

We are one:

Holding Each Other Up



BCACCS Annual Training Conference



BC **Aboriginal**
ChildCare Society

February 8, 9 & 10th, 2024
Westin Bayshore Hotel
Vancouver, BC

Welcome



BC **Aboriginal**
Child Care Society



Welcome to the 2024 BCACCS Annual Provincial Fall Conference, “We Are One: Holding Each Other Up”. In the spirit of fostering capacity enhancement within Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care (IELCC), our conference theme has been carefully chosen to invoke collaboration, share experiences, and illuminate pathways to progress.

The IELCC landscape plays an integral role in nurturing the well-being of our Indigenous children, upholding cultural heritage, and nurturing resilient communities. Yet, our sector grapples with multifaceted challenges, from navigating intricate funding dynamics to operating in geographically isolated regions.



This conference serves as a vital platform to address these concerns and chart a course towards empowering our children, families, educators, and communities. The workshops and keynotes presented will touch on leadership development, cultural continuity, language revitalization, holistic approaches to child care, community engagement, and the integration of Indigenous knowledge and practices. We have encouraged our presenters to share their successes, challenges, and lessons learned, providing practical and actionable insights that you will be able to apply to your own contexts.

Mussi cho,

Mary Teegee, President
Karen Isaac, Executive Director
BC Aboriginal Child Care Society

We are one:
lifting each other up

Schedule at a glance

Thursday February 8th, 2024

Blessing of the Food - Breakfast
7:30 - 8:30am

Call for Witnesses
8:30 - 9:00am

Welcome to the Territory, Conference
Opening,
9:00am - 10:00am

Health Break
10:00 - 10:30

Keynote and Perry Shawana Award
10:30 - 11:30

Lunch
11:30 - 12:30pm

A Workshops
12:30 - 2:30pm

Health Break
2:30 - 3:00

B Workshops
3:00 - 4:30pm

- **A1 Indigenous Cultural Safety and & Humility**
- **A2 How to Tell an Epic Story**
- **A3 Part 1: Aansaambaenkiskayhtaamuk – Learning Together**
- **A4 Raising Language Speakers: Boosting the Language Component of your Early Childhood Program**
- **A5 Weaving Conversations in a Circular Frame**
- **A6 Ministry of Education and Child Care**
- **A7 Part 1: Field Trip - Squamish Nation - Mother Bear Child Development Centre**
- **B1 Squamish Storytelling using Hand Puppets and Sign Language**
- **B2 Uncovering the Layers: How does Vulnerability show up in Inclusion?**
- **B3 Part 2: Aansaambaenkiskayhtaamuk – Learning Together**
- **B4 Start Where You Are: An Introduction to Mindfulness Meditation**
- **B5 Creating Indigenous Story Baskets-what is inspiring story telling in your program?**
- **B6 Capital Projects: Building Opportunities for Early Learning and Child Care**
- **B7 Part 2: Field Trip - Squamish Nation - Mother Bear Child Development Centre**

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Schedule at a Glance

Friday February 9th, 2024

Blessing of the Food - Breakfast
7:30 - 8:30am

MC Welcome and Child Care Awards
8:15 - 9:00am

Keynote
9:00am - 10:00am

Health Break
10:00 - 10:30

C Workshops
10:30 - 12:00

Lunch
12:00 - 1:00pm

D Workshops
1:00pm - 2:30pm

Health Break
2:30 - 3:00

E Workshops
3:00 - 4:30

- **C1 Finding Purpose: The Faith Ability Strength Determination Within**
- **C2 Sharing Our Story - Learning Outside Together**
- **C3 Part 1: Trauma Aware Communication**
- **C4 Yukon First Nation Education Directorate the Early Years: Bringing Culture into Life**
- **C5 Part 1: Leadership in Indigenous Early Years**
- **C6 Finding Strength in Families**
- **C7 Part 1: Field Trip - Squamish Nation - Mother Bear Child Development Centre**
- **D1 Yukon First Nations Education Directorate the Early Years: Creating Safe Spaces for Families and Community**
- **D2 Part 1: Make & Take Workshop: Traditional Foods Cultural Kit**
- **D3 Part 2: Trauma Aware Communication**
- **D4 Part 1: The Creative Lives of Teachers: Navigating Creativity as a Lifelong Learner**
- **D5 Part 2: Leadership in Indigenous Early Years**
- **D6 Inspiring Stories: How Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Funding can Impact Children and Families in your Community**
- **D7 Part 2: Field Trip - Squamish Nation - Mother Bear Child Development Centre**
- **E1 Powwow Dancing for Children**
- **E2 Part 2: Make & Take Workshop: Traditional Foods Cultural Kit**
- **E3 Tea Traditions**
- **E4 Part 2: The Creative Lives of Teachers: Creative Wellness, Self-care Creating Routine Emphasis on Mental Well-Being**
- **E6 Part 3: Leadership in Indigenous Early Years**
- **E6 Calming the Storm**
- **E7 Fun Ways to Incorporate Culture into your Programs and Classrooms**

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Schedule at a Glance

Saturday February 10th, 2024

Blessing of the Food - Breakfast
7:30 - 8:30am

MC Welcome and Cultural Sharing
8:30 - 9:30am

Keynote Speaker
9:30 - 10:30am

Health Break
10:30 - 11:00am

F Workshops
11:00am - 12:30pm

Lunch
12:30-1:30pm

Closing Keynote
1:30-2:30pm

Closing
2:30 - 3:30pm

- **F1 An Indigenous Perspective to Supporting Children and Families with Autism and Neuro-diverse Needs.**
- **F2 Self-Compassion Your Inner Ally**
- **F3 Relationship to Land**
- **F4 Making Music for Fun...Taking it Outdoors!**
- **F5 Administration: Taking the Pain out of Budgeting**
- **F6 Jordan's Principle Reflection Panel**
- **F7 Make & Take Workshop: Legend of Temlahamid Cultural Felt Board Story**

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Elders

BCACCS is honored to be welcoming our Elders to our 26th Annual Conference *We Are One: Holding Each Other Up*. Our Elders are vital in our communities, and share with us their knowledge, wisdom, and cultural learnings. The Elders hold space for great learning and connection. We are honoured to have them with us and for helping us to hold up our conference community.



XiQuelem Eugene Harry
Cowichan



Bertha Cardinal
Cree Woman



Sempulyan Stewart Gonzales
Squamish
Kaxte' yvonne Tumungaday
Skowkale



Spec?ci Amelia Washington
Nte?kepmx

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Keynote Speakers

Thursday February 8th 2024

Opening Keynote ~ Chief Lydia Hwitsum

Chief Hwitsum has more than 30 years of experience in leadership positions in Indigenous governance in British Columbia and throughout Canada. Chief Hwitsum has served as a member of the Royal Roads University Board of Governors, held board positions on the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development, the BC Land Title and Survey Authority, and the BC Capacity Initiative Council. She is a former Chair of the First Nations Health Council and the former Chair of the First Nations Health Authority.

Chief Hwitsum holds a Certificate of Administration of Aboriginal Governments and a Diploma in Public Sector Management from the University of Victoria, as well as dispute resolution training from the BC Justice Institute. She holds a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Victoria.

Chief Hwitsum was elected in June 2019 to a second term on the First Nations Summit Political Executive, which is mandated to carry out specific tasks related to Aboriginal Title and Rights negotiations with British Columbia and Canada and other issues of common concern to First Nations in British Columbia. She previously served on the FNS Political Executive from 2002-2004.

Friday February 9th 2024

Morning Keynote: Denise Augustine

What is Your Why?

Swee'alt (Denise Augustine), a hul'q'umi'num woman of mixed ancestry, lives in the Cowichan Valley on Vancouver Island; the unceded lands of the Hul'q'umi'num people. Denise is currently a Secondee with the Ministry of Education and Child Care, where she serves as the Superintendent of Indigenous Education. As the Superintendent, she drives and supports large structural change by providing leadership to the Ministry, across school districts, with the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC), and other education partners to develop strategies, programs and policies to improve educational experiences, cultural safety, and academic outcomes for Indigenous learners. Her leadership supports the Ministry in meeting the commitments made in the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan.

Separate from the Ministry, Denise is a participating board member of Learning Forward, an international organization that works to build capacity in educators and sets a global standard for professional learning that serves all students. With over 25 years as an educator, a recipient of the Inspire Indigenous Educator Award for leadership, and a recipient of the University of Victoria Alumni Award, Denise is a passionate champion for systemic changes that support Equity for Indigenous learners province-wide.

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BC **Aboriginal**
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Keynote Speakers

Saturday February 10th 2024

Morning Keynote : Myles Himmelreich

Mr. Himmelreich is a researcher, published author and Disabilities Consultant. For close to twenty years Myles has presented nationally and internationally to a variety of audiences including researchers, scientists, educators and law enforcement, support workers and most importantly caregivers and individuals.

Being able to share not only his professional knowledge but also from a personal living perspective as a neurodiverse individual has allowed Myles to connect and engage with audiences in an open and honest way. Besides training and presentations Myles also does one on one, online and in person mentorship for teens and adults with neurodiverse learning.

Saturday February 10th 2024

Closing Keynote : Len Pierre

Leading the Change: Self-Care and Community-Care During Times of Transformation

In the realm of Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care, where the nurturing of well-being, preservation of cultural traditions, and the construction of resilient communities converge, the concept of capacity enhancement becomes paramount. This keynote will delve into the profound recognition that our children, families, communities, and educators are reservoirs of essential strengths. It explores how these strengths can be nurtured, expanded, and harnessed to ensure the delivery of high-quality, culturally responsive child care services that continually adapt to the evolving needs of Indigenous children and families.

Len Pierre will provide valuable insights into the crucial aspects of self-care, team-care and decolonial leadership. As early childhood educators navigate times of transformation Len will share practical strategies, personal stories, and culturally grounded approaches to empower educators in fostering resilience within themselves and their communities.

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Schedule Day 1

Thursday February 8th, 2024

A Workshops

12:30 - 2:30pm

A1

Indigenous Cultural Safety and Humility

Harley Eagle

Salon B

Provides a deeper understanding of the impact of colonization on all of us and our bodies through the lens of Somatics. This workshop also provides an interactive example of skill building for individuals through the lens of Somatics to increase personal capacity.

Harley Eagle is an Indigenous facilitator and consultant who leads virtual or in-person workshops, and presentations and provides consulting services on topics such as Cultural Safety & Humility, Indigenous Peoples' history, Colonization, a Decolonized Approach to Trauma-Informed Practice (TIP) and Understanding Systemic Racism. Harley designs and delivers workshops from an Indigenous Cultural Safety & Humility perspective and practice.

A2

How to Tell an Epic Story

Maureen Caley-Verdonk

Salon F

YOUR epic story is a reflection of your experiences and journeys. Storytelling encompasses far more than just words, it is a multi-dimensional art form that engages our senses, emotions, and imagination to create a compelling narrative and connect us with others in profound ways. In this session participants will learn how to address fears and doubts about sharing their voice, get clear on what you want to say and deliver your message powerfully and memorably!

Maureen encourages people to share stories from different backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives. She offers guidance, structure and storytelling techniques in a supportive environment where voices are heard and respected.

Schedule Day 1

Thursday February 8th, 2024

A Workshops 12:30 - 2:30pm

A3

Part 1 - Aansaambaenkiskayhtaamuk - Learning Together

Jocelyn Stuart

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 3 (level 2)

This workshop aligns with the MNBC Cultural Kits and the learning guide that accompanies the resources to support both Metis and Non-Metis early learning and child care professionals to integrate Metis content and pedagogy into their work with young children. Our intent is to promote learning environments in which Metis culture is recognized and celebrated. Through sharing the resources and information within these kits, participants will walk away with knowledge to support them to further incorporate these Metis specific teaching into their programming.

Jocelyn Stuart is the Metis Family Connections Navigator and Metis Child Care Navigation and Support Coordinator in the Kootenay region, and lives as a grateful settler on the traditional lands of the Sinixt people. Holding a diploma in Early Childhood Education and in the early learning field for 13 years, Jocelyn has held various roles supporting Indigenous children and families throughout her career. She carries with her facilitation experience and a sound knowledge of child development.

Jocelyn comes from a background of mixed Scottish settler and Gitxsan ancestry of the Fireweed Clan; and is the mother to a teenager and two bonus, pre-teen children. She enjoys spending time with her partner and children, playing golf or being on the land enjoying and connecting to our beautiful Mother Earth.

A4

Raising Language Speakers: Boosting the Language Component of your Early Childhood Program

Beckie Wesley, Dakota Anderberg

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon1 (level 2)

Do you work with Indigenous and First Nations children in an early care and learning setting? Have you wanted to include more Indigenous language teaching in the program but don't know how? Drawing on strategies and inspired practices from the popular Language Nest model, this workshop shares practical tips and tools for increasing the quantity and quality of Indigenous language in your program – even if you don't have a fluent speaker present!

First Peoples' Cultural Council works with First Nations communities in B.C. to build the vitality of our cherished Languages, Arts, Cultures and Heritage – today and for the future. Beckie is a Program Associate with the Youth Empowered Speakers program and Dakota is a Program Navigator with the Pathways program which offers preschool immersion language nests.

Schedule Day 1

Thursday February 8th, 2024

A Workshops 12:30 - 2:30pm

A5

Weaving Conversations in a Circular Frame

Sheila Grieve

Salon D

Come join the conversation and share your successes, challenges, and some of what is happening at your program. Thoughts will be shared while completing a circular weaving; each participant will create their own weaving, all supplies provided. Bring ideas on any topics you would like to discuss in a small group, there will be conversation starters at each table. Guests from Human Early Learning Partnership and Promoting Early Childhood Outside will be at some of the tables.

Sheila Grieve, ECE, BPE, MAIS, is a Metis woman who has been involved in the field of ECE for 40ish years in various roles. She loves children, plants, fibre, stories and learning from the land.

A6

Ministry of Education and Child Care - ChildCareBC

Ministry of Education and Child Care

Salon E

The presentation will be an overview of provincial ChildCareBC programs and services and Declaration Act Action Item 4.19

Tam Scott (Manager Indigenous Child Care Policy) and Melanie Foster (Manager Inclusive Child Care Policy)

It Takes a
BIG heart
to shape a growing mind

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Schedule Day 1

Thursday February 8th, 2024

A Workshops 12:30 - 2:30pm



Pt 1 Field Trip - Squamish Nation – Mother Bear

Tanya Brown

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 2 (level 2)

This workshop has two parts A7 & B7. Delegates will need to register for both parts.

Join us for a day of learning as we tour Mother Bear Child Development Centre Capilano and observe wrap around services provided by Squamish Nation from early intervention therapies, parent education & supports, and assessment.

The Mother Bear Development Centre Programs provide proactive prevention and education strategies to all Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw families. The three centres — two in North Vancouver (Mother Bear, Mother Bear Capilano) and one in Squamish Valley (Ayas Lam) — have regularly-scheduled programs with a team of specialists and staff to assist families, providing one-on-one support, workshops, and other activities.

The team coordinates and promotes a year-round schedule of programs designed to help parents and children learn about life skills, family dynamics, and to receive training in the Squamish language, cultural, social, and family traditions.

The purpose is to:

- Protect and strengthen Indigenous families, with children 0-6
- Provide quality, culturally specific parenting and child development programming, to all Indigenous families on- and off-reserve on the North Shore, through the six components of Head Start:
 - Culture & Language
 - Education
 - Health Promotion
 - Nutrition
 - Parent & Family Involvement
 - Social Support

In keeping with a First Nations perspective, Head Start takes a holistic approach. The programs are built around the whole child and are responsive to the community environment within which the child is growing up.

Please only sign up for one day of field trips over the course of the conference (Pt1 & Pt 2) in order to share these unique opportunities with as many delegates as possible.

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**BC Aboriginal
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Schedule Day 1

Thursday February 8th, 2024

B Workshops 3:00 - 4:30pm

B1

Squamish Storytelling using Hand Puppets and Sign Language

Stewart Gonzales

Salon B

Sempulyan started incorporating the use of sign language gestures with basic Squamish language phrases with the intention of giving the children's brains to develop further thus giving them an opportunity for them to succeed.

Stewart Gonzales (Sempulyan), has been working with Aboriginal children for over 15 years, getting his education of the Child & Youth Care Diploma at Douglas College. Sempulyan is one of the Eagles Nest Aboriginal Head Start Elders.

B2

Uncovering the Layers: How does Vulnerability show up in Inclusion?

Karen Lai

Salon E

Inclusion is a complex word, and it is filled with different layers, along with meanings. This webinar will be interactive in nature where we shift our culture of thinking to new heights. This session will provide the space to have conversations about the meanings of inclusion and how do we embed it throughout the work we do.

Karen Lai works as an independent consultant in accessibility and inclusion. She works with businesses and organizations to increase the accessibility and inclusion of people with disabilities. She holds a Master of Arts in Human Kinetics where she examined the social theories behind social inclusion of people with disabilities.

It is her belief that inclusion has so many layers but enjoys working with individuals, companies, organizations, and municipalities to work towards building an inclusive environment. Since birth, Karen has lived with Cerebral Palsy which has caused her to encounter barriers in every aspect of her life. However, because of her lived experience, she has a strong passion to ensure that we all work together to build inclusive spaces so that every person is valued and respected.

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Schedule Day 1

Thursday February 8th, 2024

B Workshops

3:00 - 4:30pm

B3

Part 2 - Aansaambaenkiskayhtaamuk - Learning Together

Jocelyn Stuart

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 3 (level 2)

Aansaambaenkiskayhtaamuk - Learning Together. This workshop aligns with the MNBC Cultural Kits and the learning guide that accompanies the resources to support both Metis and Non-Metis early learning and child care professionals to integrate Metis content and pedagogy into their work with young children. Our intent is to promote learning environments in which Metis culture is recognized and celebrated. Through sharing the resources and information within these kits participants will walk away with knowledge to support them to further incorporate these Metis specific teaching into their programming. Presenter Bio in A3.

B4

Start Where you Are: An Introduction to Mindfulness Meditation

Maureen Caley-Verdonk

Salon F

This experiential session has been designed to introduce you to (or inspire you to continue) the practice of meditation. Mindfulness is about cultivating a non-judgmental awareness of the present moment and developing a compassionate relationship with your thoughts and experiences. This session includes a guided meditation practice.

Mindfulness is a quality that becomes stronger with repetition and familiarity. By consistently engaging in mindful meditation, you train your mind to be present and cultivate a state of mindfulness more effortlessly.

Maureen encourages people to share stories from different backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives. She offers guidance, structure and storytelling techniques in a supportive environment where voices are heard and respected.

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Schedule Day 1

Thursday February 8th, 2024

B Workshops 3:00 - 4:30pm

B5

Creating Indigenous Story Baskets-What is Inspiring Story Telling in your Program?

Sheila Grieve & Danielle Alphonse

Salon D

Inspired by Jo-ann Archibalds Indigenous Storywork, this workshop will encourage knowledge sharing between participants as we work on story baskets that will be unique to each program. What cultural stories are being shared with the children in our programs? How does seasonality affect the stories that are told? What are the interests of the children and how could a story basket encourage exploration of these interests? Come and create your own felted wool story basket and finger puppet set. Supplies provided. (see presenter bio in A5)

Sheila Grieve, ECE, BPE, MAIS, is a Metis woman who has been involved in the field of ECE for 40ish years in various roles. She loves children, plants, fibre, stories and learning from the land.

Danielle is Cowichan & Irish on her mother's side and Kahnawake, Welsh, Scottish on her father's side. She is currently in her tenth year as the BC Regional Innovation Chair for Aboriginal Early Childhood Development at Vancouver Island University. Daniells teaches in the Early Childhood Education and Care program. Her educational background is: Early Childhood Education, Child and Youth Care, and Education. Currently working on her Interdisciplinary doctorate (CYC & Education) at University of Victoria.

B6

Capital Projects: Building Opportunities for Early Learning and Child Care

Lisa Fenton & IELCC Team

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 1 (level 2)

Learn about upcoming opportunities for funding for Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care (IELCC) Capital Projects through the IELCC program. Gain an understanding of the process of planning a project, the phases and things to consider. Also, hear from Nations and/or organizations who have completed capital projects or who have completed planning for a large project.

Lisa Fenton- Lisa Fenton is a grateful visitor on the traditional territory of the WSANEC peoples. She is Métis, Scottish and Irish. Lisa has worked with children and families for over 20 years. She is an Infant and Toddler Educator and holds a BA in Child and Youth Care. Lisa brings her experience and education to the Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Framework Initiative.

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**BC Aboriginal
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Schedule Day 1

Thursday February 8th, 2024

B Workshops 3:00 - 4:30pm

B7

Pt 2. Field Trip – Squamish Nation Mother Bear
Tanya Brown
Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 2 (level 2)

See A7 : This is Part 2 of the morning workshop: delegates register for both parts as it will take time to travel to and from location.

Join us for a day of learning as we tour Mother Bear Child Development Centre Capilano and observe wrap around services provided by Squamish Nation from early intervention therapies, parent education & supports, and assessment.

Remember to Check out the Vendor Tables !

We have a great group of vendors this year offering treasures, teaching resources and community partnerships! Our vendors are open during conference hours, so fill out your vendor passport, get to see what they have to offer, and maybe win a prize!

End of Day One Workshops -
we hope you enjoyed the
learning experiences today.
Please remember to take
a moment and complete the
surveys online

*"Children don't remember what
you try to teach them. They
remember what you are."*

~ Jim Henson, *It's Not Easy Being Green: And Other
Things to Consider*



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Schedule Day 2

Friday February 9th, 2024

C Workshops 10:30 - 12:00 noon



Finding Purpose: The Faith Ability Strength Determination Within

Myles Himmelreich

Salon B

Participants will gain insight to better understand the day-to-day challenges faced by individuals with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), Myles shares the strategies and techniques he uses in his own life as a neurodiverse learner.

With visuals and hands on experiences participants will come to understand things like Sensory Processing, Developmental vs Chronological growth, understanding of cause and effect and much more. Participants will walk away being able to see this invisible whole body diagnosis and the strengths of those with the living experience.

Mr. Himmelreich is a researcher, published author and Disabilities Consultant. For close to twenty years Myles has presented nationally and internationally to a variety of audiences including researchers, scientists, educators and law enforcement, support workers and most importantly caregivers and individuals.

Being able to share not only his professional knowledge but also from a personal living perspective as a neurodiverse individual has allowed Myles to connect and engage with audiences in an open and honest way. Besides training and presentations Myles also does one on one, online and in person mentorship for teens and adults with neurodiverse learning. learning.

Inclusion is the celebration of diversity in action

Schedule Day 2

Friday February 9th, 2024

C Workshops 10:30 - 12:00 noon

C2

Sharing Our Story- Learning Outside Together Learning Outside Together (LOT) Mentors **Salon F**

Join us to learn more about Learning Outside Together (LOT): Incorporating Traditional Wisdom and Promising Practices to Futureproof Child Care Programs. LOT is an online professional development program and so much more. It is a growing community of ECEs dedicated to upholding the values of two-eyed seeing, Land as Teacher, and working together to support children's relationships with land.

This workshop is presented by ECEs who have participated in the LOT program. Each of us will share our perspectives of how this program has impacted us and our practice and suggest ideas of how you can implement the concepts of LOT in your program.

The Learning Outside Together (LOT) project is a joint partnership between the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (BCACCS), the Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC), and the Social Research and Demonstration Corporation (SRDC). It is intended to incorporate traditional wisdom of Land as Teacher and promising practices related outdoor learning, to futureproof ECL primarily through the development and delivery of an outdoor learning training program for early childhood educators (ECEs).

C3

Part 1: Trauma Aware Communication Kate Toye **Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 3 (level 2)**

Being aware of how trauma presents in people is a critical skill for anyone, including family support professionals. In this workshop, we will learn about ourselves, explore how we perceive and filter information, and learn communication strategies that are based on understanding trauma.

Through self-compassion and non-judgmental activities, we will explore how people perceive and filter information, learn communication strategies that are based on a better understanding of ourselves, our feelings, our needs and our internal dialogue.

Kate Toye is a self-compassion coach that weaves together mindfulness, somatic parts work, intuitive coaching with Compassionate Inquiry. Kate continues to deepen her practice in understanding trauma and sharing with others how to love and accept oneself unconditionally.

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Schedule Day 2

Friday February 9th, 2024

C Workshops 10:30 - 12:00 noon

C4

Yukon First Nation Education Directorate the Early Years. Bringing Culture into Life

Coralee Buchanan

Salon E

Coralee Buchanan will give a program overview with a combination of speech, video and slides. She will speak as to why the Early Years Program with Yukon First Nation Education Directorate (YFNED) is so important to Indigenous families and how it is a holistic approach to early intervention in capacities including but not limited to: child development and enhancing parenting skills which may result in breaking cycles of intergenerational trauma all while teaching and maintaining cultural traditions. This will be followed by a hands-on cultural activity simulating a group gathering which we practice in the program.

Coralee is a lifelong Yukoner of both Metis and Settler decent. She has raised two beautiful children in both rural and urban Yukon. She is an ECLC and have had many experiences over the years with everything from having her own day home to working for the Yukon Government. Coralee has found my sweet spot with Yukon First Nation Education Directorate in the Early Years. She enjoys working with Indigenous families and accompanying them in their individual parenting journeys to both understand child development as well as ensure their child has enriched cultural experiences while learning and growing.

C5

Part 1 - Leadership in Indigenous Early years

Wendy Kenward & Klara Schoenfeld; BCACCS

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 1 (level 2)

The day-to-day work of leading a team can be both highly rewarding, and also sometimes challenging. In this interactive workshop we will focus on building on those things that inspire us as leaders and explore what works and does not work in our teams and environments.

We will ask reflective questions to uncover what is going to support us and help us to grow as leaders. We will look at how we can lead in a positive and supportive way that will better help our communities, families and the children.

Wendy & Klara are Provincial Child Care Advisors with the Aboriginal Child Care Resource & Referral Program at BCACCS.

Schedule Day 2

Friday February 9th, 2024

C Workshops 10:30 - 12:00 noon

C6

Finding Strength in Families: Overview to Colonization and Decolonization and Cultural Safety Strategies

Rona Sterling-Collins

Salon D

The facilitator will provide an overview to colonization and its impact on Indigenous children, families and communities utilizing a wholistic framework. She will highlight some of the key social challenges facing Indigenous families. She will provide an overview to decolonization and have participants give thought to their role in it. She will discuss cultural safety strategies that can be incorporated into practice. Rona will share practical ideas to support children and families within diverse Indigenous cultures and community contexts.

Rona Sterling-Collins, Quist'letko from the Nl̓eʔkepmx Nation. Rona was raised on her ancestral land, Joeyaska First Nation in her Nation and continues to reside there among her extended family. She is married and has two adult children and a granddaughter. Her son Wyatt has autism, which challenged her to become an advocate for him and other Indigenous children and adults with developmental disabilities.

She has a Master's Degree in Social Work. In 1996, she started a Consulting Business – and works as an Indigenous Consultant. Rona has had the honour of working with many Indigenous organizations and communities and championed many projects and initiatives. Rona approaches her life from a wholistic perspective and promotes this philosophy to continue to create systems of change. She is dedicated to decolonization and indigenization that hold children and families at the heart of her work.

Don't Forget . . .

. . . Vendor Door Prize Passports!

Take some time and visit the vendors, and have your BCACCS Conference Vendor passport card stamped! Once your card is full, drop it in the box at the registration desk - make sure your name and phone number are on your passport. Several baskets of amazing gifts from the vendors will be drawn on the last day of conference. You won't want to miss out on these amazing prizes!

Schedule Day 2

Friday February 9th, 2024

C Workshops 10:30 - 12:00 noon



Part 1 - Field Trip – Squamish Nation Mother Bear

Tanya Brown

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 2 (level 2)

This workshop has two parts C7 & D7. Delegates will need to register for both parts. Part 1 of this workshop occurs from 10:30am - noon and Part 2 of this workshop takes place from 1:00pm - 2:30pm. Lunch will be provided at the hotel between Part 1 & 2 and a snack will be provided for the off-site portion.

Join us for a day of learning as we tour Mother Bear Child Development Centre Capilano and observe wrap around services provided by Squamish Nation from early intervention therapies, parent education & supports, and assessment.

The Mother Bear Development Centre Programs provide proactive prevention and education strategies to all Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw families. The three centres — two in North Vancouver (Mother Bear, Mother Bear Capilano) and one in Squamish Valley (Ayas Lam) — have regularly-scheduled programs with a team of specialists and staff to assist families, providing one-on-one support, workshops, and other activities.

The team coordinates and promotes a year-round schedule of programs designed to help parents and children learn about life skills, family dynamics, and to receive training in the Squamish language, cultural, social, and family traditions.

The purpose is to:

- Protect and strengthen Indigenous families, with children 0-6
- Provide quality, culturally specific parenting and child development programming, to all Indigenous families on- and off-reserve on the North Shore, through the six components of Head Start:
 - Culture & Language
 - Education
 - Health Promotion
 - Nutrition
 - Parent & Family Involvement
 - Social Support

In keeping with a First Nations perspective, Head Start takes a holistic approach. The programs are built around the whole child and are responsive to the community environment within which the child is growing up.

Please only sign up for one day of field trips over the course of the conference (Pt1 & Pt 2) in order to support us in sharing these unique opportunities with as many delegates as possible.

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BC Aboriginal
Child Care Society

Schedule Day 2

Friday February 9th, 2024

D. Workshops 1:00 - 2:30

D1

Yukon First Nation Education Directorate the Early years: Creating Safe Spaces for Families and Community Coralee Buchanan

Salon B

Through speech, video and slides presenters will provide a brief background description on Yukon First Nation Education Directorate (YFNED) and how the Early Years Program came about. Details about how we have created an inviting, safe and welcoming environment for families to take part in enhancing their parenting journey and express culture. Presenters will also speak to how to reach out to community to find the gaps so a purposeful program can be developed taking into consideration both personal and communal barriers. This will be followed by a hands-on cultural activity.

Coralee is a lifelong Yukoner of both Metis and Settler decent. She has raised two beautiful children in both rural and urban Yukon. She is an ECLC and have had many experiences over the years with everything from having her own day home to working for the Yukon Government. Coralee has found her sweet spot with Yukon First Nation Education Directorate in the Early Years. She enjoys working with Indigenous families and accompanying them in their individual parenting journeys to both understand child development as well as ensure their child has enriched cultural experiences while learning and growing.

D2

Part 1 - Traditional Foods Culture Kit

Pam Moore, Barb Schneider & Liz Kawahara

Salon D One attendee per organization will be eligible to register for this workshop.

During the workshop participants will create materials and resources to build their own traditional foods culture kit. Each person will leave the workshop with a kit including books, a mini smoke house, gathering baskets and berries, canning activity, bentwood box cooking activity, salmon on cedar sticks, felt foods and more. Be prepared to do some fun crafting to create resources. Each activity will also include teachings and ideas how to use the kit with children. All materials and resources are provided.

Pam Moore – Pam is Tsimshian from the Laxkw'alaams First Nation. She has been an ECE for over 30 years having worked for the K'omoks First Nation, Aboriginal Head Start and Qualicum First Nation. She is a recipient of both the BCACCS Childcare Award and the Prime Ministers Award for Excellence in Early Childhood Education.

Barb Schneider – Barb has worked as an ECE for over 20 years. As a past Head Start Co-ordinator she brings a passion for creative, immersive educational experiences to the culture program.

Liz – Is an ECE and graduated VIU with a major in digital media and a minor in First Nation studies. She is skilled in native plant knowledge, sewing, knitting and beading. Liz is also an ECE peer mentor for the Nanaimo Peer mentoring project.

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BC Aboriginal
Child Care Society

Schedule Day 2

Friday February 9th, 2024

D. Workshops 1:00 - 2:30

D3

Part 2 - Trauma Aware Communication

Kate Toye

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 3 (level 2)

Part 2 of C3 - Trauma Aware Communication

D4

Part 1 - The Creative Lives of Teachers: Navigating Creativity as a Lifelong Learner

Maggie Chow

Salon E

Maggie invites educators to the artistic and aesthetic development of art through holistic approaches to creativity. Participants will be experimenting and playing with different art materials, mediums, tools and supports for Early Learning. We will develop a therapeutic presence to express our thoughts and feelings about your work.

Maggie has been teaching art programs and workshops for educators, early learners and school-aged children for over 35 years. She is a full-time visual artist who spent her studio practice between Vancouver and South Okanagan. She is an active member of Expressive Arts Therapy Association a certified Forest Bathing Guide. She is a lifelong learner in art, and eco-literacy and shared an inspired appreciation of the natural world. She is a contributor to a book: Beautiful Stuff 2nd Edition: Beautiful Stuff from Nature.

D5

Part 2 - Leadership in Indigenous Early years

Wendy Kenward & Klara Schoenfeld

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 1 (level 2)

Part 2 of E5 Leadership in Indigenous Early Years

Schedule Day 2

Friday February 9th, 2024

D. Workshops 1:00 - 2:30

D6

Inspiring Stories: How Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Funding can Impact Children and Families in your Community

Tawni Davidson & Jeanne Leeson

Salon F

Hear stories from Nations who have used Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care (IELCC) funding to support children in their community. Learn about their successes and challenges in creating meaningful impacts for their children and families. Get inspired to create positive growth and development in your community.

Tawni Davidson (K'uuga sta xuuga) lives on Haida Gwaii. She is a mother and stepmother to five children. She loves to be outside on the beaches or on the water fishing. Tawni has experience developing and delivering programs for both parents and children in the school district elementary and high schools on Haida Gwaii. Tawni believes in the importance of revitalizing Indigenous languages and supervised the Xaayda Kil Language Nest funded by First Peoples' Cultural Council. Her passion is working with families and children to support their needs.

Jeanne Leeson is originally from Nova Scotia, a descendant of Scottish settlers. She completed her Early Childhood Education training in 1998 and has more than 20 years' experience working in the Early Years sector. This has included child care, outreach, and program development. Jeanne brings her experience and education to the communities of Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Salish regions. In addition to working in child care and early learning settings, Jeanne has experience in community capacity development and the creation of Early Learning and Child Care Programs. Jeanne believes that communities know best how to nurture their children, and that children thrive in environments that reflect their community's values.

D7

Part. 2 - Field Trip - Squamish Nation Mother Bear

Tanya Brown

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 2 (level 2)

See C7 : This is Part 2 of the morning workshop: delegates must register for both parts as it will take time to travel to and from location.

Join us as we tour Mother Bear Child Development Centre Capilano and observe wrap around services provided by Squamish Nation from early intervention therapies, parent education & supports, and assessment.

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Schedule Day 2

Friday February 9th, 2024

E. Workshops 3:00 - 4:30

E1

Powwow Dancing for Children

White Buffalo - Will Visser & Dorothy Visser

Salon B

In this interactive workshop participants will learn how Will and Dorothy work with the children from Eagles Nest and Singing Frog Aboriginal Head Start Preschool to incorporate language, culture, and dance into the programs. Together we will get up, get laughing and practice a few steps together.

White Buffalo also know 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.

E2

Part 2 - Traditional Foods Culture Kit

Pam Moore, Barb Schneider & Liz Kawahara

Salon D

Part 2 of D2: Traditional Foods Culture Kit.

During this workshop participants will create materials and resources to build their own traditional foods culture kit. Each person will leave the workshop with a kit including books, a mini smoke house, gathering baskets and berries, canning activity, bentwood box cooking activity, salmon on cedar sticks, felt foods and more. Be prepared to do some fun crafting to create resources. Each activity will also include teachings and ideas how to use the kit with children. All materials and resources are provided.

One attendee per organization will be eligible to register for this workshop.

"Indigenous children in BC have a moral and legal right to the traditional foods that nourish their bodies and spirits. This includes consuming traditional foods, as well as learning from Elders and other knowledge keepers to harvest, prepare, give thanks and share the foods that are integral to their cultural heritage. " PHSA, 2019.

Provincial Health Services Authority. (2016). Increasing Indigenous Children's Access to Traditional Foods in Early Childhood Programs. Vancouver, B.C.: Provincial Health Services Authority, Population and Public Health Program



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Schedule Day 2

Friday February 9th, 2024

E. Workshops 3:00 - 4:30

E3

Tea Traditions

Sheila Grieve

Salon F

Join in a conversation about tea time with children; how we can use tea and tisane drinks to support children's holistic growth, creating tisane blends with children, safety considerations and so much more. Bring a favorite tea cup to the workshop or use the ones provided!

Sheila Grieve, ECE, BPE, MAIS, is a Metis woman who has been involved in the field of ECE for 40ish years in various roles. She loves children, plants, fibre, stories and learning from the land.

E4

Part 2 - Creative Wellness. Self-care Creating Routine Emphasis on Mental Well-Being

Maggie Chow

Salon E

This workshop is Part 2 of D4.

In this art workshop attendees will be learning to maintain balance with emotional well-being. Facilitated by a certified creative wellness guide, based on healing traditions, the expressive arts, positive psychology, and neuroscience advances to enable free expression in safe environments. Maggie will offer the opportunity for an approach to Art Journaling as an Expressive Arts Practice. We will discover mark making and Forest Bathing in mindfulness practices. This workshop is enjoyable and meaningful. No art skills experience is necessary, just an open mind to learn and play. (See D4 for full presenter bio.)

E5

Pt.3 Leadership in Indigenous Early years

Wendy Kenward & Klara Schoenfeld

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 1 (level 2)

Part 3 (C5 : Pt. 1 & D5: Pt. 2)

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Schedule Day 2

Friday February 9th, 2024

E. Workshops 3:00 - 4:30

E6

Calming The Storm: Sensory Regulation and Wellness for Children and Families From a Wholistic Perspective

Rona Sterling-Collins

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 2 (level 2)

The purpose of this workshop is to provide positive ideas for self-regulation for kids and to discuss wellness ideas for parents and service providers. The facilitator will share ideas from a wholistic perspective for regulation and wellness that are helpful to children, families and the work place. Child and youth mental health resources will be shared. There will be highlights around parental and adult stress including the impacts of COVID and the importance of self-care for parents and service providers. The theme of cultural safety will be integrated into this workshop.

Rona Sterling-Collins, Quist'letko from the Nl̓eʔkepmx Nation. Rona was raised on her ancestral land, Joeyaska First Nation in her Nation and continues to reside there among her extended family. She is married and has two adult children and a granddaughter. Her son Wyatt has autism, which challenged her to become an advocate for him and other Indigenous children and adults with developmental disabilities.

She has a Master's Degree in Social Work. In 1996, she started a Consulting Business – and works as an Indigenous Consultant. Rona has had the honour of working with many Indigenous organizations and communities and championed many projects and initiatives.

Rona approaches her life from a wholistic perspective and promotes this philosophy to continue to create systems of change. She is dedicated to decolonization and indigenization that hold children and families at the heart of her work.

"There is a longing among all people and creatures to have a sense of purpose and worth. To satisfy that common longing in all of us we must respect each other."

Chief Dan George

Schedule Day 2

Friday February 9th, 2024

E. Workshops 3:00 - 4:30

E7

Fun ways to Incorporate Culture into your Programs and Classrooms

Barbara Niemi, Alyson Guno, Zoey Starr, & Pam Guno

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 3 (level 2)

This is a hands on make and take workshop. We will teach you how to use Indigenous designed animals to make felt stories, name mats, wall decals and colouring pages. We will make animal felt pieces with you to take back to your program. We will have a display of all the creations we have been making using a digital cutting machine and our tablet.

One person per organization will be allowed to register for this workshop.

The presenters are educators and team members of our communities Head Start and Daycare - Gila Kyew 'Nluuk Head Start and Daycare. We work together to deliver a daycare program for 2.5 to 5 years and an outreach program for the families of children 0 -6 years.

"Not only are we inspiring a generation of young Indigenous peoples. but we're also educating others about Indigenous peoples and who we are. And I think that's so beautiful."

Theland Kicknosway, Theland is a 17 year old social influencer of the Potawatami & Cree Nation

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Schedule Day 3

Saturday February 10th, 2024

F. Workshops 11:00am - 12:30pm

F1

An Indigenous Perspective to Supporting Children & Families with Autism and Neuro-Diverse Needs

Rona Sterling-Collins

Salon B

The Facilitator will share her family's journey with autism from a wholistic perspective utilizing the medicine wheel. Rona will highlight the challenges and strengths of their journey with their son Wyatt from a physical, emotional, mental and spiritual perspective. She will discuss the realities of many Indigenous children and families with disabilities. The Facilitator will also share some highlights from research work on autism and disabilities from her Nation. She will share ideas and strategies that would be helpful in supporting Indigenous children and families with disabilities and challenges. She will also highlight ideas for decolonizing practice.

Rona Sterling-Collins, Quist'letko from the Nl̓eʔkepmx Nation. Rona was raised on her ancestral land, Joeyaska First Nation in her Nation and continues to reside there among her extended family. She is married and has two adult children and a granddaughter. Her son Wyatt has autism, which challenged her to become an advocate for him and other Indigenous children and adults with developmental disabilities.

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Rona approaches her life from a wholistic perspective and promotes this philosophy to continue to create systems of change. She is dedicated to decolonization and indigenization that hold children and families at the heart of her work.

Schedule Day 3

Saturday February 10th, 2024

F. Workshops 11:00am - 12:30pm

F2

Self-Compassion Your Inner Ally

Kate Toye

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 3 (level 2)

What is self-compassion? In this workshop, we will explore some of the myths about self-compassion as well as what self-compassion is and what it is NOT. We will explore the three pillars of self-compassion: mindfulness, common humanity, and kindness, and explore them both individually and collectively. We will look at some of the benefits of self-compassion and the resistance we experience to it, including the beliefs that lead to resistance.

Kate Toye is a self-compassion coach that weaves together mindfulness, somatic parts work, intuitive coaching with Compassionate Inquiry. Kate continues to deepen her practice in understanding trauma and sharing with others how to love and accept oneself unconditionally.

F3

Relationship to Land

Enid Elliott

Salon E

In this workshop we will explore how to work with children to honour the land, air and water.

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. She is currently on faculty at Camosun College and is an adjunct professor at University of Victoria. Enid's current questions concern the pedagogies that emerge as educators and children explore/engage deeply with all the layers of the natural/material landscape found outside school walls, as well as learning from Indigenous worldviews and narratives that honour our connections with the natural world.

"The earth does not belong to man, man belongs to the earth.
All things are connected like the blood that unites us all. Man
did not weave the web of life, he is merely a strand in it.
Whatever he does to the web he does to himself."

Chief Seattle

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Schedule Day 3

Saturday February 10th, 2024

F. Workshops 11:00am - 12:30pm

F4

Making Music for fun...take it outdoors!

Chris Roskelley

Salon F

Join Chris as she inspires your ECE practice with engaging songs, speech, movement, percussion, and drama. The workshop will be composed primarily of land-based experiences with a focus on animals indigenous to our local surroundings. Some songs will be new to you, while some will be familiar with new life breathed into them. This participatory workshop includes a song booklet and an accompanying USB flash drive fully loaded with all experiences covered in the workshop. Come ready to move, sing, have fun and give your music curriculum a boost in the winter!

Chris Roskelley is an Early Childhood Educator with 40 years of experience. For the past 28 years she has worked as a self-employed music enrichment teacher primarily at UBC Child Care. Along with her work with children Chris also teaches the music and movement course in the ECE Continuing Education programs in Burnaby and Delta.

F5

Administration- Taking the Pain out of Budgeting

Rachel West

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 1 (level 2)

Does the thought of budgeting frustrate or scare you? Are you overwhelmed with the thought of trying to make sense of the numbers? Then join Rachel for this session that will look at budgeting for child care programs - Budgets 101 - Child Care Centers On-Reserve (useful in other settings as well).

Rachel West is a proud mom of two teenagers, daughter Logan and son Haydn. They have built a life with their wonderful family of the We Wai Kai Nation on the Quinsam Reserve. She graduated from Malaspina University-College with her Early Childhood Education, Infant Toddler and Special Needs certificate. She has 20 plus years™ overseeing Indigenous Early Childhood Programs on reserve. Rachel is committed to supporting children and families in their early and formative years.

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Schedule Day 3

Saturday February 10th, 2024

F. Workshops 11:00am - 12:30pm

F6

Jordan's Principle Reflection Panel

Family, service providers

Stanley Park Boardroom Salon 2 (level 2)

The Jordan's Principle Enhanced Service Coordination Hub of British Columbia and its partners are excited to share insights and impacts related to Jordan's Principle in BC. The panel will consist of a family member, a Service Coordinator, a Service Provider and a member of the Indigenous Services Canada BC Region Team. These four key partners will share their perspectives, insights, experiences and understanding of Jordan's Principle.

F7

Legend of Temlahamid - Make & Take Feltboards

Dustin Heit & Edna Boyd

Salon D

Join this interactive make and take workshop. Each participant will learn the Legend of Temlahamid and create a feltboard to take home.

Dustin is from the Gitksan First Nations and is an Early Childhood Educator. He has spent most of his life hunting and fishing yearly, on the land with his father, and a few years working or running the smokehouse with my mother.

Edna - is Gitksan from Kispiox BC, but also Tsimshan on her father's side. She is the second oldest of six children. She has been in the ECE field for almost 20 years and has been the Manager at the Aboriginal Headstart in Gitanmaax BC. She teaches the Gitksan language, drumming and singing to her class in New Hazelton. Edna has four children, three boys and one daughter. She is proud to be a grandmother for the past 7 years, to two girls and two boys.

Reminders

Surveys

Please scan the QR codes provided at conference or look for our survey links provided in our follow up communication to participate in our conference surveys. Every year we strive to provide new learning opportunities that are innovative and engaging. We are able to do this because you share your feedback with us.

All responses will remain anonymous. You can access the survey from your computer, tablet or mobile phone.

To thank you for your participation in our surveys there is a prize draw you can enter. Look for the prompt at the end of the overall conference survey.

Conference Trade Fair

The Conference Trade Fair offers opportunities to explore and find resources for your program, or a treat for your self. Check out all the vendors during the conference. Stop by the tables (or visit their websites for our online delegates), say hello and check out their items!

Don't forget to complete your Vendor Passport and hand it into the registration desk or to the online monitors to enter into the prize draws!

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Join us on Social Media

Follow BCACCS on Facebook, Twitter or upload your conference highlights to Instagram and hashtag them #BCACCSspringconference2024



Door Prizes

Door prizes will be drawn during individual workshops as well as during some of the plenaries in the main conference room. Our door prizes have been selected to help continue your learning or support you in your self-care. It's our little way of continuing to hold you up and support the work that you do!

Questions or Need Information?

The BCACCS team is here to support your learning experience. Please visit us at the registration desk, or tap one of us on the shoulder, if you have any questions or need information about the schedule or conference events.



BC **Aboriginal**
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2024 Conference Survey

Please scan the QR code included below to complete the overall conference survey.

Our Aboriginal Child Care Resource and Referral team is constantly striving to provide new learning opportunities that are innovative and engaging. We aim to develop and deliver training that reflects what you need or are curious about.

We are able provide relevant and inspiring professional development because you share your ideas with us. Thank you for giving us your feedback, it helps us to plan for future events.

All responses will remain anonymous, and are only used for evaluation and planning purposes.

You can access the survey from your computer, tablet or mobile phone, and will not take long to complete. Remember everyone who participates in the overall conference survey is able to enter to win a prize.

We have so much gratitude for all you do. . .



Just open your camera on your phone and point at the QR code: it will prompt you to a website where the survey is hosted!

Or you can also go to the survey at :
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BCACCSCON2024>

"Teachings come from everywhere when you open yourself to them. That's the trick of it really. to open yourself to everything and everything opens itself to you."

Richard Wagamese, Embers: One Ojibway's Meditations

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Venue Map



Coal Harbour Vancouver Hotels | The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver

Escape the city sprawl with our Vancouver Harbour hotel rooms and suites, Vida Spa, Yoga Studio and location near Coal Harbour at The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver.

 marriott.com

Things to Note about location

This year's conference is being hosted at the Westin Bayshore Hotel in Vancouver.

Location:

Westin Bayshore Hotel
1601 Bayshore Dr.
Vancouver, BC

There are quite a few amenities onsite including two pools, a gym, and a spa, so you may want to pack a bathing suit! The hotel is also within short walking distance to Stanley Park.

Things to Note about travel

This year's conference is being hosted at the Westin Bayshore Hotel in Vancouver, which is located in the downtown area of the city. Travel to and from the airport will be different from the shuttle services provided in the past. People will need to arrange for a cab or uber; or make their way downtown on the public transit system. Taxis are easily available at the front of the airport at the taxi station.

Vancouver sky train information is here: <https://www.translink.ca/schedules-and-maps/line/canada-line/direction/0/schedule>. If taking the Skytrain from the airport, look for the Canada Line heading Northbound into the city of Vancouver.

Parking at the Hotel

This year there is a fee to park at the hotel. We are grateful to have negotiated a special rate for all conference guests. Please read the following instructions for getting our special parking rate.

For Guests with Sleeping Rooms:

Staff at the Front Desk will ask each guest at check in if they have a car and will input their plate # and process \$25.00 per night to their room account. **Do not pay for parking at the Parking Kiosks.**

For guests not staying overnight:

You will need to pay at the Kiosks by selecting the Rate Option Below:

Rate Option: BCACCS

Code: 8802404

Cost: \$25.00

Valid: 7am – 6pm Daily

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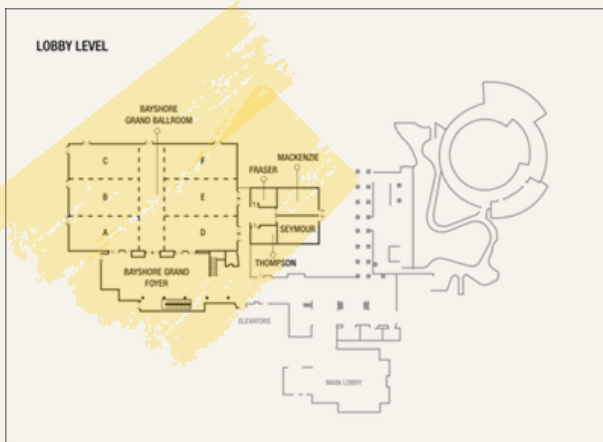
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Conference Site Map

*This years conference will be hosted at the Westin Bayshore Hotel in Vancouver
Presentations & workshops will be held in ballrooms and meeting rooms around the hotel.
Rooms will be clearly marked, and there will be staff to help you find your sessions.*

Where the workshop sessions will be happening....

Westin Bayshore Conference Area



Please see the map to find out where to find your workshops. Ceremonies and keynotes will be taking place in the Main Ballroom (Salon A,B,C). If you have any questions you can get assistance at the registration table as you enter the conference area.

Vendors will be set up in the main foyer and the foyer on the upper level.

Workshops will be held in the Main Ballroom, Salons D, E & F on the main level as well as in Stanley Park Ballrooms 1, 2 & 3.



Conference - The Upper Level

In the main foyer you will see large escalators to take you to the top floor. This is where Stanley Park Ballrooms 1, 2 & 3 are located. Even if you don't have any workshops located on the upper level, make sure to go up and visit more vendors. Make sure to venture upstairs and check out the vendors and get your Vendor Passport stamped.

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Sponsorship

The BCACCS Annual Provincial conference provides a rich training and networking opportunity for early childhood years professionals, supporting Indigenous early learning and child care. These educational opportunities contribute significantly to increasing the quality and capacity of early learning and child care programs in First Nations communities and urban contexts, throughout the province of BC.

We are grateful to all those who have provided funding and support to make these learning opportunities possible.



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HummingBird Event Productions.

Canada 

WINTERGREEN

This initiative is funded through the Canada-British Columbia Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia, in partnership with the Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre (WCCRC), the agency responsible for administering the funds.



BCACCS is proud to provide quality professional development to BC's Early Years Professionals with funding from the BC Ministry of Education & Child Care

Thank you

To our delegates and presenters, we are grateful to you all, and for all you do for the children, families and your communities. We honor those that have come before, for those who are here today, and for the generations yet to come.

We would like to express our deep gratitude to the BCACCS Board of Directors for supporting this important work. Their many hours of work, wisdom and dedication are vital to the health of our agency.

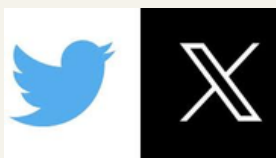
Finally, we would like to thank our Elders for their guidance and wisdom in the work we do together.

Our hands go up to you as we hold each other up.



Art Credit: Samuel Casey

**To keep updated like us on Facebook, follow us on X
(formerly Twitter) or sign-up for BCACCS e-news!**



www.acc-society.bc.ca