

Exploration and Discovery 2019

The Sunshine Coast's Early Learning and Child Care Conference

Saturday, October 19, 2019
Chatelech Secondary
5904 Cowrie St.
Sechelt, BC



Exploration and Discovery Conference 2019 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 Maureen Dockendorf from the Ministry of Education.

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.



The Sunshine Coast Child Care Resource and Referral program is funded by the Province of BC

Registration and Schedule Information

Registration:

Brochures and registration forms are available on the CCRR website at 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 4.

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

New offering: This year all Sunshine Coast ECE students can attend for FREE. Contact us for details.

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

Explore and Discover the BC Revised Early Learning Framework with Maureen Dockendorf

During 2018 – 2019, the BC Early Learning Framework was revised through a year-long process and the final draft will be available (both in hard copy and online) as of September 2019. This keynote will provide an overview of the revised Early Learning Framework, highlighting key components.

Questions and curiosities welcome!

Maureen has spent her career in Education. She has worked as a teacher, university faculty associate, principal, and assistant superintendent for the Coquitlam School District. As the Superintendent of Reading/Literacy and Early Learning, at the BC Ministry of Education, Maureen has been a team member supporting the redesign of British Columbia's K – 12 curriculum and competency development. Most recently she has joined WE Charity as the Director of Educational Partnerships for Western Canada.

Maureen also works with the BC Ministry of Education as an Early Learning Consultant. Maureen leads the MOE Early Learning Initiatives: *Changing Results for Young Children (cr4yr.com)*, and *Strengthening Early Years to Kindergarten Transitions*. Maureen is frequently called upon to provide advice on policy, process and practice in the realms of professional learning, collaborative practice, educational leadership, curriculum and implementation.



Exploration and Discovery 2019 - Morning Workshops

1-1 Schema Theory & the Relationship with Children's Learning Behaviour

Jacqueline Ewonus and Ines Tuzlukovic

Understanding Schema Theory and how it relates to children's learning and behaviour offers educators an opportunity to provide materials to support play patterns that are often misunderstood as 'inappropriate behaviour'. We will begin to identify urges that young children display during play, and then uncover patterns of behavior and learn to plan for them. We will form an understanding the significance of loose parts (intelligent materials, beautiful junk) and the role they can play in complimenting children's learning and behaviour patterns. Our time together will be hands-on, providing many visuals and examples to support a thorough understanding of schemas, as well as exploring the materials every program needs.

Jacqueline Ewonus is currently the Program Director at SFU Childcare in Burnaby, BC, where she oversees 7 Infant/Toddler programs. She has a longstanding relationship in the childcare field in different capacities spanning over 29 years.

Ines Tuzlukovic has been working with infants and toddlers for over 18 years. Currently, she is a Senior Educator in the infant toddler program at SFU childcare Society.

1-2 Secure and Calm

Angela Low

Heart-Mind well-being is the term used by the Dalai Lama Center for Peace + Education (DLC) to refer to the importance of not only educating children's minds but also educating their hearts. When children feel calm and secure, they are able to participate in fun activities and learning opportunities, cope effectively when things feel overwhelming, and reach out for help when they need it. It is within the context of safe relationships that we develop important social and emotional skills such as learning to regulate our emotions, learning to express our needs, and learning to solve problems; skills that lead to the ability to feel calm and secure. The workshop presents the latest science and practice promoting children's capacity to be Secure and Calm and explores the Dalai Lama Center's toolkit of practical tools and strategies.

Angela Low is a specialist in emotional intelligence and child development who is committed to bringing social and emotional learning to the forefront of communities that support children, youth and their families. She is pursuing a PhD in the Human Development, Learning and Culture program at UBC.

1-3 Beautiful Stuff from Nature—Learning with Found Materials

Sara McKinlay

Through revived Indigenous traditions, we will share and learn through stories and experiences at mem7iman Child Development Centre, and how we shared our vision to build and reclaim its culture, history, and language by focusing on the youngest members of our community. In this workshop we will present a new book, *Home*, of which we are one of the contributing schools. We will introduce how we use our traditional materials and discover art supplies for early year learning. The workshop will include samples of art materials to take home.

Sara McKinlay is a certified Early Childhood Educator and Program Manager of mem7iman Child Development Centre. She is always looking to find the magic in small things and loves to take her students out to the garden and into the community to explore the natural world.

1-4 Rethinking Weapon Play: an Example of Reflective Practice

Presenter: Rebecca Sung

This workshop will present a story of how a 3-5 program struggled with how to handle weapon play, and the evolution of our policies, principles, and practices around this play. It details the process we took and our use of reflective practice in handling this complex issue. Pedagogical documentation on the weapon play in our program and educator reflections on this area are included in the presentation, as well as research in this field. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss concerns and ideas around weapon play in their own practice and reflect on this together.

Rebecca Sung is a senior Early Childhood Educator with SFU Childcare Society, working with 3-5 year olds. She has a BA in Geography and a diploma in ECE. She has been working with the ideas of weapon play as a teacher-researcher for the last four years and is passionate about sharing her learnings.

Exploration and Discovery 2019 - Afternoon Workshops

2-1 Diversity Circle Time – Creating a Safe Space to Explore Differences

Cassidy Taylor

This workshop is based on the facilitator's experience with planning and delivering the workshop series "Diversity Circle Time" in the city of Vancouver. Diversity Circle Time consists of 3 half hour story circles that focus on fostering the discussions around themes of diversity and friendship. In this workshop we will discuss the power of promoting diversity and anti-bias values through storytelling and Cassidy will demonstrate how the program works, and how to recreate it in any centre. Participants will also discuss cultural appropriation, stereotyping, as well as family and gender diversity in relation to program planning, material selection and content.

Cassidy has been a Librarian, an ESL instructor, and ECE classroom assistant among many other things. She is currently a Librarian at WCCRC's Westcoast Early Learning Library (WELL) where she spends her days learning, gathering, and sharing information and resources with ECE educators, students, caregivers and parents.

2-2 Story Baskets

Oana Nistor

In a world where we are always rushed, storytelling is almost a lost art. In today's electronic age, children are losing their creative thinking and their ability to compose images in their mind. Through storytelling, children develop listening skills, patience, problem-solving, creative thinking, and many more skills used in their early development. Story Baskets present an opportunity for interaction between parent and child, child and peers, and child and educator. Throughout this workshop, you can expect to learn:

- How to create a story with loose pieces
- How to use a story basket
- How to turn a book into a story basket
- How to tell a story in many different ways

Oana Nistor is an Early Childhood Educator and Montessori teacher who has been working in the field of ECE for over 19 years as a Supervisor, Program Coordinator, and Manager. She is presently completing her BA in Leadership at TWU. She is passionate about stories and their teaching power.

2-3 When Children Erupt: Helping Yourself Stay Steady in Tough Situations

Shayna Hornstein

Some days a child lashes out. Often you can see it brewing and you want to step in early. You also notice it's hard on you. Maybe your stomach begins to churn, or your neck or jaw tightens. Your workplace has a protocol and you know what you're supposed to do, but telling yourself to breathe before stepping in just isn't enough to ease the tension inside. Automatic physical reactions need physical strategies. This experiential workshop draws on the concepts of interactive neurobiology and self-regulation to teach you practical techniques to support yourself right in the thick of things.

Shayna Hornstein is an adult educator, body-focused counsellor and registered physical therapist. Her organizational development work improves resilience and workplace communication. In her clinical practice she helps people lessen the impact that stress has on our bodies. She especially enjoys supporting frontline child care educators and caregivers as they do critical work that builds healthy communities.

2-4 Climate Change: Looking at Ways to Support Early Childhood Curriculum Through Indigenous Teachings

Danielle Alphonse

In this session the presenter will review the UN sustainable action goals and the Cowichan Tribes teachings and look at ways to develop learning and sustainability in the classroom. Intentionally thinking about how to help children self-regulate in their heart and spirit as climate change affects their future environment. The presentation includes creating advocacy, innovation in the classroom and connection to the global world around them. An example is sharing Yahgulanaas, His Holiness the Dali Lama, et al. the Flight of the Hummingbird (2007) as an analogy that no matter how small you are you can make a difference.

Danielle Alphonse is in her sixth year as the BC Regional Innovation Chair for Aboriginal Early Childhood Development, and teaches in the Early Childhood Education and Care program at Vancouver Island University. Her background is ECE, CYC, and Education.

Friday Evening - Special Event!

Special Event! Join us for a tour of **mem7iman Child Development Centre.**

Friday, October 18th 7:00 - 8:00 pm
5601 swiyk'als Drive, Sechelt, BC

Many thanks to Sara McKinley and team for opening their doors to allow us a peek at their award winning Reggio-Inspired Program located in the heart of the Shishalh community.

All are welcome. **No registration necessary.**



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.

2019 Exploration and Discovery Conference Committee

Thanks to this year's conference committee:

Liz Hennessey

Jenn Hoile

Violet Jessen

Sarah Stenzel

Tracy Wright

Lauri Paul

Catherine Bunce

Tamara Piekaar

Infant Development Program

Halfmoon Bay Child Care Society

Capilano University

Supported Child Development Program

CCRR Program

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