

**November 7, 2011 E-News  
BC Aboriginal Child Care Society**

**Remembrance Day November 11, 2011, 11 am  
*Lest We Forget***

**NOTE: The next BCACCS E-News will be distributed after the Training Conference on Tuesday, November 15.**

**BC ACCS NEWS**

- \* Special Event- This Friday- Sharing Circle with Special Cree and Inuit Presenters at the BC ACCS Training Conference
- \* Revised Edition of *The Best Practices Aboriginal Early Childhood Programs*- Hot off the Press

**RESOURCES**

- \* National Aboriginal Veterans Monument
- \* Veterans Affairs Kid Zone Resources

**JOB POSTINGS**

- \* 3 postings, All jobs are posted and regularly updated on the website:  
[www.acc-society.bc.ca/files\\_new/jobpostings.html](http://www.acc-society.bc.ca/files_new/jobpostings.html)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- \* BC ACCS 14th Annual Training Conference (Nov 11-12, 2011) - **SOLD OUT!**
- \* 15th Annual Children the Heart of the Matter Conference (Feb 3-4, 2012)
- \* Westcoast Child Care Resource Center Fall Conference (November 19, 2011)
- \* International Innovations in Early Childhood Education, A Canadian Forum on Early Childhood Frameworks (July 13-15, 2012)

**ABOUT OUR ENEWS**

**BC ACCS NEWS**

**\* Special Event- This Friday- Sharing Circle with Special Presenters at the BC ACCS Training Conference**

BC ACCS Conference delegates are invited to participate in a special event this Friday- a Sharing Circle led by Dr. Margo Greenwood of the National Collaborating Center on Aboriginal Health, Shirley Tagalik of Arviat Health (Nunavut), and Pat Makokis of Blue Quills First Nation College (Alberta)

**Date:** Friday November 11, from 4:15- 5:30

**Location:** BC ACCS Training Conference

**Description:** Sharing Circle Topic: Children as Gifts and our need to provide spiritual direction as moms, workers, parents... a talking circle on children and spiritual connectedness. Come and join us as moms, leaders, grandmothers, aunties, front line workers. During the talking circle we will explore our individual responses to the following questions:

- Who am I as a servant to children?
- How I feel about being a servant (providing spiritual guidance) to those in our precious hands?
- How I feel about this relationship to children?

**Dr. Margo Greenwood**, NCCAHA Academic Leader, is an Indigenous scholar of Cree ancestry with more than 20 years' experience in the field of early childhood education. Professionally and personally, children have been the focus of her life. She has worked as a front line caregiver of early childhood services, designed early childhood curriculum, programs, and evaluations, and taught early childhood education courses at both the college and university levels. While Margo's focus has been on all children, she is recognized provincially, nationally and internationally for her work on Aboriginal children. As a mother of three, she is personally committed to the continued well-being of children and youth in Canada.

**Dr. Pat Makokis**, Co-president and Director of Research & Curriculum Development, Blue Quills First Nations College, is a believer in lifelong learning and is proud of the Elder teachings that have influenced her beliefs in being a servant leader. She is a member of the Saddle Lake Cree Nation. Her place of work, Blue Quills First Nations College, is now playing a leading role addressing intergenerational trauma associated with residential schools and is especially reaching out to Indigenous fathers, who are virtually invisible in programs, policy, planning and research in Canada.

**Shirley Tagalik** is a Research Director of the Mental Health Task Force for the Centre of Excellence for Children and Adolescents with Special Needs, operates Inukpaujaq Consulting, an education and health consulting agency and is a member of the Arviat Health Committee. She is interested in early childhood/maternal health, heritage language revitalization and curriculum development to promote Inuit worldview. Shirley recently helped redesign Nunavut's education system based on Inuit traditional knowledge - or Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. She is now working with the NCCAHA and partners to help rebuild school programs in Canada and more broadly.

\* **[Revised Edition of The Best Practices Aboriginal Early Childhood Programs- Hot off the Press](#)**

SPECIAL TRAINING CONFERENCE PRICE: \$15

POST CONFERENCE PRICE: \$20 BC ACCS Members and \$25 for non-members

***About the Revised Edition:***

In 2003, the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society produced the first Handbook of Best Practices in Aboriginal Early Childhood Programs (herein Handbook). This six chapter volume of Aboriginal early childhood program practices emerged from a series of regional workshops with early childhood professionals in British Columbia where resources, practices, and ongoing programming needs were discussed. The BC Aboriginal Child Care Society received positive feedback on the Handbook from early childhood practitioners, early childhood education students and program developers alike.

It has been nine years since delegates of the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society provincial training conference first conceived of the idea for a handbook of practical resources and strategies for those who are working in or who would like to work in Aboriginal early childhood development programs. Since that time, we have seen increased attention to our field from political leadership, including federal, provincial and Aboriginal; we have seen a wider focus in research and academic work to include Aboriginal perspectives in discussions of early childhood development; and we have seen the expansion of some Aboriginal early childhood development programs and services available to Aboriginal families in our province. As we reflect on where we have been since the conception of the Handbook, we have learned much about what is working in Aboriginal early childhood development programs and where we continue to need advocacy and support.

The BC Aboriginal Child Care Society received funding from the First Nations Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada to look at the growth and development of our field and update the Handbook to reflect current research, policy and practice in our field. The first edition of the Handbook was based on primary research/data collected from practitioners in Aboriginal early childhood development programs in British Columbia, whereas updates to this revised 2nd edition are based on research from literature review – both scholarly and gray literature on Aboriginal early childhood development and programs. Given that this is a revision to the original, we have made every effort to maintain its integrity and not lose the invaluable perspectives from the field compiled in the first edition. Thus, although we included new ideas and suggestions for practice, removed some suggestions for practice now considered less appropriate, and changed the language/terminology to reflect current discourse, we have not changed the framework of the Handbook.

**For more information on the handbook and how to order one: [http://www.accs-society.bc.ca/files\\_new/whatnew.html](http://www.accs-society.bc.ca/files_new/whatnew.html)**

## **RESOURCES**

### **\* [National Aboriginal Veterans Monument](#)**

Source: <http://www.museevirtuel-virtualmuseum.ca/edu/ViewLoitLo.do?method=preview&lang=EN&id=19332>

*Aboriginal people have responded to the call of war, time and again. To remember and celebrate this commitment, the National Aboriginal Veterans Association raised funds for and commissioned a monument that honours First Nations, Metis and Inuit people who volunteered in the First World War, Second World War, Korean War and all subsequent peacekeeping missions. The six-metre (20-foot) bronze and granite sculpture stands tall and proud in Confederation Park, a central gathering place in the heart of Canada's Capital. The monument reminds us that Aboriginal Canadians fought and died for our country, even at times when society did not recognize many of their basic human rights.*

*The National Aboriginal Veterans Association was formed in 1981 to promote the unique accomplishments and interests of Aboriginal veterans in times of war and peace. Aboriginal soldiers have served Canada for hundreds of years, and are renowned as snipers and reconnaissance scouts, utilizing the traditional skills they employed as hunters and warriors.*

*Artist Noel Lloyd Pinay of the Peepeekisis First Nation in Saskatchewan was inspired by the dedication and sacrifice made by his father, Noel Joseph Pinay, who was a paratrooper during the Second World War. Using traditional symbols, Pinay brings the essential Aboriginal value of harmony with nature to the forefront. All animals, plants and humans exist in an interrelated circle of life and death under the auspices of the Creator. The spirits of living things must be honoured and respected.*

*Translating these traditional values into metal and stone was no easy feat. Noel Lloyd Pinay, an experienced caster of bronze statuary, worked long and hard in his prairie workshop to create the complex piece. The statue was then shipped by rail to the Capital, where the artist assembled and joined the pieces. The statue was unveiled in a special Aboriginal Day ceremony on June 21, 2001, with the Governor General in attendance.*

*The number four figures prominently in the spirituality of many Aboriginal peoples: four seasons, four directions, four stages of life — and Pinay has used the number extensively in his sculpture. Four animal spirits — wolf, buffalo, elk and bear — guide warriors in their pursuit of victory and peace.*

*Four human figures stand facing the four cardinal directions. They represent the vast diversity of Aboriginal people in Canada, and include people from the Plains, the West Coast, an Inuit person from the North, and a Metis figure. Two of the figures are male and two are female, signifying the contributions of Aboriginal men and women to Canada's wartime efforts and peacekeeping activities. In their hands, they hold both weapons and spiritual objects, such as an eagle feather fan and a peace pipe.*

*Finally, a thunderbird perched atop the monument symbolizes the Creator, who unites and guides those below. By using images and symbols, Noel Lloyd Pinay has created a monument to Aboriginal Canadians that tells an important story of peace, balance, victory and wisdom.*

*Link to article and photo of monument: <http://www.museevirtuel-virtualmuseum.ca/edu/ViewLoitLo.do?method=preview&lang=EN&id=19332>*

### \* [Veterans Affairs Kids Zone](#)

**Link to Veterans Affairs Kids Zone:** <http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/activities/kidszone>

Kids Zone features activities such as

- “Tales of Animals in War”,
- Art: educational colouring sheets, making a wreath, izzy doll pattern and origami peace crane pattern
- Photo gallery of symbols of remembrance and animals in war,

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*CLICK ON JOB TITLE TO GO TO FULL JOB POSTING*

Job Title: [Aboriginal Infant Development Consultant](#) **NEW**  
Organization: Spirit of the Children Society  
Location: New Westminster, BC  
Posted on: Nov 7, 2011 | Closing: November 14, 2011, 9:00 am

Job Title: [ECD Teacher](#) **NEW**  
Organization: Spirit of the Children Society  
Location: New Westminster, BC  
Posted on: Nov 7, 2011 | Closing: November 14, 2011, 9:00 am

Job Title: [Aboriginal Early Childhood Development Coordinator](#)  
Organization: Success by 6 Prince George/ Northern Interior Children First Initiative  
Location: Prince George, BC  
Posted on: Oct 20, 2011 | Closing: November 11, 2011, 4:30 pm

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **\* [BC ACCS 14th Annual Training Conference](#) **SOLD OUT!****

**When:** November 11-12, 2011

**Where:** Delta Vancouver Airport Hotel, Richmond BC

**Contact:** Phone: 604-913-9128 Email: [reception@acc-society.bc.ca](mailto:reception@acc-society.bc.ca)

**Description:** Theme: Spiritual Health in Children

This year's conference theme will create opportunities for open dialogue between early childhood educators and others to consider how spirituality is developed in young children. Some suggested workshop themes include: \* Connections to Land \* Ancestral Knowledge \* Special Needs/Gifted Children \* Assessment Tools \* Traditional Protocol \* Storytelling \* Arts & Culture \* Music & Movement \* Language Teaching Methodologies \* Generative Curriculum \* Identity & Belonging \* Father Involvement \* Parenting.

**For more information:** [http://acc-society.bc.ca/files\\_new/annual\\_conf.html](http://acc-society.bc.ca/files_new/annual_conf.html)

### **\* [Westcoast Child Care Resource Center Fall Conference](#)**

**When:** November 19, 2011

**Where:** Vancouver Community College Downtown Campus, Vancouver, BC

**For more information:** Tel: 604-709-5661, [info@wstcoast.org](mailto:info@wstcoast.org)

Link to registration package: [www.wstcoast.org/pdf/Westcoast\\_conference11\\_reg.pdf](http://www.wstcoast.org/pdf/Westcoast_conference11_reg.pdf)

**Description:** This Westcoast Child Care's 3rd annual conference, providing 5 hours of credit towards ECE license renewal. The theme is: "Inspiring Excellence in Child Care and Early Learning"

For more information: [www.wstcoast.org](http://www.wstcoast.org)

### **\* ADVANCE NOTICE [15th Annual Children the Heart of the Matter Conference](#)**

**When:** February 3-4, 2012

**Where:** Bell Performing Arts Center, Surrey

**Contact:** check the CCRR website closer to the date for more details:

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

**Description:** Early Care and Learning Conference

\* ADVANCE NOTICE **[International Innovations in Early Childhood Education](#)** A Canadian Forum on Early Childhood Frameworks

**When:** July 13-15, 2012

**Where:** Victoria, BC

**Contact:** [uvicearlyyears@dearmondmanagement.com](mailto:uvicearlyyears@dearmondmanagement.com)

**Description:** This conference, the first of its kind in Canada, brings renowned early childhood leaders from Reggio Emilia Italy, New Zealand, and Australia to Victoria, British Columbia for learning, sharing, and planning ways forward for Canada's young children and families. The conference is hosted by the [Unit for Early Years Research and Development](#), located at the University of Victoria's School of Child & Youth Care. The conference builds on the ongoing Investigating Quality project initiated by the Unit in 2005, which explores the links from theory to policy to practice.

Website for more information: [www.uvicearlyyears.ca](http://www.uvicearlyyears.ca)

## **ABOUT OUR ENEWS...**

### **How to Subscribe to Our Weekly E-News**

Send a blank email to [aboriginalchildcare-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:aboriginalchildcare-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) and the server will send you instructions that you need to follow-up on within 14 days.

*Have news, job postings or events that you wish to share? Send E-News items to [communications@acc-society.bc.ca](mailto:communications@acc-society.bc.ca)*

*Send us your:*

\* *Aboriginal ECE news/ announcements from your community*

\* *Job postings for your child care program*

\* *Special announcements*

E-News is sent weekly on Fridays. If you missed the previous week's ENews, you can download it at: [http://acc-society.bc.ca/files\\_new/enews.html](http://acc-society.bc.ca/files_new/enews.html)