

Saturday  
April 1, 2023



BC Aboriginal  
Child Care Society

# SPRING CONFERENCE

*Every Child is a Gift*

ONLINE EVENT

9:00 am to 4:30pm

Please join us for the day to think together and explore ways we can come together to create supportive environments for our children who experience the world differently.

KEYNOTE

JARED QWUSTENUXUN WILLIAMS

*Father, Husband, Indigenous Foods Activist, Traditional Foods Knowledge Keeper, Award Winning Writer. Jared Qwustenuxun Williams is a passionate Indigenous Foods educator who spent much of his youth with his late grandmother, immersed in Salish culture. After Qwustenuxun graduated from culinary arts he spent a decade working in restaurants across Vancouver island. Before deciding to move back home to Quw'utsun to take the role of Elder's Kitchen Manager at Cowichan Tribes. After more than decade of cooking for his elders Qwustenuxun now works as an Indigenous foods educator, writer, and consultant. Most recently Qwustenuxun was nominated, and won, several Canadian Online Publishing Awards, was also nominated for the 2022 BC Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Award, and led the first smoked salmon project, conducted by the First Nations Health Authority. Which proved that traditional salmon smoking techniques are safe, and effective for food preservation. When he is not working on furthering Salish food sovereignty Qwustenuxun spends his time with his wife and children on their small hobby farm in Quw'utsun.*

<https://register.acc-society.bc.ca/code/register.php?event=70>

## REDIFINING DISABILITY AND INCULSION

### LISE GILLIES

*Lise Gillies is Cree & Métis (English River FN & Métis Nation in Île-à-la-Crosse, Saskatchewan. After a decade of working in BC's largest school district, Surrey, in both Special Education & Aboriginal Education, she now works with the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres as the Indigenous Disability Programs Coordinator. Lise also sits on the Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Board with PHE Canada and as their Lead, Indigenous Knowledge Mobilization & Exchange. Always quick to love, laugh and create, Lise identifies as neuro-diverse and is famous for having too many hobbies and unfinished art projects. She is mama-bear to a 7-year-old daughter Cammie, who is autistic with complex medical needs and is a fierce advocate for disability rights, inclusion, and doodling/drawing at work. Lise lives in beautiful Cowichan Tribes territory in Maple Bay (Vancouver Island).*

#### **Redefining Disability and Inclusion**

With one in three Indigenous Peoples identifying as having diverse abilities, whether physical or neuro-diverse, this workshop will draw on your life experiences as we work together to re-define disability. Exploring topics of inclusion, identity, accessibility, and why language matters, Lise will share from her experience within the disability community from professional, personal and cultural perspectives. Through open conversation and activities, this dynamic session will challenge stereotypes, debunk a few myths and delve into the realm of cultural safety and advocacy through community inclusion initiatives. Resources will be shared.

*We look forward to  
seeing you all.*

SEEING BEYOND - CREATING SPACES, ROUTINES AND CURRICULUM THAT SUPPORTS  
CHILDREN WHO HAVE VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS

DAPHNE HITCHCOCK & SHEILA GRIEVE

*Daphne Hitchcock, BEd, MA: Education of students who have visual impairments, Certified Braille Transcriber, Over the past 40 years, Daphne enjoyed working with low vision and braille reading students, ages 4-19, in BC and Alberta. She contributed to the development and delivery of many projects, including BC's Early Literacy for the Visually Impaired, Braille Pre- School Story Kits and the creation of teaching videos. Daphne, recently retired, now enjoys mentoring teachers of visually impaired and serves as president of Braille Literacy Canada.*

*Sheila Grieve-Metis ECE, MAIS, Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) Professor at Vancouver Island University (VIU). Sheila is passionate about working with students and community members to enrich the field of Early Childhood Education and Care, with a particular focus on learning from the land. She is low-vision (legally blind) and looks forward to sharing her lived experience with you.*

**Seeing Beyond - creating spaces, routines and curriculum that supports children who have visual impairments**

Together we will explore concepts of universal design in physical spaces and in early years curriculum. While this workshop focuses on children with visual differences the information shared will be relevant to most children and programs. A combination of theory and practical skills will be reviewed.

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## FINE MOTOR DEVELOPMENT

### TARA-LEIGH CAIN

*Tara graduated from McMaster University with a Psychology degree in 1996 and after years of working with children and travelling through Europe, she returned to school for her Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy at UBC. Her love of working with children of all abilities was apparent since she was in high school so it wasn't hard to make the decision to dedicate her focus to Pediatrics when she graduated. It also wasn't hard to determine where she wanted to pursue her career. Hiking, cycling, camping and running have always been a part of her life so it seemed fitting when she moved to Squamish in 2006. Life can't get much better than having the mountains and trails right in her backyard. Tara is on the Registry of Autism Service Providers and is registered to provide Occupational Therapy services through the At Home Program with the Ministry of Children and Family and through the Community Brain Injury Program for Children and Youth in BC. She is a contract worker with Douglas First Nations at Xa'xsta school where she has worked in all of the communities since 2015. She is also a contract worker with Squamish First Nations. Tara has two beautiful children who share her love for the outdoors and they are often outside hiking, biking or camping. Children play for a living and Tara bases her therapy sessions around play: play with a purpose. As a mother of two children, Tara has both the personal and professional knowledge of child development.*

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## Fine Motor Development

The term fine motor skill refers to the ability to use the small muscles that control the movements of fingers, hands and wrists. For some

children fine motor skills are easily learned; however, for others, learning how to colour, hold a pencil, cut with scissors, complete a maze and put together a puzzle can become an overwhelming task. The development of fine motor skills is necessary for learning how to read and to write. It is also important for the functional activities such as getting dressed independently (buttons, zippers, lacing). This presentation will include information on fine motor development from birth to school age and will provide ideas and activities to take back to your centre to help develop motor skills in a fun and engaging way.

The goals of this workshop is to provide a detailed look at the development of fine motor skills and how they can impact school readiness and school success.

The first half of the presentation will provide the attendants with information on fine motor development and will allow the opportunity for open discussion and asking questions. The second half of the presentation will be based on the theory of fine motor development that was presented in the first half and it will be more interactive with audience participation. We will be creating toys and activities that can be developed using household items and determining how these certain activities can help development motor skills.

CERTIFICATE OF  
PARTICIPATION:  
6 CREDITS

INCLUDING DOOR  
PRIZES

*We look forward to  
seeing you all.*