

The Province of Ontario is in the midst of a transformation in how early learning and care services are delivered to our children and their families.

Relationships for Early Learning and Child Care:

A Collaborative Community Professional Learning Opportunity



The Workshop

This presentation will focus on the importance of collaboration, respect, and strengthening relationships amongst the individuals, organizations, and systems in order to ensure a high quality, responsive, and inclusive approach; programs where learning is promoted through play; and emergent and planned learning experiences and interactions.

Updates on the implementation of the full-day kindergarten program and the broader goals of seamlessness and continuity of services will be shared, along with reflections on some of the innovative approaches to early learning and care that are emerging across the province of Ontario.

A look at some of the newly developed tools and resources prepared in support of the transformation of the early learning and care system will offer participants with some practical strategies and ideas that they can use in their own work with young children and their families.

This workshop is relevant for:

Early Childhood Educators • Full-day Kindergarten Educator Teams • Family Support Agency Staff • Kindergarten and Grade One Teachers • Parents • Students in Early Childhood Education Programs • Policy Makers • Administrators • School Council Members • Early Learning and Care Support Agencies

Thursday May 10, 2012 • 6:30 to 9:00 pm

Holiday Inn Suites St. Catharines Conference Centre, 325 Ontario Street, St. Catharines

\$25/person includes nutrition break

To register please contact the ECCDC at 905.646.7311 extension 304 or eccdc@eccdc.org

The Presenters



Rod Peturson

As an Education Officer with the Ontario Ministry of Education, Rod is currently working on the team coordinating implementation of the new full-day kindergarten program. Earlier in his career, as Superintendent with the Greater Essex County District School Board in southern Ontario, he was responsible for the expansion of school-based child care services and championed the

importance of strong connections between schools and child care operators and services in the community. Some two decades earlier he had introduced a tremendously successful kindergarten staffing model that featured educator teams consisting of a teacher and early childhood educator.

Throughout a forty-year career in education, Rod's accomplishments — from author, educator, administrator and school designer — are bound together by three key elements – learning through play, nurturing curiosity and honouring the sense of wonder that is such an important part of childhood.



Karen Calligan

As a Child Care Advisor and a Registered Early Childhood Educator with the Ontario Ministry of Education, Karen works collaboratively with the Consolidated Municipal Services Managers (CMSMs) and First Nations Child Care operators across the London region to support the delivery of early learning and child care programs.

Previous to this role, Karen was the Project Manager responsible for leading the provincial transfer of child care from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) to the Ministry of Education. Karen has also worked in child care settings with children from infancy to school-age as a teacher, centre supervisor and home visitor. In addition, Karen taught in the ECE program at Mohawk College for more than ten years and was with MCYS as a child care licensing Program Advisor, Program Supervisor and the lead for the Hamilton Best Start Demonstration site. Throughout a thirty-two year career in Early Childhood Education, Karen's passion has been fuelled by a respectful view of the child and an enduring commitment to establishing authentic collaborative relationships to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and families.

The Partners

