



We welcome you to the first ever BCACCS Spring Mini-Conference!

The event title, *Supporting our Children on the Land*, reminds us about the importance of Land-based experiences.

Land-based programming assumes an environmental approach to learning that recognizes the deep connection and relationship of Indigenous peoples to the Land. It seeks to share the understanding of the Land that is grounded within Indigenous knowledge and pedagogy through the cultivation and observation of the relationship between people and the Land.

Workshops will reflect the learning and the enhancement of well-being that occurs through connection with storytelling, movement, natural materials and sensory experiences.

We are also privileged to welcome our special guests Te'ta-in (Shane Pointe) and Knowledge Keeper XiQuelem (Eugene Harry) who will encourage and support us with their knowledge and wisdom.

This year workshops focus on:

- Considering our relationship to the Land;
- Sharing cultural teachings; and
- Strategies for successful outdoor engagement.

As always, we extend many thanks to everyone who helped make this event possible and to all of you for attending.

Mussi cho,

Mary Teegee, President

Karen Isaac, Executive Director

BC Aboriginal Child Care Society



START TIME	DAY ONE	DAY TWO	DAY THREE
9:30 - 10:00 AM	Opening	Presentation 4	Presentation 8
10:00AM - 12:00 PM	Presentation 1	Presentation 5	Presentation 9
12:00 - 12:45 PM	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
12:45 - 1:00 PM	Door Prizes	Door Prizes	Door Prizes
1:00 - 3:00 PM	Presentation 2	Presentation 6	Presentation 10
3:00 - 3:45 PM	Presentation 3	Presentation 7	Door Prizes & Closing
3:45 - 4:00 PM	Door Prizes	Door Prizes	

DAY ONE - MARCH 12, 2021

Early Morning Presentation

Title: Opening



Morning Presentation

Title: We are the Land and We are the Resources

Description: "We are the land and we are the resources" - Our elders ask us, "Who are you"? How will you answer this question? The elders usually do not want to know who you are? Rather who your parents and grandparents are on both sides of your family. They will then truly know who you are and your connections to the land and resources.

Who you are is important and everyone should understand this concept.

Facilitator bio: Dr. Gwendolyn Point (Shóyshqwelwhet) currently serves as the Knowledge Keeper for the BC Assembly of First Nation Chiefs. She also served a term 2015-2018 as The Chancellor for the University of the Fraser Valley. She has a Doctor of Education from Simon Fraser University, a Master in Education from the University of Portland, a Post Baccalaureate from SFU, and a Bachelor of Education from the University of British Columbia. She also has an Honorary Doctorate in Education from the University of Victoria.

Afternoon Presentation

Title: Inspiration and Invitations from a Living Classroom, Magic in the Wild Nature Journaling as a Pedagogical Tool and Building Relationships with our Places

Description: This workshop will explore Nature Journaling, a worldwide movement that integrates art, science, and nature exploration. Participants will discover how nature journaling connects science, language arts, math, visual arts, critical thinking, and mindfulness.

Please have these supplies ready:

- Good pencil (HB, 2B or 4B)
- Sketchbook no larger than 9"x12"
- Eraser (optional)
- Watercolour pencil, Watercolour set, small watercolour brush (optional)

Facilitator bio: Maggie Chow believes Art is essential to life in our communities. She is passionate about art education and strives to support and share her values. Maggie has worked as an Atelierista (art studio teacher) and mentor for the shíshálh Nation's mem7iman Child Development Centre.

Late Afternoon Presentation

Title: Making a Natural Door Wreath

Description: In this workshop you will work with materials from the outdoors and materials you have in your home to make a beautiful wall creation.

Please gather a selection of items from Mother Nature e.g. feathers, pine cones, grass, branches, flowers and leaves.

You will also need several cedar boughs from your community since you will be attaching your collected items to them.

Please have these supplies ready:

- Found nature objects
- Several cedar boughs
- Sinew, ribbons or embroidery thread to attach materials
- Tough scissors

Facilitator bio: Nicholas Louie (Qi7men) is from Xa'xtsa (Douglas First Nation) north end of Harrison lake, St'at'imc and lives in Mission, BC sharing knowledge, traditions and culture of the Sto:lo and St'at'imc Nations.

DAY TWO - MARCH 13, 2021

Early Morning Presentation

Title: Learning Pow-Wow Dance Steps

Description: Come and get your morning started in a good way.

Together we will learn a few new dance steps that you can teach to the children in your program.

Facilitator bio: *White Buffalo also known as Will Visser, has been teaching dance to young children for over 20 years. Every month he visits the children at Eagle's Nest Aboriginal Head Start to teach pow wow dancing with moves that stimulate the mind, body and soul. Dorothy Visser will support the presentation.*

Morning Presentation

Title: Language of the Land

Description: As children of Papatūānuku (The Earth Mother), we humans are part of a large family - our humble place is as the Pōtiki or youngest. In Te Ao Māori, the Māori world, it is said, that the pōtiki however, also often has a special gift for the future. The session will be a reflection as an educator and remembering our ancestors and reclaiming our memories of how land and language are linked.

Facilitator bio: *Danielle Alphonse is in her seventh 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." Lewis Williams is an interdisciplinary, Indigenous, feminist scholar-practitioner. Her scholarship and practice centre on Indigenous resurgence and reconciliation as a key means of addressing Indigenous disparities and human-planetary wellbeing.*

Afternoon Presentation

Title: Everything depends on everything ~ Gina 'WaadluXan gud ad kwaagid Our food is our medicine ~ id tl'aa ga taagaay id Gan xiila ga

Description: As Indigenous people to the land around us, it is our responsibility as stewards of the land and waters, to take care of Mother Earth. It has been shared that what we do to the web of life, we do to ourselves. When we are harvesting traditional foods and medicines, we become mindful. We harvest only what we need and leave the rest for reproduction purposes. We use respectful harvesting practices and give thanks to Mother Earth.

Facilitator bio: *Jenny Cross is of Haida descent. Her Haida name is Kuunaajaad. She has been an Early Childhood Educator for 15 years and works at Skidegate Early Childhood Development Centre. In this Daycare setting, there is an Aboriginal Head Start Parent & Tot Program where she facilitates and teaches families Haida Cultural and traditional ways.*

Late Afternoon Presentation

Title: Creating a Nature Scene

Description: Using natural materials participants will create nature scenes, miniature worlds and sculptures.

Before joining the group online gather various materials from around your home and/or early years program then join the nature scene group to explore possibilities. Consider what materials could support language learning, cultural knowledge and will appeal to the children you work with when gathering your workshop supplies.

Facilitator bio: *Sheila Grieve, ECEC, MA. Her research, informed by her Métis heritage, relates ethnobotany to child development. She enjoys hands on activities involving plants and is an avid knitter. Autumn Frederiksen, Métis spinner and weaver. She has been active in the Mid Island Spinners and Weaver Guild since 2011 and looks forward to sharing her experiences and passion for the fibre arts.*

DAY THREE - MARCH 14, 2021

Early Morning Presentation

Title: Learn the Steps to the Jerusalema (Dance of Hope) Dance Challenge

Description: Join BCACCS in the Jerusalema Dance Challenge. Learn a simple dance that has swept the globe and provided hope and joy to many. If you decide to take up the challenge, record your team or your program dancing outside and share your dance video on social media. Send a link to communications@acc-society.bc.ca and we will share it too! Feel free to add your unique flavour to the dance and make it your own!

Facilitator bio: Cheyenne Seary is an Indigenous Early Childhood Educator of the Mi'gmaq Nation and new mother to beautiful baby girl Siona. She has a passion for dance and is honoured to work with the children and educators Singing Frog AHS preschool which is located on ancestral and unceded lands of the Squamish, Musqueam and Tsleil-Waututh Nations.

Morning Presentation

Title: ECE Outdoors: Working Towards a New Licensing Category

Description: Guest Panel

Facilitator bio: Lily Patzer comes from a mixed Aboriginal and European background. She uses her Indigenous knowledge gained from her grandmother and from the Elders in her life to promote culture and community. Enid Elliot, PhD: is an early childhood educator who has been continually surprised, intrigued and delighted by the babies, children, families and early childhood educators with whom she has worked, played and journeyed. Dr. Iris Berger has been involved in the field of early childhood education as a classroom teacher, researcher, community organizer, policy consultant, and university instructor since the mid 1990s. Dr. Mariana Brussoni is a developmental psychologist and Associate Professor in the UBC Department of Pediatrics and the School of Population and Public Health. Belva Stone-Cole: Belva Stone, a certified early childhood educator, has been working with children for over 20 years.

Afternoon Presentation

Title: Supporting Neurodiverse Children in Land-Based Learning Experiences

Description: In this presentation Kyla will discuss the joys and opportunities of land-based learning with children with exceptional abilities and gifts. She will share ideas for planning and running successful land-based programs drawn from her experiences in providing inclusive outdoor programs for children of all abilities. In this workshop Kyla will fill your toolbox with innovative activity ideas, games and practical solutions.

Facilitator bio: Kyla Bowes Aiken grew up in the forests of Muskoka Ontario. She has a strong connection to all living things and loves to share her passion of exploring the natural world with others. Kyla's education at Algonquin College Outdoor Adventure Business Program and Seneca College for Therapeutic Recreation helped her realize a lack of accessible outdoor programming recreational opportunities for people with typical and exceptional abilities existed.

Late Afternoon Presentation

Title: Closing



2021

SUPPORTING OUR CHILDREN ON THE LAND



**THANK YOU FOR
JOINING US!**