or more anxious than the child to "face separation." As professionals, it can be a delicate dance to diplomatically support both parent and child through difficult good-byes. In this workshop, we will discuss nurturing, intuitive, and understanding approaches to mastering this dance in an effort to ease the strain of the goodbye for both parent and child.

### **Presenter: Dr. Vanessa Lapointe**

Dr. Lapointe has been supporting families and children for 11 years. Her areas of expertise include psychoeducational and developmental assessment of children, as well as counseling children of all ages and supporting parents. Dr. Lapointe is also actively involved in the provincial early childhood community through educational programming and through specific community-based research initiatives.

## **B2** SIGN ME A STORY (VOLUME 2)

Stories are a fundamental part of a child's life. Spice it up by telling the story in sign. The children enjoy imitating and participating with these stories. Signing stories is also an inclusive activity to do in any center. It can help facilitate language development, plus its fun!

### **Presenter: Kim Brown**

Kim has been working with children and families for over 25 years. She has her ECE/special needs and a BA in psychology. She teaches a variety of American Sign Language courses designed for child care providers. As well, facilitating parenting programs, supported child development & Para-scuba diving. She is hard of hearing since 1988.

# Session B Workshop Descriptions

## B3 CIRCLE TIME TOOL BOX

This workshop includes: **Music with Young Children** - Explore appropriate music and singing exercises for young children. Including; musical games, clapping and rhythm games, finger plays and counting games. **Storytelling and Poetry** - Explore the theory and educational value of storytelling; work on the process of learning stories. Develop your own stories that children will love! **Circle Games and Movement** - Teachers will learn the theory behind the circle on the floor, and learn how to incorporate musical games, act out songs, & circle games galore! **Puppets** - Learn how to use puppets in the classroom. Learn how to bring a puppet to life.

### Presenter: Al Hirsch

Al Hirsch has 35 years experience working with children and over 15 years presenting workshops and keynotes for early childhood educators. He has won two Parent's Choice awards for children's audio recordings.

## B4 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES IN LICENSED CHILD CARE FACILITIES

Do you know what is needed when you are writing policies? Do you understand what Licensing is looking for? Do staff know what they mean? This workshop will review all required policies for licensed child care facilities and delve into the underlying reasons for them. Practical examples and explanations will be included. This workshop is intended for Licensees and staff of licensed child care facilities.

### Presenter: Sheri Obera

Sheri Obera has been a Licensing officer with Fraser Health in Langley for 4 years, working exclusively with child care facilities. An Early Childhood Educator for 18 years, Sheri also holds a Montessori Teaching Certificate, Elementary Teaching Certificate, and degrees in Linguistics, Psychology and Children's Literature.

## B5 JOURNEY TO THE EMERGENT CURRICULUM ROOM

How do we communicate our ideas to children through the environment? Through exploration of concepts from the Westcoast Curriculum Room, we will discover new ways to incorporate materials that invite children's exploration and knowledge building. We will introduce the Westcoast Curriculum Room, and provide hands-on experiences to demonstrate ways to use this approach into early childhood education. We will present the emergent curriculum approach through a narrated photo gallery that demonstrates children's learning through their interactions with unusual materials. ECEs will discover new language and tools to enhance quality practice.

### Presenters: Ana Vojnovic, Lynne Griffin and Nora Mejia

Ana Vojnovic is the facilitator of Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre's Curriculum Room. She holds an ECE certificate and is currently enrolled in the BA in ECE program at Capilano University. Lynne Griffin has worn "many hats" over the last 20+ years in the child care field. She currently works for Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre as an Outreach Coordinator for Child Care Resource & Referral. Nora Mejia, B.Ed. & ECE. Nora's work in ECE is inspired by the principles of the Reggio Emilia approach as well as Montessori Training. She works for Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre as a Diversity Trainer.

# Session B Workshop Descriptions

## **B6** BALANCING CULTURAL DIFFERENCES ( PRESENTED IN ENGLISH)

This workshop will address child development from the caregiver's perspective. In particular, Dr. Shergill will focus on several aspects of cultural development, including balancing cultural differences and building a bicultural identity, as well as understanding how a caregiver's world views and history impact their interactions with children. In addition, this address will touch on the different teaching and learning styles of caregivers and strategies to work with parents in order to facilitate a child's healthy development.

### **Presenter: Dr Amritpal Singh Shergill**

Dr. Amritpal Singh Shergill is a Registered Psychologist. He has previously served as Director of Operations for Columbia Health Centre, an Accreditation Surveyor with the Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, member of the National Ethno-cultural Advisory Committee for Corrections Canada, and a past board member for Options Community Services.

## **B7** CREATIVE WINGS: INTEGRATING DRAMA AND DANCE INTO CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

This workshop addresses how to incorporate drama and movement into children's programming. We will explore the nature of creative process, inclusion, creating safe environments, establishing boundaries, redirection and positive reinforcement through arts programming. We will discuss the value of arts activities in child care as well as look at the practicalities involved in implementation. This workshop is highly experiential. Please wear comfortable clothing and come ready to move and play.

### **Presenter: Dayna Kneeland**

Dayna is a community arts worker with an extensive background in child and youth care. She teaches theatre and movement for all ages and abilities and has been involved in community outreach projects that address social issues through the arts. Dayna is a graduate of TooBa Physical Theatre School, holds a BFA Specializing in Theatre and Development from Concordia University, and is currently pursuing her MA in Educational Studies at UBC.

## **B8** CONNECTING CHILDREN WITH NATURE

Discover how to enrich children's outdoor experiences with simple, powerful nature activities and games used by Metro Vancouver Park Interpreters. Direct contact with nature helps children develop respect and a caring attitude for the environment, and positively affects their development. This workshop will introduce you to a variety of fun and educational activities that can be applied to your backyard or natural areas in your community. Handouts provided. Wear clothing suitable for the weather.

### **Presenter: Lori Bartley**

Lori has over 25 years of experience working with children, families and adults outdoors. Lori enjoys sharing her sense of wonder about nature through sensory games, activities, songs and puppetry.

# Session B Workshop Descriptions

## **B9 THE JOY OF SINGING LEADS TO A LOVE OF LANGUAGE**

Jump in and Sing! Through her “easy to follow” P.R.I.Z.E. Method, (The use of Props and Puppets, Rhythm, Imagination, Zipper Songs and Echo Songs), Charlotte inspires educators and caretakers of young children to take full advantage of songs and chants for the development of language, creativity, social and communication skills. Participation and discussion are encouraged. *Return to your children refreshed, with a “Song Bag” full of new ideas!*

### **Presenter: Charlotte Diamond**

Charlotte Diamond is an internationally-recognized, award-winning recording artist, singer, composer, and performer of family and children’s music. She is also known as an educator, and has participated in many provincial, state and national educational conferences as a keynote speaker and workshop leader. Her musical presentations are lively and entertaining with an emphasis on participation. In both Canada and the USA, Charlotte’s music is part of many classroom curriculums, as the songs are easily singable, teachable, and relevant.

## **B10 CREATE A CHARACTER FOR CIRCLE TIME**

### **Bring Scissors**

This workshop is geared towards adults who once they have participated will be able to go back to their centres and create the same idea with the children – using recyclable materials, wooden spoons, collage etc. Participants will be inspired to make a puppet and write an imaginative story based on their character. The activity in this workshop can be taken back to centres where all children regardless of their age and stage in development can participate. This will be a fun, creative and imaginative workshop so **bring scissors**, a smile and a sense of humour!

### **Presenter: Kate Dwyer**

Kate received her ECE / Infant Toddler diploma in Great Britain in 1976. She became an Elementary school teacher, taught and ran a Nursery School in England, before moving to Los Angeles where she taught and wrote children’s plays. She later moved to Vancouver and opened her own family daycare. Since 2007, she has been fortunate enough to work at a career college where she has the opportunity to mentor and teach new students to become Early Childhood Educators.

## **B11 PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT AND RECOGNITION (PLAR) FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS**

PLAR for licence and PLAR for course credit will be discussed along with various methods used in determining how people currently working with young children without their basic licence can work towards achieving their credential. A panel of PLAR graduates with various levels of ECE licensure will share their personal stories of working towards their credentials.

### **Presenter: Kathleen Price**

Kathleen is currently coordinating the Early Childhood Education program at Douglas College and the ECE PLAR program.

# Session B Workshop Descriptions

## **B12 FOSTERING RESILIENCY WITH ABORIGINAL CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES**

This workshop will provide a brief overview on how stress and trauma impact a child's physical and emotional state and why we may see various behaviours with children. A brief historical perspective will be shared that will assist in identifying how our history as Aboriginal people continues to affect the lives of children, families and communities today. We will discuss what fosters resiliency with Aboriginal children and their families.

### **Presenter: Monique Gray Smith**

Monique Gray Smith is a mixed heritage woman of Cree, Lakota and Scottish descent. She comes from the Cardinal Family at Peepeekisis First Nation and is the proud mom of seven year old twins. Monique is currently the National Aboriginal Advisor for the Roots of Empathy organization. Her formal training is as a Psychiatrist Nurse and her work experience has been in the areas of Aboriginal Education; with a focus on the Early Years; Stress and Trauma Recovery, Staff Development and Addictions. Monique is also the owner of Little Drum Consulting.

## **B13 PARENTAL MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AFFECTING THE LIVES OF SOUTH ASIAN FAMILIES. PRESENTED IN PUNJABI**

This two hour workshop which will be presented in Punjabi will look at the issue of parental mental health issues affecting South Asian families. A parent with a mental health issue, whether diagnosed or not, can create a challenge for all members of the family. This can be especially difficult for children that do not have an understanding of their parents' experience. It may feel frightening and isolating, and may affect the child's sense of safety and security. How mental illness is perceived in the South Asian community and how it can be addressed by caretakers and service providers will also be discussed.

### **Presenter: Kashmir K. Besla**

Kashmir K. Besla, MA RCC, has worked in the counseling field for eighteen years. She has worked as a counselor in child protection programs through MCFD, with victims of violence as well as those that use violence in relationships. She facilitates groups for children and teens that have a parent with a mental illness, as well as a men's risk management group.



# Conference Information

## Conference Tips

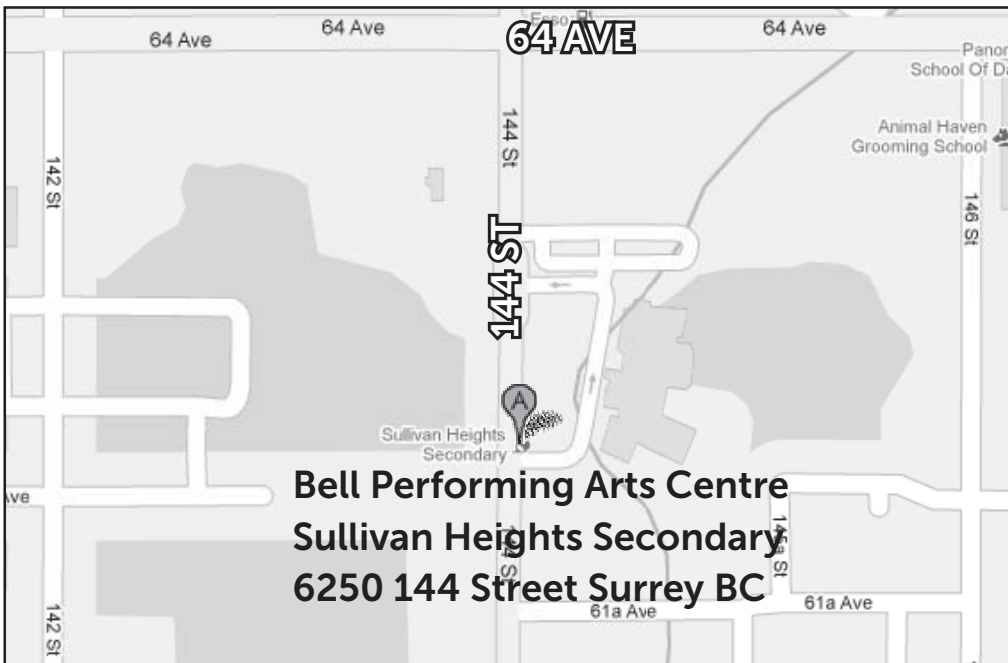


Be green! Bring a water bottle with you and fill up at the water coolers on site.

Stop at the ATM before conference - there aren't any bank machines on site in the marketplace.

Consider bringing a wheeled bag for shopping at the marketplace and exhibits.

Bring extra business cards to exchange with new colleagues you meet.



# Registration Information

*Workshop space and selections are available on a first- come first- served basis. Register early to get your first choice selections. All workshop confirmations will be sent by email - you will not receive a confirmation without an email address. Please add [childcareoptions@options.bc.ca](mailto:childcareoptions@options.bc.ca) to your email address book to ensure you receive your confirmation. If you do not receive an email confirmation please contact Child Care Options at 604-572-8032. You will receive your receipt by email as well.*

## **Easy Online Registration**

You can register any time and pay online using your credit card. Go to [www.childcareoptions.ca](http://www.childcareoptions.ca) and click on the registration link on the home page. Registering more than one person? Each conference registration must be completed separately.

## **Mail or Walk-in Registration**

Complete a registration form for each person registering and include a cheque, money order or credit card information and mail or bring to:

CHOM c/o Child Care Options  
#100 6846 King George Blvd.  
Surrey, BC V3W 4Z9

\* Please make all cheques payable to "Options Community Services"

## **Phone Registration**

You can call Child Care Options to register by phone using your credit card. Please have a completed registration form for each participant you are registering. Contact Child Care Options at 604-572-8032.

## **Conference Fees**

	Register by 4:00 pm Dec. 16/11	Dec. 17/11— Jan. 27/12
Friday Night Only	\$20.00	\$20.00
Friday & Saturday	\$75.00	\$95.00
Saturday Only	\$70.00	\$90.00

# Registration Form

Please complete a registration form for each person attending the conference and mail with payment to: **CHOM C/O Child Care Options #100 6846 King George Blvd. Surrey, BC V3W 4Z9**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Facility Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (\*required for confirmation): \_\_\_\_\_

## Registration Choices

Please select 1 of the following options:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday Night only	No Early Bird Price	Regular Price	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friday & Saturday	Early Bird Price: \$75	Regular Price	\$95
<input type="checkbox"/>	Saturday Only	Early Bird Price: \$70	Regular Price	\$90

Please indicate your first, second and third choice workshops for each session. You must enter a workshop in each box. If your first choice workshop is full and you have not indicated a second or third choice you will be placed in a workshop at the conference committee's discretion. **Changes to workshops after registration has been processed will not be permitted.**

Session	First Choice	Second Choice	Third Choice
A			
P			

Please attach a cheque or money order payable to Options Community Services or fill out the credit card information below.

Card Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Master Card	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa
Card Holder Name		
Card Number		Expiry

**Conference registrations will be accepted until January 27, 2012. Cancellations will be accepted until January 27, 2012 and will be subject to a \$20.00 administration fee. Replacement delegates are welcome with prior notice.**

There is no job more important than ours, no job anywhere else in the land. We are the keepers of the future, we hold the smallest of hands. Into our care we are trusted, to nurture and care for the young. And for all of our everyday heroics, our talents and skills go unsung. We wipe tears from the eyes of the injured, we rock babies brand new in our arms. We encourage the shy and unsure child, we make sure they are safe from all harms. We foster the bonds of friendships letting no child go away mad. We respect and honour their emotions, we give hugs to each child when they are sad. We have more impact than does a professor, a child's mind is molded by four. So whatever we lay on the table is whatever that child will explore. Give each child the tools for adventure, let them be artists and writers, and more. Let them fly in the wind and dance on the stars, and build castles of sand on the shore. It is true that we don't make much money, and we don't get a whole lot of praise. But when one small child says, "I LOVE YOU", We're reminded of how this job pays.

CHILDREN  
the **Heart** of the  
**MATTER**