



esteem

September to December 2015

Professional learning opportunities related to optimizing child development, health and well-being, professionalism and organizational performance with links to the College of Early Childhood Educators' Standards of Practice

INSIDE

New in the Cultivating Natural Playgrounds Series: Down and Dirty and If I Had A Hammer

Light and Colour: Playing With the Beauty of Our Surroundings

Thinking and learning time made visible: iPhoneography & Portfolios, a combined session

Four-part Board Series

From the ECCDC



Welcome to the Fall Issue of **esteem!** After a busy and successful spring season, the ECCDC team was grateful to be able to take some much-deserved holiday time. Thank you for your support as we closed down operations for our summer shutdown again this year. We're now back at our desks and looking forward to seeing you and serving your professional learning needs this fall


If the warmer weather of late summer and early fall still has you thinking about the great outdoors, you'll be pleased to know that the ECCDC is collaborating once again with Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds to bring you evidence-based strategies related to nature education and the outdoor naturalization movement. We are pleased to host new sessions this fall: **Down and Dirty** and **If I Had A Hammer**. Additionally, the ECCDC is thrilled to introduce a new customized natural playground design service. Please visit www.eccdc.org/naturalizing-play-spaces/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/eccdc_bienenstock_partnership_flyer.pdf to learn more.

We are also excited to be hosting nationally known and respected researcher, author, and presenter Susan Stacey for a session on **Exploring Emergent Curriculum**. Scheduled in September, this special

day gives you the chance to attend two of Susan's best-known workshops. Additionally, all participants will receive a copy of Susan's newest book: *Pedagogical Documentation in Early Childhood*. Be sure to register right away, as seats will fill up fast and space is limited.

The ECCDC's professional learning options this fall also include several sessions designed to help executive directors, board members, supervisors and managers be more successful in their roles. Frances Yarbrough is back with a two-part **Executive Director Series**. We are also launching a new four-part series entitled **The Board - A Winning Team™**, facilitated by Gay Douglas. The sessions are based on three comprehensive, time-tested books written in Canada for the Canadian not-for-profit sector: *The Board - A Winning Team™*; *Call to Order™*; and *The Art of Chairing™*.

Also scheduled for this fall is Diane Kashin, who will present an innovative workshop on **Exploring the Potential of Technology** as a professional learning tool. Additionally, Darlene Edgar, Niagara Region's Director of Children's Services and Christina Clark, Assistant Director of La Boîte à soleil will be facilitating a session on **Ridiculous Rules**.



Community trainer Cindy Green is facilitating two new workshops this fall in October and November. As always, these inspiring and practical sessions help bring to life *How Does Learning Happen?* Ginette Wilson of the ECCDC's Training and Mentoring team will also be leading a number of innovative, nature-based sessions that you won't want to miss.

Please also consider joining us at one of our popular network meetings. These informal, small group meetings are a great way to revisit the strategies and recommendations you've gained through training sessions, as well as be part of a supportive community of practice.

The ECCDC knows that early years educators are busier than ever, so new this fall are two additional resources to help you stay on top of all that's new in the world of early learning and child care. One is the ECCDC's new professional learning bulletin, so even if you've missed a session, you can still benefit from tips and strategies offered by our workshop facilitators. You're also invited to pull together your own group and request a repeat of any of the community-based sessions that you've read about in **esteem**. Additionally, the ECCDC is available to assist you in the development or delivery

of new training sessions, based on your specific needs and ideas. Give us a call anytime. There's no cost or obligation to explore this option.

To make things even easier, you may now register for all of the **esteem** training sessions through the ECCDC's newly designed website at www.eccdc.org. Photographs and additional information may be found on the ECCDC's Facebook (www.facebook.com/eccdc) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/eccdc1) pages. We are also always keen to receive your recommendations for any professional learning opportunities, speakers and best practices that you'd like us to offer. Please drop us a line by emailing Lorrey at larial@eccdc.org with your suggestions.

Until next time, enjoy the fall and this year's back to school season!



Lorrey Aron Borilka



Find the esteem sessions that are right for you!

Legislative Core Training

These sessions are related to legislation that affects child care programs licensed under the *Day Nurseries Act*. They cover any training needs that are identified during the annual license renewal or during inspections by Ministry of Children and Youth Program Advisors, Public Health Inspectors/ Nurses, Fire Prevention Officers, and officers of the Ministries of Labour, Environment, or Consumer and Corporate Affairs. Examples include: First Aid Training, Food Handlers Certification, WHMIS, and sessions that focus on other health and safety items or amendments to current regulation. Meetings of local child care network groups also fall into this category.

Quality Child Care Niagara (QCCN) Core Training

These training sessions are required for individuals who work in licensed child care centres that are recognized as a participant in QCCN. These sessions include: DPS, ECERS, Documentation, Speech/ Language Checklist, Behaviour Checklist (CARE), and Phase 2 Curriculum Planning.

Quality Child Care Niagara (QCCN) Related Training

These sessions supplement and support the QCCN training modules, but are not required components. Some examples include: Speech Services Niagara workshops and certain sessions on managing difficult behaviours in children.

Professional Development and Leadership Training

These training sessions are designed specifically to give you the skills and confidence you need to develop your ongoing leadership abilities, perform with excellence and build strong collaborative relationships with families, children and your fellow colleagues.

Streams

- Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals
- Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies
- Executive Directors, Owners, Boards of Directors and Administrators of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies



Linking to the College of Early Childhood Educators' Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice

As you may recall, in the last issues of ESTEEM, the ECCDC began aligning its professional learning opportunities to support the College of Early Childhood Educators' *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice*. The College of Early Childhood Educators' *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice* prescribe the basis on which professional practice is conducted in a sound and ethical manner, regardless of the context in which that practice occurs. While the Standards of Practice cannot be considered outside of the scope of the Code of Ethics, for the purpose of aligning the seminars we will be referring to the Standards of Practice. The six Standards of Practice are: Standard I: Caring and Nurturing Relationships that Support Learning; Standard II: Developmentally Appropriate Care and Education; Standard III: Safe, Healthy and Supportive Learning Environments; Standard IV: Professional Knowledge and Competence; Standard V: Professional Boundaries, Dual Relationships and Conflicts of Interest; and Standard VI: Confidentiality and Consent to the Release of Information Regarding Children and their Families.

Going forward, our vision is that all ECCDC Workshop Facilitators will highlight areas in their training which apply to the *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice* to

help participants have a greater practical understanding of how to apply the *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice* into their daily work. We believe this alignment will support participants in becoming effective educators by ensuring they are following the ethical and professional standards each and every day.

To support this vision, each ECCDC Workshop Facilitator will be provided with a *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice* Introductory Package containing information on the College and the *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice*, as well as tips and strategies to further assist them with incorporating the *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice* into their workshop presentation. Ultimately, we envision workshop facilitators will have an awareness of the *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice* themselves and will demonstrate how their workshop content supports the *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice* in a variety of ways.

We thank all of our workshop presenters in advance for supporting the alignment of professional learning opportunities offered through the ECCDC and the College of Early Childhood Educators' *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice*.

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optimizing early childhood experiences



Designing the Early Learning Environment

Professional learning opportunities in this category support: Standard I: Caring and Nurturing Relationships that Support Learning; Standard II: Developmentally Appropriate Care and Education; Standard III: Safe, Healthy and Supportive Learning Environments; Standard IV: Professional Knowledge and Competence

Developmental Program Planning, Curriculum and Pedagogy

Professional learning opportunities in this category support: Standard II: Developmentally Appropriate Care and Education; Standard III: Safe, Healthy and Supportive Learning Environments; Standard IV: Professional Knowledge and Competence

Designing the Early Learning Environment



Supporting Young Children in Learning and Experiencing Fall Harvest

Join Garden Jane to explore harvest-time activities in both the garden and kitchen. Learn fun ways to work with children on garlic & bulb planting, seed saving and enjoying nutrient dense harvest snacks. We'll also explore sprouting in winter and look ahead to spring healthy food program planning. For more details, please refer to the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Saturday September 19 • 10:00 am to 12:00 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Kitchen and Outdoors) Please dress appropriately for the weather • \$45 includes all workshop materials

- Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals
- Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/ Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies

Professional Development and Leadership Training



Down and Dirty

New in the Cultivating Natural Playgrounds that Nurture Children's Curiosity and Wonder Series

The workshop 'Down and Dirty' is perfect for those who love to play in the mud and want to get the scoop on the dirt below. With the rise of mud kitchens and muddy play this is a perfect opportunity to explore the many attributes of soil. The workshop will focus on what's in soil, why it's important, and the little critters that live in it. Activities include exploring the different shades of soil through mud paintings and making your very own dirt shirt. Experiments include soil's ability to act as a filter and the importance of flow and drainage for our plant life. We conclude with making worm composters and snail terrariums for your classrooms. It will definitely be a day of getting dirty and mucky. Please bring in soil samples from your home and workplace. Besides learning about theory and importance, participants will engage in lots of fun, hands-on activities. For full details, including the agenda, please refer to the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Friday October 2 • 9:00 am to 4:00 pm • Heartland Forest, 8215 Heartland Forest Road (formerly Kalar Road), Niagara Falls • \$85 includes breakfast, lunch, handouts and all materials

- Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals
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Professional Development and Leadership Training

Designing the Early Learning Environment

If I Had a Hammer: Woodworking At Your Centre

New in the Cultivating Natural Playgrounds that Nurture Children's Curiosity and Wonder Series

Woodworking with young children is a lost art. Many educators cringe at the thought and begin to visualize cut fingers and flying hammers. Join Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds for this fun, hands on workshop to get past your fears and learn some woodworking skills. Participants will discover how woodworking uses math, problem-solving, fine motor, and social skills, while fostering creativity and imagination. In this workshop we will review the importance of woodworking, understand where to start, the tools to use, safety protocols to implement, and will try a dozen hands on activities to bring to back your centre. For full details, including the agenda, please refer to the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Thursday November 5 • 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
• Heartland Forest, 8215 Heartland Forest Road (formerly Kalar Road), Niagara Falls • \$85 includes breakfast, lunch, handouts and all materials

- Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals
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Professional Development and Leadership Training



"Real tools - when we trust children with real objects, tools that require thought, care, control and skill we tell them, we see you as capable!"
Educated by Nature 2015



"The products of the hands are the footprints of the soul" (L. Christensen 2011).



Developmental Program Planning, Curriculum and Pedagogy



How Do I Write?

Understanding the developmental stages of emergent writing assists child care professionals to monitor children's growth as writers, identify appropriate teaching focuses and select approaches to support emergent literacy. April Shaw, Emergent Literacy Consultant with Speech Services Niagara, will explore the stages of emergent writing and provide activities and strategies to support early writing development.

Tuesday September 22 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom) • No cost

- Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals
- Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies

QCCN Related Training

Linking Emergent Literacy Using Simple Activities To Expand Shared Story Time

Join April Shaw, Emergent Literacy Consultant, as she engages with six popular children's stories and explores a variety of strategies to support emergent literacy skills. These activities will support the continuum of learning by encouraging inquiry, play and exploration of the story. Bring along your favourite story so we can share and exchange additional ideas to expand emergent literacy in your setting.

Tuesday November 17 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom) • No cost

- Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals
- Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies

QCCN Related Training



*These workshops have been generously sponsored by
Speech Services Niagara's Emergent Literacy Program*

Developmental Program Planning, Curriculum and Pedagogy

Exploring Emergent Curriculum with Susan Stacey

Morning Workshop - Emergent Curriculum: Responsive and Intentional

A workshop for educators who are on the emergent curriculum journey

Emergent curriculum is an inquiry-based and responsive approach to engaging with young children. For the teacher, it requires a collaborative and flexible mind-set, a sharp observational eye, and the ability to reflect with others. Through examining a long-term project, we will first clarify understanding and misunderstanding around emergent curriculum. We will then use short video clips in order to observe and reflect together upon what is happening within various play scenarios. In this way, we will discover what it means to be responsive *and intentional*.



Afternoon Workshop - Pedagogical Documentation: A Tool for Thinking

Many of us use documentation in our ECE and Kindergarten classrooms to make children's learning visible. However, when we reflect upon our documentation with colleagues, share it with the children themselves, and use it for decision-making, documentation becomes *Pedagogical Documentation* and is a powerful support for our classroom practices.

In this workshop, we will explore the many forms of documentation and create a piece that responds to a play scenario.

Saturday September 26 • 8:30 am to 4:00 pm • Amici's Conference Centre, 2740 Merrittville Hwy, Thorold • \$125 includes two workshops, a copy of Susan's newest book *Pedagogical Documentation in Early Childhood* as well as breakfast and lunch • Please refer to the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org

■ Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals

■ Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies

Professional Development and Leadership Training

Developmental Program Planning, Curriculum and Pedagogy



Three fall 2015 workshops with Ginette Wilson

ECCDC's Early Learning & Child Care Program Consultant



Exploring Nature through Creative Experiences

This hands-on workshop, which will include some time outside, will look at how educators can incorporate creative opportunities and nature based experiences into their early learning and child care environments which utilize the readily available gifts that Mother Nature has afforded us. This workshop will support educators to connect with the outdoor environment and minimize the impact that they and the materials they use have on it. So come along and discover how the natural, outdoor environment acts as the Third Educator and develop a range of activities that will engage children and encourage them to respect the natural world all around them.

Tuesday October 6 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom) • \$45 includes materials and nutrition break

Provocations and Invitations to Play

Are you trying to get to grips with taking children's interests, particularly toddlers and infants, and linking them to provocations for learning and invitations to play? If so join us for this interactive workshop. The session will take an in-depth look at concept of Messing About, which was developed by David and Frances Hawkins, and explore how it supports educators to provide meaningful, developmentally appropriate experiences for children of all ages. This workshop will also consider the importance of trying activities out before offering them to children and includes an in-depth look at the *A Thinking Lens® for Reflection and Inquiry* developed by Harvest Resources and *Higher Order Thinking Prompts* resources. Participants will have opportunities to practice using these resources with fellow educators and have meaningful conversations regarding their experiences, hopes, and fears.

Tuesday October 20 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom) • \$45 includes materials and nutrition break

Developmental Program Planning, Curriculum and Pedagogy

Treasure Baskets for Infants and Toddlers

Treasure Baskets and Heuristic Play are the ultimate in Loose Parts play for infants and toddlers and affords them open-ended opportunities to explore the world around them through their senses and exploration of everyday objects that they encounter in their daily lives. They forge sensory rich experiences, which prime them for fuller exploration and investigation. This hands-on, interactive workshop will explore the origins and the simplicity and sophistication of Treasure Baskets and Heuristic Play. Please join us to investigate the sensory possibilities of Treasure Baskets and the discovery opportunities of Heuristic Play. Participants will have an opportunity to develop a Treasure Basket using interesting, everyday household items and items from nature, followed by an opportunity to *Mess About* with them.

Thursday November 12 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom) • \$45 includes materials and nutrition break

All three sessions on page 12 & 13 are suitable to the following streams

- Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals
 - Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies
- Professional Development and Leadership Training



PLEASE SEND US YOUR PICTURES, STORIES AND IDEAS!

If you've had a unique play based learning experience or would like to share your ideas for early learning environments, please send us your photos and stories so that we can publish them in ESTEEM. Please email them to eccdc@eccdc.org using the subject line: ESTEEM HIGHLIGHT. All entries will be eligible to win a \$50 training gift certificate which will be drawn at the end of each training calendar year.

Developmental Program Planning, Curriculum and Pedagogy



Light and Colour: Playing With the Beauty of Our Surroundings

You are invited to join Cindy Green and Cathy Elliott of Louise Kool & Galt for this new, innovative workshop. During this session you will explore the interrelationship between light, colour, and magical materials as you play with how one transforms the other. We will wonder about reflection, transparency, shadow, brightness, colour, form, and movement. Together with the ECCDC, Cindy wishes to thank Louise Kool & Galt for their ongoing support when providing materials and equipment to spark and engage educators, positioning us to intentionally extend similar investigations with children. The ECCDC also extends its gratitude to the Niagara Catholic District School Board for the use of the space for hosting the session. For full details, please refer to the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Thursday October 8 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • Niagara Catholic District School Board, 427 Rice Road, Welland (Father Kenneth Burns Board Room) • \$55 includes materials and nutrition break

Schema Play: Preschool and School Age Thinking

You are invited to join Cindy Green and your colleagues to continue the conversation about the intricacies and complexities of play exhibited by preschool and school-age children. At times it may seem challenging to extend curriculum for children because we may not always be sure of what their interests and intentions are. Thinking about schema learning theory will support educators to observe closely and then construct meaningful learning opportunities that will be engaging and responsive. Come ready to play and discover how adults have schema play preferences as well! The ECCDC extends gratitude to the District School Board of Niagara for allowing us to use their space to host the workshop. For full details, please refer to the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Tuesday November 3 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • District School Board of Niagara, 191 Carlton Street, St. Catharines (St. Catharines Room, Third Floor) • \$55 includes materials and nutrition break

■ Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals

■ Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies

Professional Development and Leadership Training



Developmental Program Planning, Curriculum and Pedagogy



Joanne Marie Babalis is returning to Niagara!

Thinking and learning time made visible: iPhoneography and Portfolios, a combined session

Part 1 Portfolios: Perspectives of the educator team, child, and family

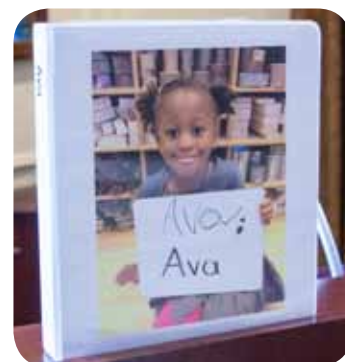
As a Full-Day Kindergarten Educator, I collect a lot of documentation throughout the school day and year. Learn how to organize the documentation within a documentation portfolio. Participants will be shown examples of portfolio content, and they will get the opportunity to hear what is included and why.

Part 2 iPhoneography: How photography can enhance your teaching and inquiry work

Have you ever wondered how to improve your photography? After four years of using my iPhone to document student learning, I have several tips to offer you in this area! This workshop is geared towards educators who photograph play-based and inquiry-based learning and are sharing these learning pictures using social media or on the walls of their classroom. Participants will have the chance to see the progression and evolution of my photography, as well as practise using photography apps that can easily be incorporated into their program. Any smart phone or digital camera is welcome to this session!

Saturday November 28 • 9:00 am to 2:00 pm • Amici's Banquet & Conference Centre, 2740 Merrittville Hwy, Thorold • \$75 includes breakfast and lunch

■ Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals
Professional Development and Leadership Training



health, safety and well-being



Professional learning opportunities in this category support: Standard III: Safe, Healthy and Supportive Learning Environments; Standard IV: Professional Knowledge and Competence

health, safety and well-being



One Date: Wednesday October 7

Two Important Sessions

Supporting Staff, Colleagues and Children Who May Be Experiencing Family Violence:

A Workshop for Administrators, Supervisors and Boards

Participants will learn about family violence, responsibilities as an employer, and how to recognize signs that a staff member, child or family member may be experiencing family violence. Strategies will be shared related to the key indicators of family violence; including signs to look for when children are exposed to family violence, how to offer support and how to approach a conversation with sensitivity, confidentiality, and understanding. Additionally, information to support the development of appropriate policies for your organization will be shared. Please refer to the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Wednesday October 7 • 8:30 to 11:00 am • A Child's World, 344 Avon Street, Welland • No cost for individuals working in Niagara's early learning and child care programs; all others pay \$15

- Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies
- Executive Directors, Owners, Boards of Directors and Administrators of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies

Supporting Children, Families and Colleagues Who May Be Experiencing Family Violence:

A Workshop for Early Childhood Educators

Participants will learn more about family violence and how to recognize signs that a staff member, child or family member may be experiencing family violence. Participants will gain strategies on key indicators of family violence; including signs to look for when children are exposed to family violence. Additionally, strategies for having open and respectful conversations with families and colleagues will be shared, to ensure you are supporting all members of your early learning and child care family in a caring, confidential, and respectful manner. Please refer to the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Wednesday October 7 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • A Child's World, 344 Avon Street, Welland • No cost for individuals working in Niagara's early learning and child care programs; all others pay \$15

- Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals
- Professional Development and Leadership Training

health, safety and
well-being



SAVE THE DATE!
Tuesday October 27, 2015

Exploring the Difference between Bullying Behaviour and Developmentally Appropriate Teasing

with Internationally Acclaimed Mary Gordon
of the Roots of Empathy Program



A Workshop for Early Childhood Educators

Tuesday October 27 • 9:00 am to 4:00 pm • Niagara
College 300 Woodlawn Road, Welland

A Workshop for Families of Young Children

Tuesday October 27 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • Niagara
College 300 Woodlawn Road, Welland

Registration

No cost; however registration is required by contacting the Early Childhood Community Development Centre at 905.646.7311 ext. 304, eccdc@eccdc.org or www.eccdc.org

The workshops are being hosted by the Children are Safe Committee of Niagara Children's Planning Council.



professionalism & relationships



Professional learning opportunities in this category support: Standard IV: Professional Knowledge and Competence; Standard V: Professional Boundaries, Dual Relationships and Conflicts of Interest; and Standard VI: Confidentiality and Consent to the Release of Information Regarding Children and their Families

professionalism & relationships



Rethinking “Ridiculous Rules” From the Lens of Ontario’s Early Learning Framework: *How Does Learning Happen?*

There are many rules that have been perpetuated through myths and often no one can recall the rationale behind the rules any longer. Or there may be rules that were created for the convenience of staff members, rather than being in the best interests of children and families. Some of these rules may be “painting is not allowed in the afternoon”, “only three children may interact within the dramatic play centre at one time”, or “the art centre is only open to children in the mornings”...to name a few. Are these rules getting in the way of you and your team implementing *How Does Learning Happen?* Have you ever questioned the validity and importance of these rules? Join Christina Clark, RECE, Assistant Director at La Boîte à soleil and Darlene Edgar, RECE, Director of Niagara Region Children’s Services in a discussion of ridiculous rules and learn strategies to work with your team to reconsider them.

Tuesday October 13 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom) • No cost, light refreshments will be provided

- Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals
- Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children’s service agencies

Professional Development and Leadership Training

Create and Inspire Staff with Higher Standards!

Join Michael Lewis for this inspiring session to learn how to motivate your staff teams towards excellence. Excellence is never achieved accidentally. The most preferred programs and centres have arrived at the top because they hired, trained, and inspired top staff and then developed and maintained professional standards. The best stay at the top because they keep getting better and that means having “non-negotiable” standards. The seminar is for those willing to look hard at what they have and commit to raising the bar of excellence.

Tuesday November 24 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom) • \$45 includes light refreshments

- Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children’s service agencies
- Executive Directors, Owners, Boards of Directors and Administrators of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children’s service agencies

Professional Development and Leadership Training

professionalism & relationships

Children's Voices

Do children have a voice in your program? Do you engage children in the ways you have learned from their voices or do you plan experiences based on what you feel is best for them? If you would like to gain strategies on how to truly involve children within your program, join the ECCDC's Early Learning and Child Care Program Consultant Ginette Wilson for this fun, interactive workshop. The session will look at the importance of empowering children and how this is underpinned by Ontario's Early Learning Frameworks and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Participants will develop a knowledge base of innovative ideas and activities, including consultation methods that children can use with each other, which afford them meaningful opportunities for participation. The session will also look at how children can be involved in planning experiences that are based on their interests. For further details, view the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Tuesday December 8 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom) • \$45 includes materials and nutrition break

- Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals
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Professional Development and Leadership Training



organizational performance



Professional learning opportunities in this category support: Standard IV: Professional Knowledge and Competence; Standard V: Professional Boundaries, Dual Relationships and Conflicts of Interest

organizational performance

Executive Director Series

Succession Planning

Participants are invited to join Frances Yarbrough to engage in conversation related to succession planning and the contingency plans that must be considered to help ensure your organization is protected in case of an emergency situation. Participants will explore the following topics: what is succession planning?; what are the three types of succession plans?; why is succession planning critical and who is responsible to put the plans in place?; what are the successful steps to succession planning?; what are some of the challenges to effective succession planning?; and next steps for your organization. For further details, view the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.



Thursday October 15 • 12:00 to 3:00 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom) • \$75 includes a light lunch and refreshments

- Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies
- Executive Directors, Owners, Boards of Directors and Administrators of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies

Professional Development and Leadership Training

Evaluating Employee Performance Effectively

Executive Directors, Managers and Supervisors are invited to attend this engaging and informative presentation facilitated by Frances Yarbrough to gain strategies for evaluating the performance of staff with ease. The workshop will include: introduction and overview of performance reviewing; types of performance reviews; defining expectations and standards; establishing performance goals; preparing for meeting with the employee; holding the meeting with employee; and Follow up with employees. For further details, view the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Monday November 9 • 12:00 to 4:00 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom) • \$75 includes a light lunch and refreshments

- Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies
- Executive Directors, Owners, Boards of Directors and Administrators of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies

Professional Development and Leadership Training



organizational performance



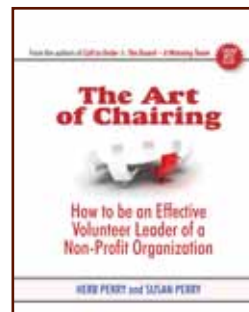
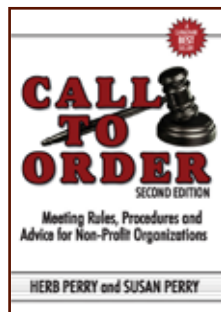
The Board: A Winning Team™ A Four Part Training Series

The ECCDC is pleased to announce a new professional development workshop series, The Board: A Winning Team™. This four part workshop series will focus on developing a high-performing board of directors, how to have productive and enjoyable meetings and the unique, challenging and rewarding role of the Board Chairperson.



Through an exclusive partnership with Gay Douglas and Associates and Big Bay Publishing, the workshop series is based on three comprehensive, time-tested books written in Canada for the Canadian not-for-profit sector: The Board: A Winning Team™, Call to Order™ and the Art of Chairing™. Written in a clear, easy-to-read style, thousands of not-for-profit organizations have benefited from these publications.

This is the first time the books will be presented in a workshop series. A copy of the books will be provided to participants attending the entire 4-part series, along with a free one-year subscription to The Association Consultants Report™.



The series is facilitated by Gay Douglas, a Niagara-based board governance consultant with more than 25 years of experience as a volunteer serving on boards and as an Executive Director reporting to boards. Her practical, hands-on knowledge of how effective boards work will provide you with handy tips, tools and techniques you can apply in your organization. Her energetic facilitation style will keep the sessions lively and interactive. For further details, view the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

organizational performance



Workshop Session 1 - Board Basics: Developing a High Performing Team

Topics to be explored within this session are Board roles, responsibilities, authorities, succession, board evaluation, and the Board-Staff relationship.

Wednesday October 28

Workshop Session 2 - Choosing & Designing Your Board's Governance Style

Participants will have an opportunity to learn about three key board styles, policies to support each style, tips for implementation.

Thursday November 26

Workshop Session 3 - Call to Order™: Strategies and Tools for Productive Board Meetings

The strategies that will be shared during the session include all about quorum, agendas, motions, minutes, elections and effective meetings.

Thursday January 28, 2016

Workshop Session 4 - The Art of Chairing™: Leading for Results

Workshop participants will leave this session with a clear understanding of Chair roles, responsibilities, competencies, opportunities and challenges of the chief volunteer leader both inside and outside the boardroom.

Thursday February 18, 2016

8:00 to 11:30 am • Amici's Conference Centre, 2740 Merrittville Hwy, Thorold • \$275 includes all four workshops plus bonus Workshop Session 5 - How directors can help create the delicate balance that enables EDs to support the board and provide strong, effective leadership (Thursday March 31, 2016), set of three books: The Board - A Winning Team™, Call to Order™ and the Art of Chairing™, A free one-year subscription to The Association Consultants Report™ and refreshments at all sessions • Individual Session Cost is \$75. The book set may be purchased for \$65

■ Executive Directors, Owners, Boards of Directors and Administrators of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/ Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies

Professional Development and Leadership Training

organizational performance



A new session from Diane Kashin

Exploring the Potential of Technology as a Professional Learning Tool

Twenty-first century education is radically different as social media and new technologies are now part of life and learning. In order for educators to see technology not as a substitute for play or hands-on experience, but as a way to expand children's play, options, ideas and problem-solving strategies, they must themselves play with technology. Overcoming resistance and reluctance is critical for the benefits of technology integration to be realized (Dietze, Kashin, 2013).

This hands-on workshop will focus on using technology for professional learning, giving participants opportunities to increase their comfort level with technology integration in early childhood education practice. This is a BYOD (bring your own device) workshop and will explore the possibilities and potential of using technology as a professional learning tool. Diane curates multiple professional learning topics across multiple social media platforms including Pinterest, Facebook and Twitter. She is excited about the potential of social media to bring together like-minded individuals in a professional learning network (PLN) as well as to explore its capacity to connect with families and inspire a whole new generation of children on the benefits of technology.



Thursday December 10 • 6:00 to 9:00 pm • Amici's Banquet and Conference Centre, 2740 Merrittville Hwy, Thorold • \$55 includes refreshments

■ Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals

■ Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies

Professional Development and Leadership Training

early learning & child care community networking



early learning & child care community networking



Niagara Nature Alliance Fall Kickoff Meeting: Walker Living Campus

The ECCDC is excited to bring together individuals interested in being a part of Niagara's Nature Alliance for this fall meeting. The earlier portion of the meeting will take place within the Friends of TD Tree House and then depending upon weather, we may move indoors. This meeting will include a feature presentation. Additionally, we will review the feedback that was provided at the Launch of the Nature Alliance, discuss our objectives for the coming year and begin developing a vision for our Network Group. Please bring warm layers for the first portion of the meeting.

Tuesday September 29 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • Walker Living Campus
(Friends of TD Tree House Designed by Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds)

■ Early Childhood Educators, Full Day Early Learning Teams, Family Support Staff, Home Child Care Practitioners, Students and other Early Learning and Child Care Professionals

■ Supervisors and Managers of Licensed Child Care Centres, Family Resource Programs/Ontario Early Years Centres, and other children's service agencies

Professional Development and Leadership Training



Child Care Centre Supervisors Network

Child Care Centre Supervisors are invited to attend this session for an opportunity to network with fellow Supervisors and engage in meaningful conversations regarding the new Child Care and Early Years Act and share information regarding how they plan to implement the changes outlined in the Act. Ministry, Region and Public Health updates will be provided. During the meeting there will also be an opportunity to view the Ministry of Education's new licensing website, followed by discussion. This meeting will take place at St Thomas Day Care of St Catharines and will include a tour of the centre.

Thursday October 15 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • St Thomas Day Care of St Catharines, St Thomas Parish Hall, 99 Ontario Street, St Catharines

early learning & child care community networking



Francophone Child Care Centre Supervisors Network

Francophone Child Care Centre Supervisors are invited to attend this session for an opportunity to network with fellow Francophone Supervisors and engage in meaningful conversations regarding the new Child Care and Early Years Act and share information regarding how they plan to implement the changes outlined in the Act. Ministry, Region and Public Health updates will be provided. During the meeting there will also be an opportunity to view the Ministry of Education's new licensing website, followed by discussion. This meeting will take place at La Boîte à soleil's newly refurbished administration office in Welland.

Wednesday October 21 • 10:00 am to 12:00 pm • La Boîte à soleil Co-operative Inc., 674 Tanguay Avenue, Welland

Emergent and Reflective Practice Network

This network is open to all Educators who are looking to share and develop their reflective practice techniques within an emergent approach. The network meeting will be held at the Ontario Early Years Centre, Erie-Lincoln Port Cares and will include a tour of the centre followed by an exploration of the centre's journey from a theme based approach to an emergent approach. Participants are requested to bring examples and photographs of 'provocations for learning', that they have offered or that they plan to offer to children, to share with the group and examples of documentation for study and reflective discussion.

Monday November 2 • 6:00 to 8:00 pm • Ontario Early Years Centre, Erie-Lincoln Port Cares, 92 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne

Co-op Teachers Network

This half day network session will provide Co-op Teachers with an opportunity to network with fellow Co-op Teachers as well as share successes and challenges they are experiencing in their roles. This session will include opportunities to engage in meaningful conversations regarding the new Child Care and Early Years Act, share information regarding how they plan to implement the changes outlined in the Act and view the Ministry of Education's new licensing website, followed by discussion. Ministry, Region and Public Health updates will be provided. Additionally, this session will provide an opportunity for conversation regarding Think, Feel, Act: Lessons on Research About Young Children and the network will preview the video 'Pedagogical Documentation'.

Friday November 13 • 9:00 am to 12:00 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom)



Ideas & Links to Lending Library Materials

Treasure Baskets

This summer our student supported through a government grant, Cassandra, has created three Infant and Toddler Natural Materials Treasure Baskets available for borrowing in our lending library. Some of the items children will have the opportunity to explore in each of the baskets include; shells, stones, fabric, wooden utensils, dried gourds, ceramic/metal hooks, metal strainers, woven mats, silver goblets, wooden rings, starfish, wooden egg holders, pinecones, and feather, moss, rose and leaf balls. If you would like to learn more about this exciting educational approach, the ECCDC's Ginette Wilson, Early Learning and Child Care Program Consultant, will also be giving a workshop this fall on Treasure Baskets and Heuristic Play for infants and toddlers on Thursday November 12 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold in the Community Boardroom.

Resource Delivery & Demonstration

Did you know that one of the benefits of having a group membership at the ECCDC is access to our resource delivery and demonstration service, which brings resource materials directly to your early learning and child care program? Use of this service includes the delivery of play based learning kits, loose parts, and treasure baskets to your program's location, as well as some unique ideas for using the materials. Please contact eccdc@eccdc.org for more information, or to arrange a delivery!

Fall Scented Spice Paint

To spice up your paint this fall, try adding cinnamon, pumpkin spice, ginger, or brown sugar! For more unique resources to use with paint, check out the Play-Based Learning Kit "Discovering Unique Paint Experiences with Young Children" that is available for borrowing from the ECCDC's Resource Lending Library.

Incorporating Literacy in Your Early Learning Environment

Creating a wonder journal for your early learning environment encourages children to record their thoughts, and contributes to the development of early literacy skills. The ECCDC's Specialized Workroom has the tools to help you design your wonder journal, including printing services, a wide variety of paper, as well as a binding machine to help put it all together.



An Exciting Naturalized Playground Partnership with Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds and the Early Childhood Community Development Centre

Bienenstock Natural Playgrounds and the ECCDC are joining forces to support you in naturalizing your early learning and child care playground. The Bienenstock Team will offer design recommendations to transform your outdoor environment, while the ECCDC will offer customized nature education through supporting the selection of innovative materials and offering strategies for creating inspiring outdoor experiences for children.

The Bienenstock Team will visit your centre to assess the space and learn more about your hopes for the naturalized playground. Following their visit, they will send in a surveyor to complete some preliminary mapping which will be used to design your customized plan. The visits will result in your program receiving a 3D drawing, list of costing for desired installations and work, standards specification sheets, and a technical construction plan.

The ECCDC will offer guidance in the selection of resources and materials that may be borrowed or purchased for use in your outdoor space and will facilitate customized training to your team; sharing recommendations and strategies in planning nature experiences for children. Additionally, we'll support you in the ongoing maintenance of your naturalized playground.

We are looking to trial this innovative new partnership with ECCDC Group Members. Any programs wishing to be a part of the pilot will receive a discount off the design consultation and customized training package cost.

To learn more about the Consultation and Training Service and associated fees please call the ECCDC at 905.646.7311 ext. 321 or email larial@eccdc.org.

Not a Group Member? To learn more about becoming an ECCDC Group Member, visit www.eccdc.org.



The ECCDC wishes to recognize Niagara Region Children's Services for its ongoing partnership, support and investment in the ECCDC's mission within Niagara's early learning and child care community.



ECCDC's Coaching & Mentoring Services

The ECCDC is pleased to announce the re-launch of its Program Support Services as Coaching and Mentoring Services. We believe the new name better describes the important relationships that are formed when our team works closely with programs to assist them in achieving the highest quality possible.

Our Coaching and Mentoring Services are available to ECCDC Group Members as part of their membership, and to other individuals and programs for a small fee. Learn more about ECCDC Group Memberships by visiting www.eccdc.org.

All of the recommendations the ECCDC provides align with Quality Child Care Niagara (QCCN), as the ECCDC is a proud partner

along with Niagara Region Children Services in implementing QCCN in early learning programs across the region.

Coaching and Mentoring Services include guidance and support related to the following areas: naturalizing indoor and outdoor spaces; early learning room layout and design; purchasing (and borrowing) innovative resources, furniture and equipment; strategies for providing invitations to play; support in developing an inquiry based approach; aligning curriculum planning with Ontario's Early Year's Frameworks; enhancing adult/child interactions; effective reflective practice strategies; moving from "scheduling" activities to facilitating a "sequence of events"; *and much more.*

To learn more about the ECCDC's Coaching and Mentoring Services please contact the ECCDC at eccdc@eccdc.org or 905.646.7311 ext. 314.

For details about any of these unique training sessions, contact:

Early Childhood Community Development Centre

3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold, ON L2V 4Y6 | 905.646.7311 ext. 304 | eccdc@eccdc.org | www.eccdc.org



And remember, any of the sessions you read about in esteem can be customized to meet the individualized needs of your program or organization.

Esteem is designed by the Early Childhood Community Development Centre