

# Sunshine Coast Child Care and Community Connections



Members of the ECE community gathered for a story telling workshop—more on page 4. Photo by Nancy Carter.

## Child Care Resource and Referral Program

604-885-5657

[coastccrr@scss.ca](mailto:coastccrr@scss.ca)

Located in Sechelt Family Place  
5520 Trail Ave. Sechelt

**CCRR** [Hours of Operation](#)

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Sunshine Coast  
**Community Services**  
*Caring since 1974*



**ChildCareBC**

[CCRR BC website](#)

Funding for the CCRR is provided by the Province of British Columbia.

## Happy Spring!

Hello to all of our CCRR members, including families, caregivers, and child care providers. It seems like spring is slow in coming this year, which will make it all the more glorious when it arrives in full.

We at the CCRR have had a busy and gratifying quarter. Library visits have been brisk, family drop-in programs have been filled to the brim, and we've made many visits to child care programs. We attended the annual Early Years Fair on March 8 and visited with many families. Nancy and Lisa even hosted their first-ever professional development workshop together—to great acclaim! We've accomplished a lot.

The Sunshine Coast Joint Child Care Committee have developed and published a new Sunshine Coast Child Care Action Plan, based on input from child care providers, families, and partner organizations. A link to the document in its entirety is on page 6.

We will be hosting our fifth(!) annual Nature and Nurture workshop on Saturday, May 11 in order to celebrate child care month. All those working in child care centres are welcome to sign up. See page 5 for details.

Finally, we welcome all families to take part in the clothing swap hosted by our Family Resource Programs on Saturday, April 12, 10:30am to 1:00pm at the Gibsons Rec Centre. This is a huge, fabulous event, where you can come and get clothes for any children in your life, from babies to school-aged. There are even adult clothes available! Just bring your own bags and load up. We welcome donations of your clothing, laundered and sorted into sizes. Bring your donations on the day of the swap. For more information, please see page 8.

So welcome spring, and let's luxuriate in the longer days.

*Tracy, Nancy, Michal, and Lisa*

**CCRR Spring Closures:** CCRR office will be closed for the following days:

- **Good Friday April 18 and Saturday April 19th**
- **Thursday, May 15, 2025— All staff training day**
- **Victoria Day long weekend, Saturday, May 17**
- **Canada Day, Tuesday, July 1**

## CCRR will no longer carry art supplies



Our long-time art supplies vendor, Creative Children in Port Moody, BC, has gone out of business. So we regret to inform you that the CCRR will no longer be carrying art supplies to sell to the public.



Follow us [@ccrrsunshinecoast](https://www.instagram.com/ccrrsunshinecoast) on Instagram to stay up to date with information on our up and coming workshops and everything CCRR!

## New to the CCRR Lending Library

### Indigenous Culture Kits

We have been given 6 different kits from the Qualicum First Nation Culture Kit Program for our lending library. This Program creates culture kits for use throughout British Columbia. These kits have been made in consultation with Elders, Knowledge Keepers, artists and educators. The culture kits are designed for children aged three years and older and are available to borrow by child care programs (3 to 5 years) and elementary school classes, from kindergarten to grade two. The kits include books, activities, felt stories, puppets, songs, poems and so much more. They are wonderful, artistic, colorful activity boxes with a wealth of information with which children can engage. Pictured below is the Cedar Kit. The other kits we have are the Raven Kit, A Walk in the Forest Kit, Animal Tracks and Scat Kit, B.C. Land Animals Kit, and the Traditional Foods Kits.



## Super Heroes Unite at the Early Years Fair

On Saturday, March 8 Sunshine Coast families gathered for the annual Early Years Fair. Hosted by SD46, this event featured a petting zoo, pony rides, free stuff, snacks and lots of resources from programs that support the early years. Sunshine Coast Community Services was represented not only by the CCRR, but members of the Early Intervention team and Family Resource Programs team. In keeping with this year's theme, "Super Heroes Unite!", the CCRR made these four cardboard face cut-out stand-ins representing our four elemental heroes: earth, air, fire and water. Pictured here are some of the many children (and some adults!) that posed in these throughout the day.



## Felt Board and Felt Story Making Workshop - February 22, 2025

We began our Felt Story Workshop with a beautiful and meaningful land acknowledgement from Tracy, setting the tone of the importance of storytelling and relationship to culture and the land. Story telling being an ancient way of communication passed on from generation to generation. It comes in many forms and styles such as fables, fairytales, legends, myths, poetry, religious scripture, song and sharing real time events. They can be stories that relay a message or a moral, make you laugh or cry, or make you frightened or angry. Stories teach us about our culture and our relationship with each other, the animals and the land.

We chose to make felt boards and felt stories together with child care providers in this workshop because felt stories deepen the connection children experience with stories and songs. Adding the 3-D visual aspect of stories can spark imaginations, engage their attention on a different level and encourage children's participation in telling and re-telling the story together. Felt stories can bring alive a child's learning and joy for stories. Making these felt boards and stories together was a wonderful way for us to be creative and connect joyfully too!



At the end of a great morning together, we had made some awesome resources to use with the children in our care!

## Storytelling Fun on Outreach Visits With Nancy and Lisa



Nancy at Langdale Daycare



Lisa at Little Owls

There are so many wonderful ways to tell stories! We've been having a great time using props to tell some classic fairytales in our circle times. Pictured here, our young friends at Little Owls Childcare were very engaged while Lisa uses a 3-in-1 puppet to tell a funny, feel-good version of Little Red Riding Hood and helped her tell the story of the Three Little Pigs using a story basket.

Enjoying story time at Langdale Daycare with Nancy, the children were captivated by the felt story images and the 3-dimensional story telling

styles. The stories were received with excitement and attention and encouraged the children to interact with the story and make predictions to what will happen next.



Here, we are celebrating Mardi Gras with Karen and the children from Gnome Village. We enjoyed a cup of hot chocolate and then the children excitedly handed out beads to people in lower Gibson's while saying, "Happy Mardi Gras!" We finished our excursion with a play in Gibson's Public Market Playground before the Gnomes caught the bus back to their daycare. So fun!



## Upcoming Child Care Professional Development

To register, contact the CCRR at 604-885-5657 or [coastccrr@sccss.ca](mailto:coastccrr@sccss.ca)

### Nature and Nurture 2025



**SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025 11:00am to 1:00pm**

#### **SUNSHINE COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS**

**This event is open to all of those working in child care on the Sunshine Coast.**

Come celebrate Child Care Month with us as we host our FIFTH annual Nature and Nurture event. This year we will be gathering at the Sunshine Coast Botanical Gardens for some painting and planting. We will each be painting a terra cotta pot and then planting beautiful flowers in it to take home. We will also enjoy a meal together. There will be plenty of time to connect with each other and celebrate our child care community. Registration required. Includes lunch.

### The Sunshine Coast CCRR is proud to be part of the CONFERENCE for CHILDHOOD and PEDAGOGIES.

Formerly known as the North Shore ECE conference, this is a yearly event hosted by the School of Education and Childhood Studies of Capilano University. The conference has a history of 23 years, and has been continuously inspiring the community of educators and families.

Where: Capilano University, BlueShore Financial Centre for the Performing Arts, North Vancouver

When: Saturday, April 5, 2025

[Conference Brochure with Schedule of Presenters](#)

[Registration Link](#)



### The Foundations of Inclusive Child Care Training

Don't forget, the Province of BC offers free training on how to develop inclusive programming and practices! This course provides an overview of inclusive practices and implementation strategies for inclusion in child care settings. It is designed for child care providers, early childhood educators, and other early childhood professionals in the child care sector. This course counts for 12 hours of professional development! [Link to training portal](#)



**FIRST AID**

### Do you Need your First Aid Certification/Re-Certification?

We're offering a free Emergency Child Care First Aid course on Saturday September 13, 2025 @ St. Hilda's Church Hall 5838 Barnacle St. in Sechelt. call 604-885-5657 or email [coastccrr@sccss.ca](mailto:coastccrr@sccss.ca) to add your name to the list.

Child Care  
Resource &  
Referral 

**eypd**

The [Early Years Professional Development Portal](#)

lists learning opportunities offered by Child Care Resource and Referral programs province-wide. These learning opportunities are for Early Childhood Educators and Families throughout B.C. If you are looking for low cost or free professional development options, including **RESPONSIBLE ADULT** courses in online synchronous and asynchronous format, this is the place!



# Sunshine Coast Child Care Action Plan 2025

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January 2025

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Sunshine Coast Joint Child Care Council

In the fall and winter of 2024, the Child Care Action Plan Working Group, comprised of individuals from Vancouver Coastal Health, School District 46, and the CCRR program developed a new Child Care Action Plan for the Sunshine Coast. We developed this document so members of our community could refer to and work from a united vision and plan to create excellent, equitable, inclusive child care for all who need it.

From the Executive Summary of the plan:

Child care is foundational to the well-being of families, children, and communities. It enables parents and caregivers to fully participate in the workforce, supports gender equity, and strengthens the social and economic fabric of the Sunshine Coast. Quality child care plays a vital role in fostering early childhood development, providing children with a strong foundation to thrive.

Since the release of the 2019 Sunshine Coast Child Care Action Plan, significant progress has been made in expanding access to licensed child care spaces, addressing staffing challenges, and enhancing collaboration among community partners. Notably, the creation of new child care spaces for children aged 3 to 5 years has contributed to increased access rates, now at an estimated 64.9 spaces per 100 children (65%). Despite this progress, there remains a pressing need for additional spaces in Infant/Toddler and School Age care. While some growth has occurred in these areas, many families on the Sunshine Coast would benefit from further expansion to better meet their needs.

To address ongoing challenges, partnerships between local governments, community organizations, child care providers, and families remain critical. Collaboration has been central to recent successes, such as the expansion of child care spaces within School District No. 46 and the development of innovative programs like the \$10-a-Day initiative, which now benefits 16 programs across the Sunshine Coast.

Key barriers remain, including staffing shortages, insufficient access to inclusive care for children with support needs, and geographic disparities. Survey data from 2024 indicates that 16 of the 29 child care providers who responded are operating below their licensed capacity, primarily due to staffing constraints. In addition, families in smaller communities such as Madeira Park and Halfmoon Bay continue to face significant challenges accessing licensed care.

The 2025 Sunshine Coast Child Care Action Plan builds on past successes while addressing current needs. Grounded in local data and shaped by input from stakeholders, the plan outlines a roadmap to support the continued growth of a quality, inclusive, and affordable child care system. It highlights the importance of ongoing collaboration, advocacy, and targeted actions to ensure that families across the Sunshine Coast have equitable access to the care they need.

[VIEW FULL DOCUMENT](#)

## Child Care Job Opportunities

**Serendipity Child Development Center** is seeking **ECE** and **ECEA** professionals.

The right candidates should be fun, energetic, dependable, organized and team orientated. You should come armed with a love for working with children and fostering their development in a fun, safe, nurturing, and engaging environment. Come work in our lively, well-established, and respected community childcare centre. Hours of Operation: Monday to Friday from 8:00am – 4:00pm.

Wage: \$25.00 per hour. Extended medical and dental coverage (50% shared cost with employer)

Available hours: part time, M-F. Could lead to full time.

Qualifications: Valid ECE or ECEA license to practice in B.C.. Valid First Aid Certification. Valid Food Safe Certification. Knowledge of licensing requirements and familiarity with the applicable codes, statutes, and acts. Subject to successful criminal record check. Reference checks will be conducted.

**Please forward your resume to Christy Carter** at [presidentserendipity@gmail.com](mailto:presidentserendipity@gmail.com).

Thank you for your interest in this opportunity and we look forward to speaking with you!

**KIDZ CLUB** Sechelt After School Care Program is seeking a **Child Care Support Worker** Sechelt.

The Support Worker works with individual children who require additional supports to participate in our licensed after school program. They work with our staff team to implement established care plans in order for the child to integrate and feel successful.

Part Time Monday to Friday 3pm to 5pm, with additional hours (up to 6 hours) on Pro D days and during school breaks. **Send resume and 3 references** to: [secheltcommunityschools@gmail.com](mailto:secheltcommunityschools@gmail.com), 604 989-5365

Hourly Wage: \$24.00

Must be able to help with wheelchair transfers, have experience with helping children to self-regulate.

Listing Expiry date: April 30, 2025 Sechelt Community Schools Society

**KIDZ CLUB** is seeking a Site **Programs Manager** at KIDZ CLUB Sechelt and Sechelt Youth Centre Sechelt

Job Description: The Site Programs Manager combines direct supervision of children and Youth with administrative responsibilities to ensure adherence to all Licensing Regulations, manage program budgets, provide support and leadership to staff, and plan and promote program activities.

Full time Monday to Friday, generally between 10am to 6pm For full job description, or **send resume and 3 references** to: [secheltcommunityschools@gmail.com](mailto:secheltcommunityschools@gmail.com) or call 604 989-5365

Hourly Wage: \$24 to \$27 depending on qualifications and experience, additional Wage Enhancement available to ECE certificate holders.

Listing Expiry Date: April 30, 2025 Sechelt Community Schools Society

**Les Petits du Pacifique Childcare Society** is looking for a Casual/On-call ECE/ECE-A for their Licensed Group Daycare Program 30 months to 5 years old in Sechelt BC. Support the care, development and well being of children 2.5-5years old through engaging activities, play based learning, and a nurturing environment. Responsibilities include assisting with daily routines, implementing curriculum, and ensuring a safe space for all children.

Must hold a valid ECE or ECE-A Certificate. Speaking French is a strong asset but not mandatory.

Childcare Centre is open Tuesday to Thursday from 8:30am-5pm, excluding educational and holiday closures.

Hourly wage of \$21-\$26.76 per hour depending on level of Certification and experience. Please submit your application by email to [renee\\_lachance@csf.bc.ca](mailto:renee_lachance@csf.bc.ca)

**Teddy Bear Day Care** is looking for an **ECE**. 5123 Davis Bay Rd , Sechelt 604-885-2721.

Details regarding job description and duties to be discussed at interview. The job is a minimum of 3 days per week to begin increasing to 5.

Hourly rate begins at \$ 26.00 per hour, Shift range 8-4 or 8:30 – 4:30

Contact- May Pearson [tbd daycare@dccnet.com](mailto:tbd daycare@dccnet.com)



Sunshine Coast  
Community Services  
*Caring since 1974*

## Family Clothing Swap

# Swap



*Bring clothes, take clothes!*

**SATURDAY, APRIL 12**

**10:30 am - 1:00 pm**

Gibsons Rec Centre, 700 Park Road, Gibsons

**ADMISSION IS FREE!**

**BYO reusable  
bags and fill  
them up!**

For more information, please contact Shirley French

**Email: [sfrench@sccss.ca](mailto:sfrench@sccss.ca) Tel: 604-865-1108**



## School District 46 Workshops and Courses—Spring 2025



### Welcoming you to Kindergarten: KinderSPARK!

Come with your child to do a variety of activities designed to support learning, friendship and fun! The KinderSPARK! Program will be held one day a week for 4 weeks beginning April 1st with some schools offering multiple sessions.

### Spark! to Kindergarten

Two virtual sessions offered for all parents with children entering Kindergarten. Offered from 8pm-9pm on April 7th and April 14th. Families will receive a Zoom link with their registration confirmation. Questions? Contact Kirsten Deasey, District Principal, Learning, Innovation and Child Care [kdeasey@sd46.bc.ca](mailto:kdeasey@sd46.bc.ca) 604-741-5787

Register: <https://early-learning.sd46.bc.ca>



### 1 Hour Parenting Solutions

Sechelt Early Years Centre, Tuesdays from 11:45am - 12:45pm

Gibsons StrongStart, Wednesdays 11:15am - 12:15pm

Online, Thursdays 8pm - 9pm

You are welcome to attend any or all of these classes, please register for online sessions.

April 8,9,10, 2025—Hitting, Biting, & Aggressive Acts.

April 15,16,17, 2025—Parenting after Separation

April 22,23,24, 2025—Bring your own Topic

April 29,30 & May 1, 2025—Talking about body Science

May 6,7,8, 2025—Sensitive Children

May 13,14,15, 2025—Sleep

Use the QR Code to register.



### Parenting Classes April 8 - May 14, 2025

Gibsons Strongstart Centre: Positive Discipline Wednesdays 9:30am-11am

Sechelt Early Years Centre: Circle of Security Tuesdays 10am-11:30am

Online via Zoom:

Circle of Security, Tuesdays 8pm-9pm

Positive Discipline, Wednesdays 8pm-9pm

Being Present Parenting, Thursday 9am-10am





BELLIES & BABIES | PARENT-TOT DROP-IN PROGRAMS

# SPRING SCHEDULE

APRIL 7 - JUNE 27

LOCATION	GIBSONS COMMUNITY CENTRE 700 Park Road	SECHLT FAMILY PLACE 5520 Trail Avenue
MONDAY	Bellies & Babies 11:00 am - 1:00 pm	
TUESDAY		Bellies & Babies 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
WEDNESDAY	Parent-Tot Drop-In <i>at Dougall Park</i> 9:30-11:30 am	Parent-Tot Drop-In 9:30 am - 11:30 am
THURSDAY	Parent-Tot Drop-In 9:30 am - 11:30 am <i>The space will remain open until 1:30 pm for additional support and connection.</i>	Single Parent-Tot Drop-In 3:30 pm - 6:00 pm
FRIDAY	Parent-Tot Drop-In <i>at Dougall Park</i> 9:30-11:30 am	
SATURDAY	Parent-Tot Drop-In 9:30 am - 11:30 am	



For more information, contact Shirley 604-865-1108 or email: [sfrench@sccss.ca](mailto:sfrench@sccss.ca)