

esteem

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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

From the ECCDC



Happy New Year! Our Team is rejuvenated after the holidays and ready to inspire you with innovative professional learning opportunities to support you in designing exceptional environments and plans for young children. We have a host of informative, engaging and interactive workshops planned this winter to keep you warm and toasty right into spring. Although we are excited about all of this edition's sessions, a few unique sessions are highlighted below.

Nationally recognized Diane Kashin is first on our winter training slate, facilitating a session entitled **Exploring the Potential of Technology as a Professional Learning Tool**. As educators, we recognize the importance of gaining new twenty-first century technology strategies so that we are able to offer children opportunities to advance their skills, knowledge and understanding of modern tools.


We are also thrilled to welcome Sinéad Rafferty to Niagara. Sinéad is a Registered Early Childhood Educator with a Masters of Environmental Studies and a Graduate Diploma in Environmental and Sustainability Education. As a Forest School Practitioner in training, the practices of Forest Schools are embedded in her ongoing work with preschool children, where spending time in the outdoors is an integral part of the play-

based, emergent curriculum that she plans each day. Sinéad is facilitating two unique and inspiring sessions that you will not want to miss: **Ecologies of Childhood: Linking Place, Play and Pedagogy**; and **Intrinsic Connections: Nature and Ecological Literacy in Early Childhood**.

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: **Down and Dirty** and **Woodworking**. Additionally, the ECCDC is pleased to introduce a new customized natural playground design service. Visit www.eccdc.org/naturalizing-play-spaces/ to learn more.

Janet Emmett, a trusted colleague of the ECCDC and a certified Executive Coach, is offering a dynamic session called **A Developmental Coach Approach to Working with Staff** to complement our Executive Director Series. Executive directors, board members, supervisors, and managers are encouraged to join this session to gain new strategies to support the growth and development of staff in a much more proactive and positive manner than traditional performance evaluation techniques.





Due to popular request, the ECCDC will be offering an evening series in the newly launched four-part Board Training entitled **The Board - A Winning Team™**. Through an exclusive partnership with Gay Douglas and Associates and Big Bay Publishing, this series is based on three comprehensive, time-tested books written in Canada for the Canadian not-for-profit sector. Gay is a Niagara-based board governance consultant with more than 25 years of experience as both a board volunteer and as an Executive Director reporting to boards.

Ginette Wilson from ECCDC's Coaching and Mentoring Team is facilitating two new workshops this winter and spring. These inspiring and practical sessions help bring to life the Ministry of Education's *How Does Learning Happen?* while offering research and evidence-based suggestions related to emergent practice, nature education and play-based pedagogy.

Documenting children's investigations and relationships is now recognized as central to the practice of educators of young children. Join us to cultivate this practice at our special feature presentation this spring at **Documentation As Relationship** featuring Karyn Callaghan and Jason Avery as part of the *Think, Feel Act* Speakers Series. All workshop participants will receive a copy of

their recently published book, *Documenting Children's Meaning* as a very special bonus.

Please also consider joining us at one of our Network Groups. These informal communities of practice are a great way to revisit the strategies and best practices you've learned in our training sessions, and to be part of a strong community of people whose daily work is similar to your own.

Lastly, we'd like to remind you of our new professional learning e-bulletin, so even if you've missed a session, you can still benefit from tips and strategies offered. Alternatively, you may form your own group and request a repeat of any of the sessions in **esteem**. The ECCDC is also able to assist in the development of new training sessions, based on your specific needs and ideas. Give us a call; there's no cost or obligation to explore this option.

To make things easier, you may now register for all **esteem** training sessions by visiting www.eccdc.org. Photos and additional information may be found on our Facebook and Twitter pages. We are also always keen to receive your recommendations for professional learning opportunities or speakers that you'd like us to offer. Please email Lorrey at larial@eccdc.org with your suggestions.





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 *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*. They cover any training needs that are identified during the annual license renewal or during inspections by Ministry of Education 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



Back
by popular
demand!

If I Had a Hammer: Woodworking At Your Centre

Part of 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 back to your centre. For full details, including the agenda, please refer to the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Saturday February 20 • 9:00 am to 4:00 pm • District School Board of Niagara School Support Services, 130 Louth Street, St. Catharines • \$65 includes lunch and 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



"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).



Designing the Early Learning Environment

Back
by popular
demand!

Down and Dirty

*Part of 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.



Saturday April 16 • 9:00 am to 4:00 pm • District School Board of Niagara School Support Services, 130 Louth Street, St. Catharines • \$65 includes lunch and 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

The ECCDC thanks our friends at the DSBN for hosting If I Had a Hammer and Down and Dirty



Designing the Early Learning Environment



Two workshops with Ginette Wilson

ECCDC's Early Learning & Child Care Program Consultant



Strengthening Your Creative Art Program through Open Ended Art Experiences

Are you trying come to grips with the move towards creative arts and away from traditional crafts? If so, join us for this hands-on, interactive workshop. The session will look at the importance and benefits of a process focused approach to the arts rather than a traditional product based crafts approach and how this aligns with current thinking and Ontario's Early Learning Frameworks. Educators will have an opportunity to engage in conversations, share personal experiences, and develop an arsenal of practical strategies to draw on to support children to express themselves through the medium of art. Educators will develop a list of engaging creative experiences to offer children of all ages that will enable them to express themselves through the medium of art. The session will also look at practical ways to engage with parents regarding the importance of creative arts experience for young children.

Tuesday March 1 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • Mary Ward Catholic School, 2999 Dorchester Road, Niagara Falls - Gymnasium • \$45 includes materials and nutrition break

Rethinking Your Infant and Toddler Environment

This thought-provoking workshop will support educators in considering new ways of setting up stimulating and innovative environments for the youngest children in their care. Join us to discover the many and varied ways in which educators may design environments and materials to enhance the curiosity and wonder of infants and toddlers. Participants will gain strategies for facilitating open-ended experiences that will engage infants and toddlers and support them in taking appropriate risks to maximize learning, and how this aligns with Ontario's Early Learning Frameworks. There will be an opportunity for participants to explore and *Mess About* with the open-ended resources, materials and experiences within the Infant and Toddler Featured Highlight Area housed in the ECCDC'S workroom.

Tuesday March 29 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • Mary Ward Catholic School, 2999 Dorchester Road, Niagara Falls - Gymnasium • \$45 includes materials and nutrition break

The sessions above 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

Designing the Early Learning Environment

Sessions to Support Your Nature Education Exploration and Forest School Inquiry *with Sinéad Rafferty*



Ecologies of Childhood: Linking Place, Play and Pedagogy

The tides are shifting in early childhood education towards recognizing the value of outdoor play-based experiences and supporting children's relationship with "nature". Yet, most of our background and training in early childhood settings and child development research is focused on indoor and human-made elements of the environment (Davis, 1998; Davis, 2009; Fisher, 2013). This hands-on, experiential workshop aims to widen our consideration of early childhood communities to include the local land, flora, and fauna that exist in our surroundings – which are inextricably part of the fabric of children's encounters with the world. Outdoor Preschools, Nature Kindergartens, and Forest Schools are leading the way in creating places where children play – and make meaning – with a wild array of ecological encounters. This session will also highlight pedagogical approaches drawn from place-based learning; environmental education, and principles of Forest School, in relation to familiar early learning frameworks, such as *How Does Learning Happen?* and how educators and children engage wonder and curiosity, while fostering care and concern for "nature", will also be considered. For full session details, including the agenda, please refer to the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Saturday October 1 • 8:30 am to 4:00 pm • \$75 includes workshop materials, breakfast and lunch • St. Catharines Museum (Lockwood Rm), 1932 Welland Canals Parkway, St. Catharines • Note - some components of the workshops will be held outside and participants are asked to bring a device to document their workshop experiences

- 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



Designing the Early Learning Environment



Sessions to Support Your Nature Education Exploration and Forest School Inquiry *with Sinéad Rafferty*



Intrinsic Connections: Nature and Ecological Literacy in Early Childhood

Children are often the first to notice a worm crawling on a sidewalk, a puddle to jump in, or a ladybug resting on a slide. They are also notorious for pocket-filled collections of rocks, sticks or leaves. If children come into the world intrinsically connected to “nature” and biologically designed to form attachments with the world, then what are we doing as educators, and more broadly as a culture, to nurture such connections? This interactive workshop explores modern trends in thinking about “nature” and how this influences practice in early childhood education. The current movement to connect children and nature is an important one, but seems to be moving forward without deeper and more critical considerations of what “nature” is. Through hands-on, collaborative, and reflective experiences, we will explore meanings of “nature” and ecological literacy as it relates to our life and early childhood practice. Further, we will investigate meanings of “nature-deficit disorder” in the lives of children and ourselves. This workshop aims to help deepen our understanding and perception of “nature” so that educators may more genuinely tune into children’s emerging relations with the world. For full session details, including the agenda, please refer to the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Saturday June 11 • 8:30 am to 4:00 pm • \$75 includes workshop materials, breakfast and lunch • Amici’s Conference Centre, 2740 Merrittville Hwy, Thorold • Note - some components of the workshops will be held outside and participants are asked to bring a device to document their workshop experiences

- 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



Exploring the Potential of Technology as a Professional Learning Tool

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 Kashin 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. For full session details, please refer to the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Thursday January 28 • 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

Rethinking Your Practice to Align with *How Does Learning Happen?* Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years

When the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* became legislated on August 31, 2015 it became mandated by the Ministry of Education for programs to align their operations and practice with *How Does Learning Happen?* If you are looking for strategies for embedding the four foundations within your practice and are looking to engage in lively discussion with your peers to learn more about the changes they have implemented, this workshop is for you. The ECCDC's Early Learning and Child Care Program Consultant, Ginette Wilson, is facilitating this session to share strategies for bringing *How Does Learning Happen?* and supporting documents to life and to offer support to educators with practical strategies for weaving *How Does Learning Happen?* throughout their daily practice.

Tuesday February 2 • 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
- 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



Reading Aloud, There Is More To It Than Meets The Eye

Join April Shaw, Emergent Literacy Consultant with Speech Services Niagara, as she explores the importance of Dialogic Reading and Emergent Literacy. Dialogic reading is essentially a reading practice using picture books to enhance and improve literacy and language skills. Share some practical examples that you can use within your program and enhance your reading aloud experiences. Come prepared to join in and explore dialogic reading in a fun and practical evening.

Thursday February 4 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom) • No cost, includes 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

QCCN Related Training

The Snapshot of a Literacy Environment

The literacy-rich environment emphasizes the importance of speaking, reading, and writing in the learning of all students. This involves the selection of materials that will facilitate language and literacy opportunities; reflection and thought regarding classroom design; and intentional instruction and facilitation by teachers and staff (Reading Rocket). Join April Shaw, Emergent Literacy Consultant from Speech Services Niagara, and explore how you can incorporate a variety of activities in your environment.

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

QCCN Related Training

Are You Looking To Implement iPADS Within Your Early Learning Centre? Join Our iPad Project Learning Coffee and Dessert Café

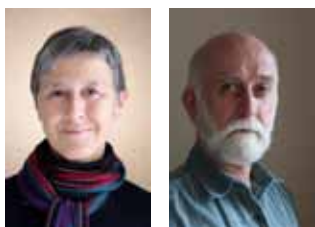
The ECCDC and Brock Research Team invites you to hear highlights from the recent iPad Pilot Project and to learn some strategies and practices that Administrators and Program Staff have learned in regards to implementing iPADS. This informal evening will include highlights of the research, sharing of personal stories and lived experiences of the participants and strategies for both Program Staff and Administrators for implementing iPADS.

Tuesday February 23 • 5:30 to 7:00 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom) • No cost; coffee and light desserts will be served



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

Developmental Program Planning, Curriculum and Pedagogy



Documentation as Relationship with Karyn Callaghan and Jason Avery *Part of the ECCDC's Think, Feel, Act Series*

Documenting children's investigations and relationships is now recognized as central to the practice of educators of young children. This is a disposition that requires cultivation. As we hone those skills, we will also have vibrant, authentic information from which we can make meaning, with many different questions in mind, inviting different perspectives – i.e. we can create documentation. In our time together, using examples of documentation created by Jason Avery, we will consider how we give visibility to our view of the child, families, teaching, and learning, as well as what it looks like when children feel that they belong, are engaged in relationships and learning, can express their ideas and responses in many ways, and have a feeling of well-being.

Participants are invited to bring a piece of documentation-in-the-works, so we can work together as critical friends to consider different perspectives about what the documentation reveals, not only about the children's thinking, but also about our own questions, learning, values, and assumptions. For full session details, including agenda, please refer to the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.



Saturday April 9 • 8:00 am to 4:00 pm • Balls Falls, 3292 Sixth Avenue, Lincoln • \$135 includes workshop materials, breakfast, lunch, exhibit, and a copy of *Documenting Children's Meaning: Engaging in Design and Creativity with Children and Families*, co-authored by Karyn Callaghan, Carol Anne Wien, and artist Jason Avery • \$75 without inclusion of the book.

- 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



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

Tools and Strategies for Hosting an Intergenerational Program with Local Seniors' Residences

Join this informative and innovative session to receive a free toolkit with a selection of hands-on materials and a strategies handbook to support you in establishing an Intergenerational Program. The kit aligns with *How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years* and is valued at approximately \$150. The kit was piloted locally with three early learning programs and three seniors' residences: Niagara Nursery School and Childcare Centre, A Child's World-Lookout Ridge, Fort Erie Regional Child Care, Chartwell Niagara, Lookout Ridge Retirement Home, and Niagara Region Seniors Services - Gilmore Lodge.



Some of the innovative items included within the kit are: seeds native to the Niagara Region; unique creative art supplies; and *Love You When* by Linda Kranz, *If You Find a Rock* by Peggy Christian, and *Tap the Magic Tree* by Christie Matheson.

The workshop facilitator, Ginette Wilson, will provide an overview of the Intergenerational Pilot Project and will share the toolkit and strategy handbook that was created as a result of the pilot project. Participants will have an opportunity to learn more about the successes of local intergenerational projects, will *Mess About* with the materials, and discuss strategies for implementing their own intergenerational pilot project.

There is no cost for the session, Intergenerational Toolkit, and Strategies Handbook as these costs were subsidized through a grant awarded to the ECCDC by the New Horizons for Seniors Program, a program of the Federal Government of Canada.

Please choose one of the following dates:

- Thursday March 3 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Americana Hotel, 8444 Lundy's Lane, Niagara Falls
- Tuesday May 3 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Americana Hotel, 8444 Lundy's Lane, Niagara Falls

■ 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

This project is funded in part by the Government of Canada.

Canada

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

Learning Two Languages: Understanding Bilingualism

Increasingly, the children in child care programs are from families where English is a second language, or where multiple languages are being used in the home. This can present a number of obstacles in communicating with the family, teaching and stimulating the child, identifying problems in language development and providing the support necessary to help these children grow and develop to their potential. Join the Emergent Literacy Team of Speech Services Niagara for this workshop designed to provide ECEs with detailed information on bilingualism. In addition to providing practical classroom strategies, tips for including parents in daycare activities, and insight into the latest research, this workshop offers a forum for discussions on bilingualism to help increase knowledge and comfort levels in working with second language children.

Thursday February 11 • 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



This workshop has been generously sponsored by Speech Services Niagara's Emergent Literacy Program

Submit Your Play Based Learning Experiences or Unique Room Design Ideas for Highlighting Within Esteem!

If you'd like to submit a unique play based learning experience or suggestions for early learning environments with photos to be published in Esteem, please send your ideas and photographs to the ECCDC at eccdc@eccdc.org with the caption - 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.

professionalism & relationships



Poursuivre son cheminement professionnel par l'apprentissage continu

Mélanie Dixon EPEI et Christine Gagnon EPEI

Cette session d'information portera sur les mises à jour clés de l'Ordre des éducatrices et des éducateurs de la petite enfance. Il vous sera possible d'échanger avec les autres participants sur le Code de déontologie et normes d'exercice ainsi que sur le programme d'apprentissage professionnel continu (APC). Cette session a été conçue pour faciliter la réflexion, la planification et la documentation de votre apprentissage de façon significative. Vous aurez la chance d'écouter le témoignage d'une EPEI qui participe au programme d'APC par l'entremise du deuxième projet pilote de leadership. On vous fournira la possibilité de réfléchir et d'examiner les moyens de vous engager dans ce programme et d'assumer un rôle de leadership, afin d'encourager d'autres personnes à s'engager dans ce parcours d'apprentissage.

Le 30 mars 2016 • 18 h 30 à 20 h 30 • Niagara College-Welland Campus, Simcoe Building, room #234, 300 Woodlawn Road, Welland • Coût est gratuit • Assurez-vous tous d'apporter votre Code de déontologie et normes d'exercice avec vous à cette session d'information

Pour vous y inscrire, contactez le centre **ECCDC** au **905-646-7311 poste 304** ou par courriel **eccdc@eccdc.org**. Ainsi pour toutes autres questions ou informations françaises vous pouvez communiquer avec **Christine Gagnon** au **905-735-9537** ou par courriel **empress@laboiteasoleil.ca**.



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 with Janet Emmett

A Developmental Coach Approach to Working with Staff

What is coaching? Is it mentoring, counselling, directing, performance management, all of the above, or none of the above? Participants who attend this full-day session will learn a four phase coaching model for every coaching conversation and likely reframe their thinking on what coaching truly is and the impact it can have on employees.

By developing a greater understanding of some key concepts and skills for each phase of the coaching model, participants will begin to understand the key ingredients to a successful and impactful coaching conversation. A coach approach is a way of leading and managing within the workplace that can have profound effects on employee empowerment and accountability. A unique element of this workshop is the opportunity for significant practice of the coaching model and skills being taught to provide participants with real time learning experiences. Participants should expect to both coach and be coached during this workshop. For further details, view the flyer or visit www.eccdc.org.

Who Should Attend?

Executive Directors, owners and operators of child care centres who have the responsibility for developing their employees to reach their full potential and deliver on outcomes for children. This workshop will support leaders in child care to engage with their employees in meaningful conversations that transfer accountability and ownership for results.

Friday February 26 • 9:00 am to 4:00 pm • Amici's Banquet and Conference Centre, 2740 Merrittville Hwy, Thorold • \$75 includes light morning refreshments and lunch

Executive Director Networking Lunch

The ECCDC has received community requests to help develop a local Executive Director Network. This lunch will help participants get to know one another and learn more about each other's passions, skills and strengths through engaging activities. Additionally we'll reflect upon future opportunities in having a local Executive Director Network and next steps in forming this new community of practice. Please bring some business cards and be prepared to introduce yourself by describing your signature strengths.

■ 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

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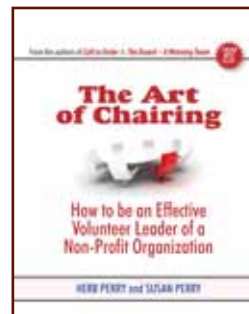
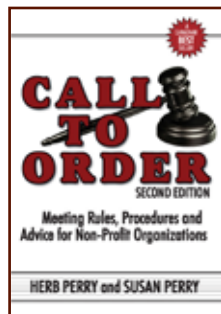
The Board: A Winning Team™

A Four Part Evening Training Series with Gay Douglas

The ECCDC is once again pleased to offer 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. 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.

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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.

Thursday May 12

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 June 2



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 June 23

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 August 18

5:30 to 9:00 pm • Holiday Inn & Suites Conference Centre, 325 Ontario Street, St. Catharines
• \$285 includes all four workshops plus Wine and Cheese Networking Session (Thursday September 8, 2016, 2016 from 4:00 to 5:30 pm), 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

early learning & child care community networking



early learning & child care community networking



Francophone Child Care Centre Supervisors Network

Come and join the francophone supervisors network in their strategic restructuring for the future of the francophone community.

Wednesday February 10 • 9:00 am to 12:00 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Niagara Room)

Niagara Nature Network

The ECCDC is excited to bring together individuals interested in being a part of Niagara's Nature Alliance. This meeting will feature two presentations: one by Bill Kilburn who will share information regarding the Back2Nature Network and the ECE Nature Guide; and a second from Debra Harwood, Professor, Bachelor of Early Childhood Education Program, Brock University who will share Forest School Learning from early learning programs across BC. 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.

Thursday February 25 • 5:30 to 7:30 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom)

- 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

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**Naturalizing
Play Spaces**

www.eccdc.org/naturalizing-play-spaces/



early learning & child care community networking



Child Care Centre Cooks Network

Child care centre cooks are invited to attend this meeting for an opportunity to share ideas and engage in conversations with fellow cooks. Jennifer Moodie, a Registered Dietitian with the Family Health Division at Niagara Public Health, will be attending this meeting to discuss the new requirements for nutrition and menu planning in light of the new *Child Care and Early Years Act* from a cook's perspective.

Wednesday March 2 • 2:30 to 4:30 pm • ECCDC, 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Internal Meeting Room)

Child Care Centre Supervisors Network

Child care centre supervisors are invited to attend this session for an opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations with fellow supervisors. Jennifer Moodie, a Registered Dietitian with the Family Health Division at Niagara Public Health, will be attending this meeting to discuss the new requirements for nutrition and menu planning in light of the new Child Care and Early Years Act from a supervisor's perspective. There will be an opportunity for supervisors to share how they are implementing the new Child Care and Early Years Act. Ministry of Education, Niagara Region Children's Services, and Public Health updates will be provided. This meeting will take place at Anna's Daycare and will include a tour of the centre.

Thursday March 10 • 6:30 to 8:30 pm • Anna's Daycare, 13 Thompson Avenue, Thorold

Reflective Emergent Practice Network

This network is open to all Educators who are looking to share and develop their reflective practice techniques. The meeting will revisit the photo study utilizing the *A Thinking Lens® for Reflection and Inquiry* activity, which will be followed by an opportunity for Educators to share photographs and documentation from their centres to engage in pedagogical discussions utilizing *A Thinking Lens® for Reflection and Inquiry* and Dr. Carol Anne Wien's *Attentiveness Protocol* to give meaning to children's emergent learning.

Monday March 21 • 5:00 to 7:00 pm • ECCDC 3340 Schmon Parkway, Thorold (Community Boardroom)



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.

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 provocation for 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!

Like us on Facebook and Follow us on Twitter!

Visit the ECCDC's Facebook page for a quick look at what's new in our resource lending library and workroom services, upcoming professional learning opportunities, updates for home child care providers, and exciting work that the ECCDC's staff, students, and volunteers have been involved in. Like us on Facebook by visiting www.facebook.com/eccdc. Follow [@eccdc1](https://twitter.com/eccdc1) on Twitter to stay current with all of the exciting things happening at the ECCDC



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 lial@eccdc.org.

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



New Resources Recently Added to the ECCDC's Resource Lending Library

Making the Most of Light & Mirrors by Linda Thornton & Pat Brunton (Cat #5891)

Making the most of Light and Mirrors has been specially written to celebrate the wonderful ideas and theories that babies and young children demonstrate on a daily basis, as they play and explore the world around them.

Learning with Nature - Embedding Outdoor Practice by Claire Warden (Cat #5892)

Learning outside the classroom is a key part of early years and primary practice and is on the rise in settings across the world. This book centers on outstanding outdoor practice and how children can learn and develop in natural environments.

Lens on Outdoor Learning by Wendy Banning & Ginny Sullivan (Cat #5901)

Packed with colorful photographs and detailed stories about children exploring and experiencing nature, Lens on Outdoor Learning will inspire you to facilitate and encourage children's learning as they spend time in nature. Each story describes how children naturally explore and create their own learning experiences outdoors.

Provocation for Learning Kits - Photo Unit Blocks with Community Photo Inserts (Cat #5885)

This provocation for learning kit includes a variety of fillable photo unit blocks. It's a great way to incorporate the children's voices into your environment by including photos of what interests them, photos of their family/community, photos of their art projects, etc.



Natural Materials Treasure Basket for Infants and Toddlers

We have been working hard to update our Provocation for Learning Kits and have recently added three Natural Materials Treasure Baskets for Infants and Toddlers. Each kit includes many unique items for the youngest children in your care to explore and investigate.



Coming Soon

Keep an eye out for our next Grab-n-Go Learning Projects Campaign coming soon to support children's Schema Play. Interested in a past campaign? Visit our e-store at www.eccdc.org/shop/ to place your order.

We invite you to drop by the ECCDC and preview our Beautiful Stuff Store!

"When children interact with loose parts, they enter a world of 'what if' that promotes the type of thinking that leads to problem solving and theoretical reasoning. Loose parts enhance children's ability to think imaginatively and see solutions, and they bring a sense of adventure and excitement to children's play."
(Daly & Belaglovsky, 2015, p. X)



The Early Childhood Community Development Centre (ECCDC) would like to invite you to join us in the celebration of the new **Beautiful Stuff Store** in our workroom. This area includes a variety of natural, unique and captivating items available to purchase. These loose materials allow educators to create provocations for learning where they become collaborators with the children as they discover, create, construct, and experiment in their early learning environments.

Come **mess about** with the materials, fill a bag for \$5, and see the provocations we have created with the beautiful stuff on display. Several of the items can be found in many of the revitalized play based learning kits which are now called **Provocation for Learning Kits**, as well as the new collection of **Natural Materials Treasure Baskets for Infants and Toddlers**, which are available in our lending library for members to borrow.

We hope to see you soon!





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.



Registering for **esteem** sessions has never been so easy!
Simply visit www.eccdc.org/professional-learning/workshop-registration/

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