

January 9, 2012 E-News

BC Aboriginal Child Care Society

Wishing you a happy and healthy start to 2012!

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* Infant Toddler Supervisor for Okanagan Indian Band in Vernon

All jobs are posted and updated regularly on the BC ACCS website:

http://www.acc-society.bc.ca/files_new/jobpostings.html

UPCOMING EVENTS

* The Early Years Conference (Feb 2-4, 2012)

* 15th Annual Children the Heart of the Matter Conference (Feb 3-4, 2012)

* 19th Annual National Aboriginal Achievement Awards (Feb 24, 2012)

* Northern BC Aboriginal Health Webcast (Mar, 29, 2012)

* ECEBC 2012 Conference “Playing it Forward: Discovering the Wonder and Value of Authentic Play” (May 3-5, 2012)

* 5th Annual Gathering Wisdom for a Shared Journey (May 15-17, 2012)

* International Innovations in Early Childhood Education, A Canadian Forum on Early Childhood Frameworks (July 13-15, 2012)

ABOUT OUR E-NEWS

BC ACCS NEWS

*** Staffing Update- Meet our new Communications Officer**

BC ACCS welcomes the newest member of its team! Jennifer Fox rang in the New Year by beginning her position last week as Communications Officer.

Jennifer Fox was born and raised in Fredericton, New Brunswick. She moved to Vancouver in 2000 to study at UBC’s School of Education where she focused on early childhood development. Jennifer went on to work as a teacher and a government consultant in Asia and Africa for 5 years. Returning to North America, she earned a Master’s degree in International Development from Boston University. Her research has focused on the need to increase the number of culturally and linguistically appropriate storybooks for children of minority language groups.

When she’s not at work you will most likely find Jennifer at home practicing violin or at the ice rink, where she trains as a competitive figure skater! Most recently, Jennifer has worked as the Coordinator of the First Nations Early Childhood Development Council. She is now happy to be on board as the Communications Officer for BC ACCS and hopes to support British Columbia’s hard-working and inspiring communities of Aboriginal Early Childhood Educators!

RESOURCES

*** Learn about Aboriginal midwifery from Aboriginal midwives!**

Is your community interested in finding out more about Aboriginal midwives? If so, this is your chance!

The Campaign to Protect the Future of Aboriginal Communities: Promoting the Profession and the Practice of Aboriginal Midwifery wants to promote midwifery as a career choice and also wants to encourage families to use these services more often. The support provided will depend on each communities' specific needs. Community meetings will bring people together to share information and experiences and to explore some ideas that may work to increase access to midwifery services.

The National Aboriginal Council of Midwives (NACM) is a diverse group of midwives from all regions of Canada, representing First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities. They recognize that the good health and well-being of Aboriginal mothers and their babies is crucial to the empowerment of Aboriginal families and communities.

If your community is interested in participating, please send a short letter to the following address: nacm@canadianmidwives.org

Your letter should include the following:

1. Name and location of your community
2. Current maternal, newborn and infant health services available in your community
3. What stage your community is at in terms of accessing midwifery services (if any)?
4. What areas of support (community information, meetings with leadership, research) would be of most interest to your community?

The deadline to submit an application letter is January 20th, 2012.

If you are accepted, you will be notified by February 15th, 2012.

You may contact Eby Heller at 514-807-3668 for more information.

*** Family Literacy Day Colouring Contest**

Family Literacy Day is a national awareness initiative created by ABC Life Literacy Canada. It's held every year on January 27 to raise awareness of the importance of reading as a family. Taking time every day to read or to do a learning activity with children is very important for a child's development. Even just 15 minutes a day can improve a child's reading skills dramatically. It can help a parent improve their skills as well!

Enter the Family Literacy Colouring Contest

Deadline: Postmarked by January 31, 2012

<http://abclifeliteracy.ca/flid/2012-family-literacy-day-colouring-contest-presented-raise-reader>

RESEARCH AND NEWS

*** Research Project at the University of Victoria**

Volunteers Needed: Honorariums provided

Do you know any Aboriginal youth between the ages of 17-29 living in Victoria? Researchers at the University of Victoria are studying the work experience of Aboriginal young people. They want to know about the supports, challenges, and barriers to finding and keeping work. The information collected will help researchers to support all Aboriginal young people in finding work. Volunteers are needed for individual interviews that will last approx. 1.5 hours long and will pay a \$20 honorarium. Please contact the Worklife team at: 250-472-5414 or e-mail cys@uvic.ca and put "Worklife Interview" in the subject line.

*** CBC Documentary: Aboriginal Fathers**

Blind Spot - What happened to Canada's Aboriginal Fathers? is a one hour documentary which follows three First Nations men as they face their own personal demons on their quest to become better fathers - even though the odds are stacked against them. The show draws upon research and knowledge mobilization work done by Dr. Jessica Ball, in the School of Child and Youth Care at the University of Victoria.

In Jessica's ground-breaking study of "Indigenous Fathers' Journeys", 86% of participants reported being affected in some way by disrupted intergenerational transmission of fathering primarily due to the negative influences of residential schools and other colonial interventions.

As Dr. Ball comments in the show, First Nations communities are struggling with a general lack of public understanding of the long-term negative effects of government interventions into the lives of Aboriginal children and families, and a lack of government funding for support programs specifically tailored to reach out to Aboriginal fathers, expectant fathers, and fathers seeking reunification with their children.

The documentary airs **Saturday, January 14th**, 2012 at 8 p.m. on CBC News Network.

See a preview: <http://youtu.be/a77wHWTJXAE>

Leading up to the Documentary, on **Thursday, January 12**, CBC Radio program "The Current" is airing a 90 minute 'townhall' discussion about Aboriginal Fathers that will be held in Whitehorse.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** Changes made to provincial certification and renewal requirements for Early Childhood Educators.**

On December 1, 2011 changes were made to the certification and renewal requirements for the provincial Child Care Licensing Regulations. As a result, NEW forms for first time applicants as well as renewal applicants have been created.

First Time Applicants

<http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/ece/apply.htm>

Renewal Applicants

<http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/ece/renew.htm>

Please note: All applications received prior to January 1, 2011, will be assessed under the OLD Child Care Licensing Regulations.

For more information regarding the new certification requirements please review some Frequently Asked Questions:

http://www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/ece/pdfs/faq_cclr_changes.pdf

You may also wish to contact the Ministry of Children and Family Development: Denise Pawliuk by e-mail at Denise.Pawliuk@gov.bc.ca or by phone at (250) 356-6285.

The BC Aboriginal Child Care Society looks forward to supporting all Aboriginal Early Childhood Educators through these changes. If you have any concerns please contact us! communications@acc-society.bc.ca Phone 604-913-9128 ext.223

*** Early Childhood Educators of BC – Leadership Initiative**

Interested in developing your leadership skills?

The Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC) announces an opportunity for interested individuals to apply to attend their Leadership Initiative - Communities of Innovation.

Three times a year, ECEBC brings together the 2 or 3 ECEs from each chosen community together for a 3-5 day Leadership Institute. Here, participants build their individual and collective leadership capacity and create a shared culture of ECE leadership. Participants then apply their learning to their own community projects. In addition to the \$10,000.00 grant for each community project, ECEBC covers all of the

participants' costs of attending the Institutes – including the cost of replacing ECEs on the floor.

Deadline to apply: January 16, 2012.

To download an application: <http://ecebc.ca/leadership/index.html>

You may call ECEBC staff, Raphaella Weissgerber to find out more: 1-800-797-5602

As always, the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society supports all Aboriginal Early Childhood Educators in their professional development efforts. If you have any questions regarding this or other applications please feel free to contact our staff who will happily assist you!

communications@acc-society.bc.ca or 604-913-9128

JOB POSTINGS

All jobs are posted and updated regularly on the BC ACCS website:
http://www.acc-society.bc.ca/files_new/jobpostings.html

Job Title: [Full-time and Part-time Early Childhood Educators](#)

Organization: Stó:lô Nation

Where: Chilliwack and Mission, BC

Closing: When positions filled (First posted on January 3, 2012)

Job Title: [Infant Toddler Supervisor](#)

Organization: Okanagan Indian Band

Where: Vernon, BC

Closing: Friday January 20, 2012 at 12:00 noon

UPCOMING EVENTS

* [The Early Years Conference](#)

When: February 2-4, 2012

Where: The Hyatt Regency, 655 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC

Contact: Check the website for more details:

<http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/EarlyYears/>

Description: The Development of Children's Mental Health: How Do We Become Who We Are? This conference will stimulate dialogue, reflection, a deeper understanding of a child's total development as rooted in their earliest relationships. The goal is to

showcase exemplary approaches that support healthy early childhood social emotional development.

* **[15th Annual Children: The Heart of the Matter Conference](#)**

When: February 3-4, 2012

Where: Bell Performing Arts Center, Surrey

Contact: Check the website for more details: <http://www.childcareoptions.ca/conferences.php>

Description: This conference brings together all those involved in the care and education of young children. Its purpose is to raise the awareness and the profile of child care and early childhood development services, family resource programs and others through professional development, networking, and sharing of information and resources.

* **[19th Annual National Aboriginal Achievement Awards](#)**

When: February 24, 2012

Where: Queen Elizabeth Theatre, Vancouver

Contact: Visit the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation website for ticket sales

http://www.naaf.ca/ticket_sales or Toll Free: 1-800-329-9780 Ext.228

ticketsales@naaf.ca

Description: The Awards will be presented to recipients for their outstanding accomplishments in various disciplines. The Awards are the highest honour the community can bestow on its achievers. These 15 exceptional individuals will be honoured and celebrated at the Gala, and subsequently broadcasted on Global Television and the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN) this March.

* **[Northern BC Aboriginal Health Webcast](#)**

When: March 29, 2012 12:15pm-1:15pm

Where: By teleconference and webcast

Contact: E-mail for more details: idc@northernhealth.ca

Description: Good things to know if we want to close the gap in Aboriginal Health in Northern British Columbia. The recent formation of the First Nations Health Council has resulted in a flurry of activity and discussion on how to best close the gap in First Nations health. In this presentation, Dr. Lavoie will focus on the First Nation on-reserve health care system in BC. Relevant research will be discussed to show that there is strength in the First Nation on-reserve health care system as it exists today. Results from the Where to Invest Project show that communities with control over local health services, and with access to community-based primary care have lower rates of

avoidable hospitalization, especially for chronic diseases. Still gaps in knowledge of Northern Health remain. This presentation will conclude with the recommendations for additional work.

* **[ECEBC Conference “Playing it Forward: Discovering the Wonder and Value of Authentic Play”](#)**

When: May 3-5th, 2012 (Registration begins mid-Feb, 2012)

Where: The Radisson Hotel Vancouver Airport, Richmond

Contact: Check the Early Childhood Educators of BC website for more information

<http://www.ecebc.ca/events/index.html>

Description: This is a professional development and networking conference. More information will be available in February, 2012.

* **[5th Annual Gathering Wisdom for a Shared Journey](#)**

When: May 15-17th, 2012

Where: To be announced

Contact: Check the First Nations Health Council website for more information in early 2012. <http://www.fnhc.ca/index.php/news/events/>

Description: Improving the Health of First Nations People in BC: A Dialogue on the Tripartite First Nations Health Plan. On-line registration details will be announced in early 2012.

* **[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

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

ABOUT OUR E-NEWS

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Send a blank email to 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

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 **MONDAYS**.

Download previous week's E-News at: http://acc-society.bc.ca/files_new/enews.html