

# Exploration and Discovery 2018

## The Sunshine Coast's Early Learning and Child Care Conference

**Saturday, October 20, 2018**  
**Chatelech Secondary**  
**5904 Cowrie St.**  
**Sechelt, BC**



**Exploration and Discovery Conference 2018** is a one-day training event for early childhood professionals, parents and community members. Join us for a day of workshops and a featured keynote presentation with Emily Gawlick, Executive Director of ECEBC.

This event is brought to you by the **Sunshine Coast Child Care Resource and Referral Program**. Our goal is to promote, educate and increase community awareness of child development needs and issues, as well as establish networking, professional development and child care advocacy opportunities on the Sunshine Coast.



# Registration and Schedule Information

## Registration:

Brochures and registration forms are available on the CCRR website at [www.coastccrr.ca](http://www.coastccrr.ca).

Drop off your completed registration form along with cash or cheque to either of our offices:

**Sechelt:**  
5520 Trail Avenue  
604-885-5657

**Gibsons:**  
659 North Road  
604-886-3103

Or you can mail it to: Box 74 Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0. Deadline for mailing is October 5.

Please make cheques payable to "Sunshine Coast Community Services Society".

If you wish to pay by eTransfer, please contact us for further details.

## Fee: \$ 50.00 - Includes keynote, 1 morning workshop, 1 afternoon workshop

Morning refreshments and lunch are also included in your conference fee. A limited selection of vegetarian and gluten-free options will be available. Baked goods may contain nuts. If you have any food restrictions or allergies, you are responsible for bringing your own food.

Helpful Hints: Purchases: Stop at the ATM before the conference as there are no banks on site.

Be Green!: Bring a water bottle with you and fill up at our water station.

## Cancellation

The CCRR will issue a full refund for cancellations received on or before October 5, 2018. If, after October 5, you find you are unable to attend, you are welcome to send someone in your place. Please call us to arrange.

## Schedule:

8:15	-	9:00	Registration and refreshments
9:00	-	10:15	Welcome and Keynote
10:15	-	10:30	Break
10:30	-	12:30	Morning workshop session
12:30	-	1:30	Lunch and door prize draw
1:30	-	3:30	Afternoon workshop session

# Keynote

Keynote Speaker **Emily Gawlick** presents:

## The BC Child Care Plan: What does it mean for the Early Childhood Sector?

2018 is a historic year for child care and educators alike. With a \$1 billion investment over the next three years, this is the single biggest investment Government has ever made. Emily will bring us up to date on the roll-out of the BC Child Care Plan and how this aligns with the Community Plan for a Public System of Integrated Early Care and Learning. Learn what ECE professionals can expect from our current social and political environment. What does \$1 billion in government funding mean for us? What is the role of ECEs now? How does the plan impact the child care sector?



*Emily Gawlick is a certified Early Childhood Educator with certification in both Special Needs and First Nations Perspectives in Early Childhood Settings, and over 25 years of experience. Emily has been engaged in strengthening and building connections and educating the community regarding the value of Early Care and Learning. She is actively engaged with 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 "\$10 a Day Child Care Plan". Emily is the Executive Director of Early Childhood Educators of BC. She believes that Early Childhood Educators have both the expertise and passion to be leaders in their communities.*

# Morning Workshops

## 1-1 Leadership in Early Childhood Education: It's a Personal Journey

**Emily Gawlick**

Have you ever identified yourself as a leader? ECEBC believes that ECE leadership is about learning to trust that the 'core' of our ECE practice gives us a unique and significant leadership capacity. It is not about training ourselves to look like leaders from other fields. Rather, it is about together constructing a culture of ECE leadership that:

- Comes from the ground up
- Builds on our image as empowered practitioners
- Enables us to raise public respect for and valuing of our work
- Is grounded in our values
- Uses the strengths of our practice

Emily will share her own personal leadership journey while providing concrete tools for others to identify their own leadership capacity. Emily believes that together, we can all raise public respect and value of our work for the ECE sector.

## 1-2 A Composition of Wonder: Exploration of Sound, Music and Movement

**Annabella Cant and Violet Jessen**

The sense of wonder is one of the most natural and present abilities of all children. The power to explore the world using all senses should always be cherished and fully utilized in child care centres as the BC Early Learning Framework suggests. Our workshop will engage with the sense of hearing and the power of sound as a learning tool. Sound is a pedagogical material that, even if untouchable, is always present. Children feel, see, and acknowledge sound in a multitude of ways. Through conversation and hands-on provocations, we hope to uncover questions and make discoveries through experiments with sound, music and movement applying multiple mediums both conventional and unusual.

*Annabella Cant received her PhD in the Curriculum Theory and Implementation program with her work Unswaddling Pedagogies; Imagining a new beginning to the practice of Imaginative Education. She is currently an instructor at Capilano University in the Early Childhood Care and Education degree program.*

*Violet Jessen has been an early childhood educator since 1996 and she began teaching at Capilano University in 2002. Violet has a strong commitment to professional development and community work. She is a member of the Early Childhood Educators of BC and is currently serving on the provincial board.*

## 1-3 Understanding the Spirited Child

**Sarah Joseph**

While each child is unique, there are some distinct characteristics in which MORE is very apparent in spirited children. Spirited Children are often MORE intense, persistent, sensitive, perceptive and have more difficulty with transitions. In this workshop we'll explore what Spiritedness is, and dive into understanding the MORE behind the temperamental traits of spirited children. We will also look at ways that we can teach emotion regulation and explore discipline that works for spirited children and how they learn rules a bit differently from other kids.

*Sarah Joseph is a registered social worker with a Masters in Social Work from the University of Waterloo. She has been working with families for the past ten years facilitating parent support groups, delivering parent education workshops, and as a family counsellor and a children's counsellor.*

## 1-4 Creating Environments to Facilitate Responsive Practice

**Presenter: Jacqueline Ewonus**

Looking beyond Pinterest and pictures of our ideal program environments, we will explore what drives how we plan our environments, our intent in the materials we provide, and how reflective practice deepens our engagement with children. We will explore what quality may mean, what the non-negotiables are in our work when we plan our environments, and how to choose materials and steps we can take to move towards a more reflective approach in our practice. Participants and the presenter will work together to explore specific challenges for the group, and work toward realistic next steps in their own environments.

*Jacqueline Ewonus is the Program Director at SFU Childcare, overseeing 7 IT programs. She has a long relationship in the childcare field in different capacities over the past 25 years, including as a Licensing Officer in Vancouver.*

# Afternoon Workshops

## 2-1 Big Science for Little Hands

Wendy Lorch

Big Science for Little Hands is a resource designed specifically for educators and caregivers of children aged 2 to 5 years. This workshop provides an opportunity to try out a variety of hands-on science (think messy and fun!) activities from across our 18 themes that you can take back to your settings to try with children. We will spend time teasing out the science concepts of each activity and discuss ways to encourage scientific literacy in young children.

*Wendy Lorch is the Early Learning Specialist at Science World responsible for the Wonder Gallery—a space dedicated to under 5s, Preschool Curiosity Club, Big Science for Little Hands educator workshops, and free science resources for educators and caregivers who work with young children. She has a background in early learning, Kindergarten and primary grades, science program development and adult workshop facilitation.*

## 2-2 Blocks: Who Would Have Thought That Learning Could Be Such Fun?

Georg Melzer

Building blocks can provide young children the foundation for learning math, physics and social studies. This workshop will provide information about how young children play with blocks while they learn. Come prepared to build LEGO and discover how much fun children can have when they learn by playing with blocks!

*Georg Melzer is a professor of Early Childhood Education at UFV. He has developed many learning resources for the preschool environment. His workshops are designed to provide practical information that can be easily be used in childhood settings.*

## 2-3 The Power of Storytelling in Creating Resilience

April Martin-Ko

Storytelling has been part of every culture since time immemorial, and holds a significant role in society. Oral storytelling not only promotes early literacy and healthy child development, it's also a protective factor connected to resiliency. In this workshop you will learn the neuroscience behind how oral storytelling promotes the aspects needed for resilient children. In addition, you will be provided with basic techniques and strategies on how to effectively tell oral stories and integrate them into your Early Learning Programs.

*April Martin-Ko's (BA & BEd) work has involved diverse children and families for over 20 years, and she is currently the Provincial Coordinator for the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program® in BC at the BC Council for Families. She is also a graduate student in the Faculty of Early Childhood Education at UBC, focusing her research on the power and correlation of storytelling and land-based learning; in addition, how these relationships contribute to social-emotional development in young children.*

## 2-4 How Do 'Loose Parts' Inspire Inquiry With Infant and Toddlers?

Jacqueline Ewonus

We will explore how we can inspire creativity and create less conflict by providing open ended materials to infants and toddlers. Through hands-on experiences with these 'loose parts' we will explore provocations, and how by aesthetically presenting materials you can support children's theories and problem solving, and provide opportunities for children to look more deeply and build on their existing ideas. We will share with you pedagogical documentation of how children in different programs have used loose parts, and how many common themes and ideas reoccur. Our goal of this workshops is to shift ideas on how we see materials and the intentionality of them in your own programs.

*Bio: See am workshop*

## Exploration and Discovery - Map - Chatelech Secondary



### DIRECTIONS:

- From Langdale Terminal: Follow Highway 101 to Sechelt. Turn left at the main set of lights (Sunshine Coast Hwy. and Wharf Rd.) Follow Wharf Rd. until it bends back into Sunshine Coast Hwy. Turn right on Shorncliffe Ave., then left on Barnacle St., then turn right and follow to the top of the hill.
- From Earls Cove Terminal: Follow Highway 101 to Sechelt, turn left on Shorncliffe Ave., left on Barnacle St., then turn right and follow to the top of the hill.

## 2018 Exploration and Discovery Conference Committee

### Thanks to this year's conference committee:

Liz Hennessey  
Jenn Hoile  
Violet Jessen  
Sue Lamb  
Tracy Wright  
Katie Borowski  
Catherine Bunce

Infant Development Program  
Halfmoon Bay Child Care Society  
Capilano University  
Sunshine Coast Early Years Centre  
CCRR Program  
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