



BC Aboriginal
Child Care Society

www.acc-society.bc.ca

Caring for our Children newsletter

September-November 2021 Vol. 24 No. 3

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September 30 - Orange Shirt Day - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

On September 30th, every year people across Canada wear orange and participate in Orange Shirt Day events to recognize and raise awareness about the history and legacies of the residential school system in Canada. Orange Shirt Day originates from the story of Phyllis Webstad from the Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation. In 1973, on her first day at St. Joseph's Residential School in Williams Lake, BC, Phyllis's shiny new orange shirt was stripped from her, never to be seen again.

40 years later, on September 30th, 2013, Phyllis spoke publicly for the first time about her experience, and so began the Orange Shirt Day movement.



The Canadian government designated September 30 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, beginning in 2021. This responds to Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action 80, which states that the federal government will work with Indigenous people to establish a statutory day to “honour Survivors, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.”

Introduction to the Jordan's Principle Enhanced Service Coordination Hub

The BC Region Jordan's Principle Service Coordination Hub (the Hub) is a centralized support network, which will create a space for Jordan's Principle Service Coordinators from across the province to access learning sessions, resources, and a community of practice where they can access support and collaborate with one another.

Offerings will include:

- Resources to help Service Coordinators navigate the existing programs, products, and services.
- Strength-based community of practice.
- Training, mentorship, and tools developed in partnership with Indigenous Services Canada, to assist Service Coordinators in completing and submitting Jordan's Principle requests.
- Forms and templates that can be adapted to suit the needs of service coordinators in local communities.
- Online platforms and discussion forums to share experiences and discuss strategies to improve service coordination.

The Hub website launched on November 20, 2021.

<https://jordansprinciplehubbc.ca/>

Role of Hub Staff

- Support Jordan's Principle Service Coordinators;
- Provide training and resource; and
- Create a community of practice.

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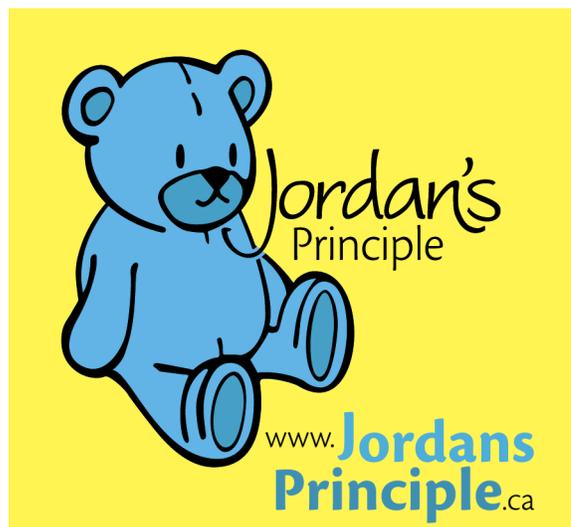
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Angela Wrede (Hub Manager): As a Nlakapamux woman from the Nicola Valley I believe in the ability of all Aboriginal people to heal themselves through traditional and contemporary methods based on informed decision making. I look to our families for the answers as they are the experts on their family history and journey. In my free time I like to practice cake and cookie decorating and experimenting with the art of French pastry making.



Karen LeSage (Hub Resource Coordinator): I believe in supporting families and communities at the grassroot level. I hope to be able to empower and support Service Coordinators and families to accessing the services that they need and in turn build strong and healthy communities. My favorite past time is rock climbing. It is very meditative. It keeps you in the present moment.

Contact information for Service Coordinators



Raymond Cauchi (Hub Resource Coordinator): Somethings are the right thing to do. Helping others is one of those things, and if I can help correct social injustices, even better. Anything physical and outdoors helps keep me well. It does not matter if its work or play because I will make it fun. It is outdoors.

BCACCS Jordan's Principle Service Coordinators

Jordan's Principle is named in memory of Jordan River Anderson, a young boy from Norway House Cree Nation in Manitoba. Jordan's Principle makes sure all First Nations children living in Canada have access to the products, services and supports they need, when they need them.

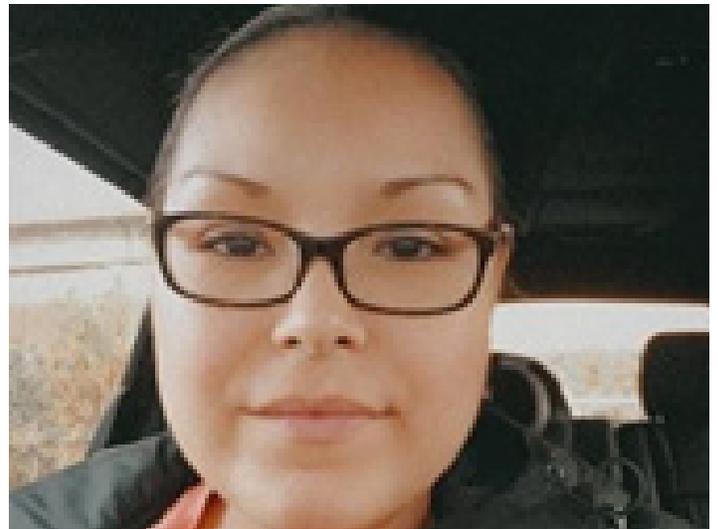
To support families, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) BC Region has been working with First Nations partners to develop and implement a made-in-BC Jordan's Principle Enhanced Service Coordination model of care that puts First Nations children and families at the centre of service delivery.

More information about Jordan's Principle, including eligibility and how to submit a request can be found at <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1568396042341/1568396159824>

To be eligible, children must be between the ages of 0-19 years of age.

Role of Jordan's Principle Service Coordinator

- Jordan's Principle Service Coordinators (SC) work with families and service providers to identify and facilitate timely access to a whole range of federal and provincial health, social, and education products services and supports to meet your child's needs.
- They address questions about Jordan's Principle and assist families and service providers to submit requests for funding under Jordan's Principle.



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The Hub and Service Coordinators are funded through participation of Indigenous Services Canada.



In Partnership with:



Indigenous Services
Canada

Services aux
Autochtones Canada

Natural Remedies - Tri-sister Tea

Seeing with both eyes.... All things appear to all people as what they see... But to realize all things have a spirit, you will see them for what they truly are.... This information has been graciously shared by Charrine Lace / Wet'suwet'en Native Arts.

Tri-sister is a tea important during the changing of the seasons. When you get a cold or flu because of air born pathogens, this drink will help clear them up and boost your immune system. My people have been using it for many years for new illnesses. It helps soothe the respiratory system.

Ingredients:

Devil's Club "whisco"

It is used for arthritis, wounds, fever, tuberculosis, stomach trouble, cough, colds, sore throat, diabetes, low blood sugar, and pneumonia. It is also used for emptying the bowels and causing vomiting. Some people apply devil's club directly to the skin for swollen glands, boils, sores, and skin infections. The ashes have been used to treat burns. You want the green and white bark without as much grey paper as possible.

Balsam Bark Tea
ts'otsin(*Abiesbalsamea*)

The bark and pitch of the sub-alpine fir are highly valued for medicine. The pitch may be taken alone internally for sickness or to aid in healing external wounds. The bark may be mixed with other barks, such as devil's club, mountain ash, and black twin-berry, in medicinal decoctions as mentioned above for the respiratory system health. Colds, Bronchitis, cough and sore throats. Plus much more. You want the sap in the bubble under the top grey part.

Hemlock, western, misdzu (*Tsuga heterophyll/a*)

Western Hemlock bark is a strong astringent, traditionally used for problems such as internal hemorrhage and bleeding, used in tuberculosis, fever, and as a wash for skin sores and rashes. You want the red bark not the grey or orange parts.

Directions:

Add 1 part Devils club, 1 part Balsam Bark and a 1/4 part Western Hemlock inner bark.

Put into 4-5 cups of boiling water and turn the water down to a simmer.

Leave on to simmer for 3 hours. Once done, pour a 1/4 cup into a tea cup and add boiling water to fill the rest of the cup.

Put the remaining tea into the fridge. It will keep in the fridge for up to 2 months.

Consult your physician if you have diabetes before using this herb internally because it may affect insulin utilization.

The tea may add to the effects of antibiotics, anticancer drugs, herbs or supplements.

This is not to be taken if you are pregnant, nursing, or currently on any prescription medications.



Photo credit: Charrine Lace

Highlights from the BCACCS Fall Conference

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Thank you to everyone who participated in the BCACCS 24th Annual Provincial Training Conference that occurred between September 30 – October 2, 2021.

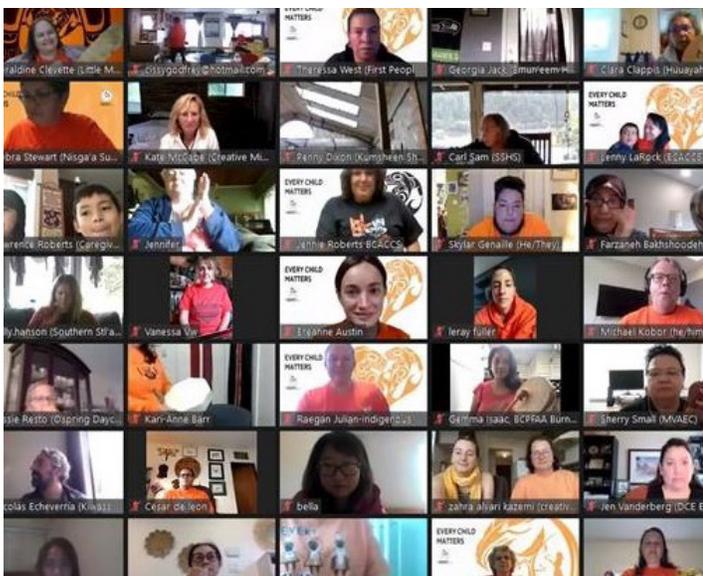
We were so appreciative of the amazing guest speakers who joined us each day and of the Knowledge Keepers who supported us in a good way throughout the event.

From genetics, traditional medicine, beading, and many other important subjects there was something for everyone to enjoy!

We want to thank Native Northwest for supporting our conference for so many years and for their continued dedication to supporting Indigenous organizations and causes.

Thank you, Early Childhood Educators of BC, for helping making conference a special experience for everyone.

This conference would not be possible without the support of our Board of Directors, the staff who organize this training and the amazing volunteers who help make sure this conference goes smoothly and inspires participants each year.



How Wit'suwit'en Child and Family Centre Brought the Community Together

Charmayne Nikal is from Witsset, BC located on Wit'suwit'en territory. She belongs to the Gitimt'en clan. Charmayne is a manager at the Wit'suwit'en Child and Family Centre and started her career in 1999 when she became an early childhood educator and a mother in 2000. Charmayne was kind enough to share the story of how Wit'suwit'en Child and Family Centre helped bring the community together during the pandemic to inspire other programs and share the journey.

Q: How did the project originate?

Wit'suwit'en Child and Family Centre were able to access land-based funding to do several culturally supportive events with land-based items.

Together, with the input of Elders and community members, they decided to engage families and Indigenous early learning and child care program to work on the pole project.

The team organizing the event was very careful to follow protocols around choosing the pole log, cutting, dragging, and engagement of the community and artist in the occasion.

On July 1st they found the pole. A video link has been provided where you can see it knocked down and brought to the parking lot for the dragging ceremony. This includes the Wet'suwet'en territory and Likhsilyu territory blessing from

Elder Hagwilhneklh (Ron Mitchell).

Video link

<https://youtu.be/apkwR6LBYmQ>

The carver, James Madam, was invited to participate with the engagement of families and came up with the design for the pole from the outcomes of that meeting.

There is still much to do. James continues to carve, in an open space, so that the community can watch and be part of the process.

Once the pole is finished there will be a raising ceremony and then a potlach feast.

Q: How has the project supported children, families, and the community?



It brought people together in a different way and sparked conversations that people wouldn't normally have. It also increased interest in the existing Totem poles in community. It helped support a lot more interactivity between parents and children.

Q: Did you have to take any special precautions because of the pandemic?

Because it is a large outside area the carver was able to place himself so that not too many precautions were needed other than basic distancing and mask wearing.

Q: How long will the project take?

The project was started in September and the completion is anticipated in March 2022. Sometime in September 2022 the raising ceremony and feast will take place.

Q: Do you have any suggestions about how other programs can support important cultural projects like this in their own communities?

Don't be afraid to talk to your leadership and Elders and collaborate with Elders and families. Just ask and start interest in the project and get information about following protocols and finding ways to make something like this happen.

Q: What has been your biggest take away from the project so far?

A sense of pride from children, families, and the community. A huge bolster to the community during the pandemic. It was the first time for many to witness a dragging ceremony in their community.

This project will live in the community for a long time. When the families and community members who have been part of this event see the pole in the future I imagine that it will bring them pride and that there will be stories told about the events 30 years from now.

Photo credits: Wit'suwit'en Child and Family Centre



Caring for Our Children is published by the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (BCACCS). It is distributed to BCACCS members, on and off reserve child care centres, Head Start programs, Bands and Tribal Councils in BC and individuals interested in Indigenous early childhood education and care.

Readers are invited to reprint articles provided proper credit is given. We welcome the submission of articles, book reviews, artwork, photos, letters and poetry.

We acknowledge current funding support from The BC Ministry of Children and Family Development. BCACCS is a proud affiliate of the Canadian Child Care Federation (CCCC). BCACCS membership also means membership with the CCCC, including automatic subscription to the CCCC *Interaction* magazine.

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Our provincial office is located on the unceded territories of the (X^wməθk^wəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓wxwú7mesh (Squamish) and sə̓lilwətaʔt/se̓lilwutlh (Tsleil-Waututh).



BECOME A MEMBER

Membership at BCACCS provides a provincial forum to network and share ideas regarding Aboriginal child care and child development issues. Direct benefits and privileges of membership include:

- Free annual subscription to the Society's quarterly newsletter "Caring for Our Children"
- Resource Library borrowing privileges, with access to more than 1400 child-focused books, articles and videos, as well as BCACCS ECE curriculum boxes (including Moe the Mouse®)
- Discounted rate on BCACCS publications
- Discounted rate on registration for the BCACCS Annual Provincial Training Conference
- The ability to participate and vote on the business of the Society
- Membership with the Canadian Child Care Federation which includes receipt of their quarterly magazine, "Interaction"
- A voice in a professional Aboriginal organization dedicated to quality child care
- Opportunity to support, shape and influence Aboriginal child care policy, research and practice, both provincially and nationally

To learn more visit our website <https://www.acc-society.bc.ca/about/become-a-member/> or contact library@acc-society.bc.ca 604-913-9128 ext. 229.

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Funded by the Province
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Nos enfants : notre richesse