



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
				1	2	3
4	5 ECCDC Closed Labour Day	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	Re-Energizing Your Team by Returning to Our Roots of How Does Learning Happen? - Session 1 6:30-8:30pm (p.22)	Walking A Labyrinth with the Niagara Nursery School Team 6:00-7:30pm (p.22)	15	16	17
18	Raising Children's Awareness about Residential Schools 6:30-8:30pm (p.22)	20	21	Nurturing Mindfulness in Early Learning Series - Session 1 6:30-8:00pm (p.22)	23	24
25	26	Love Builds Brains Book Study - Session One 6:30-8:00pm (p.23) Power Relations in Early Childhood 6:30-8:00pm (p.24)	28	29	30	



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
						1
2	3	Exploring the Impact of Transition Times 6:30-8:30pm (p.24)	5	Strengthening Our Relationships with Children and Families - Sexual and Gender Diversity 6:30-8:00pm (p.24)	7	8 ECCDC closed for Thanksgiving
9	ECCDC closed for Thanksgiving	Re-Energizing Your Team by Returning to Our Roots of How Does Learning Happen? - Session 2 6:30-8:30pm (p.22)	Sharing Ideas to Connect Children to Nature within a Naturalized Playground in the Fall 6:00-7:30pm (p.24)	Behaviour Awareness and Self-Regulation 6:00-8:30pm (p.24)	14	15
16	17	Love Builds Brains Book Study - Session Two 6:30-8:00pm (p.23) Making the Most of Your Professional Learning Experiences Series - Session 1 6:30-9:00pm (p.24)	Inspiring Staff Performance: Moving from Managing Employees to Supporting their Leadership Development 10:30am-12:00pm (p.25)	Nurturing Mindfulness in Early Learning Series - Session 2 6:30-8:00pm (p.22)	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
		Delving into Children's Social Worlds 6:30-8:00pm (p.25)	2	3 Nurturing Mindfulness in Early Learning Series - Session 3 6:30-8:00pm (p.22)	4	5
6	7	Re-Energizing Your Team by Returning to Our Roots of How Does Learning Happen? - Session 3 6:30-8:30pm (p.22) Love Builds Brains Book Study - Session Three 6:30-8:00pm (p.23)	9	Supporting Children in the Early Years with Learning Disabilities 6:30-8:00pm (p.25)	11	12
13	14	The Ripple Effects of Loss 6:30-8:30pm (p.25)	16	Back to the Foundations of Early Literacy Development 6:30-8:00pm (p.25)	18	Building Connections, Knowledge, and Strong Early Learning Communities - A Fall Virtual Learning Institute 9:00am- 4:00pm (p.25)
20	21	Making the Most of Your Professional Learning Experiences Series - Session 2 6:30-9:00pm (p.24)	23	Collaboration, Curiosity and Connection 2:00-4:00pm (p.26)	25	26
27	28	29	Love Builds Brains Book Study - Session Four 6:30-8:00pm (p.23)			



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
				1	2	3
4	5	Métis 101 and Early Learning and Child Care Programs and Services 6:30-7:30pm (p.26)	7 Being the Best Supervisor You Can Be! 10:00am-12:00pm (p.27)	8 Nurturing Mindfulness in Early Learning Series - Session 4 6:30-8:00pm (p.22)	9	Virtual Outdoor Play Institute: Rethinking the Rules and Prac- tices of Outdoor Play 8:30am to 4:00pm (p.37)
11	12	Making the Most of Your Professional Learning Experiences Series - Session 3 6:30-9:00pm (p.24)	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	ECCDC closed - 2-week winter closure
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
1	2 ECCDC closed - week 2 of annual winter closure	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	Reconceptualizing Early Learning Materials and Environments Post Pandemic Series Part 1 6:30-8:00pm (p.27)	11	Celebrating a New Year: How to Create Ten Habits to Support Your Personal Growth and Learning 6:30-8:30pm (p.27)	13	14
15	16	"What to Do, When it Feels Like a Zoo!" 6:30-8:30pm (p.28)	Engaging Families with Sensitivity and Understanding 6:30-8:00pm (p.28)	From ECE to Child Care Leader - A New Supervisor's Guide 4:00-6:00pm (p.28)	20	21
22	23	Coping with Challenging Behaviour Series Session 1 6:30-8:30pm (p.28)	Reconceptualizing Early Learning Materials and Environments Post Pandemic Series Part 1 6:30-9:00pm (p.27)	Simple Strategic Planning for the Busy Not for Profit Leader Series Session 1 9:30-11:30am (p.29) The Healthy, Happy and Mindful Educator Series Session 1 6:30-8:00pm (p.29)	27	Building Connections, Knowledge, and Strong Early Learning Communities: A Winter Virtual Learning Institute 9:00am-4:00pm (p.30)
29	30	31				



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
			Pedagogical Documentation in the Early Learning Classroom Part 1 6:30-8:00pm (p.30)	Diversity in the Early Childhood Environment: More Than a Book on the Shelf 6:30-8:30pm (p.30)	3	Sharing Ideas to Connect Children to Nature within a Naturalized Playground in the Winter 10:00-11:30am (p.31)
5	6	7 Reconceptualizing Early Learning Materials and Environments Post Pandemic Series Part 2 6:30-8:00pm (p.27)	8 Stress Management for Leaders 12:00-2:00pm (p.31)	9	10	Reaching INReaching OUT Part 1 8:30am-4:30pm (p.31)
12	13	14	How Does Learning Happen? for Non- Registered Early Childhood Educators 6:30-8:00pm (p.31)	Back to the Foundations of Early Math Development 6:30-8:00pm (p.31)	17	ECCDC Closed - Family Day
19	ECCDC Closed - Family Day	Coping with Challenging Behaviour Series Session 2 6:30-8:30pm (p.28)	Reconceptualizing Early Learning Materials and Environments Post Pandemic Series Part 2 6:30-9:00pm (p.27)	Simple Strategic Planning for the Busy Not for Profit Leader Series Session 2 9:30-11:30am (p.29) The Healthy, Happy and Mindful Educator Series Session 2 6:30-8:00pm (p.29)	24	25
26	27	28				



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
			1	Next Steps for Supporting New Graduates 6:30-8:30pm (p.32)	3	Inspiring Children's Wellness Institute 8:30am-4:00pm (p.32)
5	6	7 Reconceptualizing Early Learning Materials and Environments Post Pandemic Series Part 3 6:30-8:00pm (p.27)	8 Indigenous Cultural Appreciation vs. Appropriation 6:30-8:30pm (p.32)	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	Coping with Challenging Behaviour Series Session 3 6:30-8:30pm (p.28)	Reconceptualizing Early Learning Materials and Environments Post Pandemic Series Part 3 6:30-9:00pm (p. 27)	Simple Strategic Planning for the Busy Not for Profit Leader Series Session 3 9:30-11:30am (p.29) The Healthy, Happy and Mindful Educator Series Session 3 6:30-8:00pm (p.29)	24	Reaching INReaching OUT Part 2 8:30am-4:30pm (p.31)
26	27	Planting and Cultivating Seeds of Mindfulness in Early Learning Part 1 6:30-8:00pm (p.32)	29	Top 10 Ways to Bring Mindfulness to Children 6:30-8:00pm (p.33)	31	



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
						FLIP IT: Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Young Children/Reducing Their Instances of Challenging Behaviours 8:30am-4:30pm (p.33)
2	3	4 Reconceptualizing Early Learning Materials and Environments Post Pandemic Series Part 4 6:30-8:00pm (p.27)	Managing Difficult Phone Calls 9:30-11:30am (p.33)	Inspiring New Ideas for Connecting Children to Nature Virtual Series Part 1 6:30-8:00pm (p.33)	7 ECCDC Closed - Easter	8 ECCDC Closed - Easter
9	10 ECCDC Closed - Easter	Reflecting on Our Daily Practice of Communication, Diversity & Engagement Part 1 6:30-8:00pm (p.34)	Coping with Challenging Behaviour Series Session 4 6:30-8:30pm (p.28)	Pedagogical Documentation in the Early Learning Classroom Part 2 6:30-8:00pm (p.30)	14	15
16	17	18	Reconceptualizing Early Learning Materials and Environments Post Pandemic Series Part 4 6:30-9:00pm (p.27)	Body and Mind for the Stressed-Out Educator 6:30-8:30pm (p.34)	Creating a Culture of Reflective Practice - Book Signing/Meet the Authors 5:30-7:00pm (p.34)	Creating a Culture of Reflective Practice - Full Day Institute 9:00am-4:30pm (p.34)
23	24	25	26	The Healthy, Happy and Mindful Educator Series Session 4 6:30-8:00pm (p.29)	28	Sharing Ideas to Connect Children to Nature in the Spring 10:00-11:30am (p.35)



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Reflecting on Our Daily Practice of Communication, Diversity & Engagement Part 2 6:30-8:00pm (p.34)	Leadership and Integrity 9:30-11:30am (p.35)	11	12 101 Ways to Supercharge Your Professional Development - Keynote & Book Signing 6:30-9:00pm (p.35)	13 101 Ways to Supercharge Your Professional Development - Full Day Institute 9:00am-3:00pm (p.35)
14	15	Taking Emergent Literacy Outdoors 6:30-9:00pm (p.35)	A Look at Learning Disabilities from the Inside Out 6:30-8:30pm (p.35)	Inspiring New Ideas for Connecting Children to Nature Virtual Series Part 2 6:30-8:00pm (p.33)	19	ECCDC Closed - Victoria Day
21	ECCDC Closed - Victoria Day	Planting and Cultivating Seeds of Mindfulness in Early Learning Part 2 6:30-8:00pm (p.32)	24	The Healthy, Happy and Mindful Educator Series Session 5 6:30-8:00pm (p.29)	26	27
28	29	Bullying within Early Learning Classroom: Why it Happens and How to Manage It 6:30-8:00pm (p.36)	31			



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
				Delight! Excite! Inspire! Teach! – Creating a Fun and Motivating Learning Environment For Children 6:30-8:30pm (p.36)	2	3
4	5	Leading for Change: Leadership and Administration of Early Childhood Programs in Canada, 7th Edition 5:30-9:00pm (p.36)	7 Leadership and Culture: How to Create a Workplace Where People Like to Work 9:30-11:30am (p.36)	8 Setting the Stage for Summer Fun and Learning 6:30-9:00pm (p.37)	9	10
11	12	Reflecting on Our Daily Practice of Communication, Diversity & Engagement Part 3 6:30-8:00pm (p.34)	14	Inspiring New Ideas for Connecting Children to Nature Virtual Series Part 3 6:30-8:00pm (p.33)	16	17
18	19	Planting and Cultivating Seeds of Mindfulness in Early Learning Part 3 6:30-8:00pm (p.32)	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Re-Energizing Your Team by Returning to Our Roots of How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years - A New Series! (all three sessions will be offered via live stream so participants may choose to attend in person or watch virtually)

Session One: Returning to Our Roots of How Does Learning Happen? How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years has been our framework in supporting and building relationships with young children and families since 2014. This workshop series presents an opportunity for educators to dig back into the four foundations of belonging, well-being, engagement, and expression in order to rethink, reimagine and realign these foundations within our pedagogy, environments, materials, and curriculum to further develop our early years program.

Session Two: Constructive Disruption of our Early Learning Practices Constructive disruption is the act of productively challenging inherited wisdom or structures. It supports innovation by opening the space to replace what we have with what we might imagine. If we reflect upon our early learning practices following the pandemic, what might we challenge, innovate, or replace within our daily practice? The session will offer the opportunity to respectfully engage in conversation and consider ways in which we can step back in order to move forward in our practice.

Session Three: Future Pedagogical Possibilities

The future is full of endless pedagogical possibilities and where you might go is only limited by your energy. As we have moved through *How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years* we have explored the four foundations, environments, materials, curriculum while challenging our daily practices. During the session participants will have an opportunity to create a future path of possibilities for the children, centre, and themselves.

Walking A Labyrinth with the Niagara Nursery School Team (This session will be offered in person at Niagara Nursery School, 14 Anderson Lane, Niagara-on-the-Lake)

Have you heard about Labyrinths? Are you wondering what they are? What they do? How to use one? Why they are so popular? Here is your chance to walk one at Niagara Nursery School and find out for yourself what they are all about. Labyrinths are currently being used world-wide as a way to quiet the mind, get clarity on a question or decision, and encourage meditation, insight, self-reflection, and stress reduction. Groups of people are using the labyrinth for healing, community building, and celebration. Schools, child

care centres, and Family Support Service Agencies are using labyrinths with children to help them balance their energy, focus, and reduce behaviour problems. Join the Team at Niagara Nursery School to gain strategies on how to introduce children to labyrinths and use them with the children and families you work with.

Raising Children's Awareness about Residential Schools presented by Willow Shawanoo-Kechego, Pow Wow, Outreach and Fundraising Coordinator, Niagara Regional Native Centre and Danielle Longboat and Michaela Kills Enemy, Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre (This session will be offered in person at the ECCDC)

Orange Shirt Day (September 30) is a day when we honour the Indigenous children who were sent away to Residential Schools and learn more about the history of these schools. It has become a National Campaign to raise awareness and provide education about Residential Schools. Educators are invited to join this session to gain an understanding and strategies for sharing learning experiences with children of all ages. Attend this session to understand the significance of Orange Shirt Day. Participants will have an opportunity to purchase a kit of culturally appropriate children's books.

Nurturing Mindfulness in Early Learning: A Continuum of Learning - A New Series! (These sessions will be offered via live stream so participants may choose to attend in person or watch virtually) Mindfulness is a simple technique that emphasizes paying attention to the present moment in an accepting, nonjudgmental manner. As we reflect upon How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years and the foundation of well-being it speaks to lifelong learning habits. Habits formed early in life will inform behaviours in adulthood, and with mindfulness we can give our children the habit of being peaceful, kind, and accepting. At each developmental stage, mindfulness can be a useful tool for decreasing anxiety and promoting happiness. When we teach mindfulness to children, we equip them with tools to build self-esteem, confidence, manage stress, and skillfully approach challenges. The earlier we do so in their young lives, the greater the opportunity to help them cultivate resilience and develop and refine their mindfulness practice as they mature. This session will offer resources and experiences that will highlight the benefits of mindfulness and enhance your curriculum for children of all ages. Participants are invited to attend the Educator Session as a start to their mindfulness journey and then choose their age group pathway. You may choose more than one age group pathway if desired.

Session One: Taking Care of Ourselves as Educators

As we have been navigating the pandemic, we have also been navigating our wellness practices and as we move out of the pandemic what can we consider to keep the momentum? What wellness looks and feels like will be different from educator to educator, and wherever you are in your wellness journey, it's important to remember that you are the creator of your own path. By recognizing this and choosing to stay in the present, you can grow more confident in your wellness choices and keep the momentum going on your personal journey. During this session participants will have the opportunity to review their past goals, explore tools and resources that have been shared with the early learning community, consider new tools and resources that will support keeping the momentum of their journey and map out the next leg of their journey.

Session Two: Supporting Infants and Toddlers

While infants may not be able to express their feelings with anything but crying, they can recognize voices and the scents of their caregivers. Mindfulness at this age is about connecting to their senses, building your relationship and trust with each child, and consider how they are seeing the world. For our Toddlers, mindfulness strategies revolve again around the senses and staring to layer in the ways for children to recognize what they're feeling on the inside, label the feelings, and consider how their body connects to these feelings.

Session Three: Mindful Experiences for Preschoolers

For preschool children we can start to layer in simple games and experiences that can be highlighted within your curriculum as learning experiences. Current research is showing huge benefits in terms of relaxation, stress relief, and, inevitably, enhanced learning when mindfulness practices are woven into daily practices. We will explore research that has been conducted that proves the many mental benefits of mindfulness as well as the way it promotes self-regulation as well as what this looks like in practice through learning experiences.

Session Four: Mindfulness for the School Ager

In working with school age children, we can incorporate mindfulness as a useful tool for decreasing anxiety and promoting happiness. School age children today are faced with an unprecedented amount of stress and anxiety. Mindfulness is a powerful tool that as educators we can include in our daily practice to support children in calming themselves, focusing their attention, and interacting effectively with others, all critical skills for functioning well in school and in life. We will explore ways in which to both engage children and families in mindfulness practices.

Love Builds Brains Book Study (Webinar - all sessions)

Join us for an exciting new book study on Dr. Jean Clinton's latest Book, Love Builds Brains. Love Builds Brains lays out the early years journey of attachment, self-regulation, connection, resilience and well-being. Throughout the book, Dr. Jean Clinton invites us to examine our view of children and the ways in which this view impacts how we interact with them. Throughout this book study, we will engage in deep discussion and reflection on each section of the book, as we share thoughts and ideas surrounding child development.

Session 1: An Introduction to the Brain, Attachment in the Early Years and the Importance of Serve and Return

During this session we will do a deep analysis of attachment and how it affects the developing brain. We will discuss how attachment is the building block of who we become and how we can optimize our interactions with young children to support their development.

Session 2: Resilience and Recovery and the Power of Connection Each child recovers from events and experiences in varying ways, based on their resilience. During this session we will discuss the factors that

contribute to individual resilience and how our views of children impact their development.

Session 3: Infant and Preschool Mental Health and the Adolescent Brain **Under Construction**

In this session we will look at how early experiences that shape the architecture of the developing brain set the foundation for lifelong mental health. We will also explore how adolescence sees a significant time for growth and development in shaping the brain we take into adulthood.

Session 4: Self-Regulation, Anxiety and the Impacts of the Digital World

Technology is everywhere. Join us as we look at how the use of technology may be linked to feeling stress and anxiety and how we can navigate the impact of a digital world.

To register for any session, visit www.eccdc.eccdc.org/, call 905.646.7311 x304, or email eccdc@eccdc.org. To view Esteem, visit www.eccdc.org/professional-learning/esteem.

Power Relations in Early Childhood (Webinar)

Join Sandra Della Porta, PhD, RECE, Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Education at Brock University for this interactive seminar. Children grow up as part of multiple systems, distinct familial, cultural, and social systems, developing their identity and learning lifeways. Whether it's interactions with other humans or with the material world, young children gain a sense of theirs and others' power as part of such systems. In this professional learning seminar, participants will be introduced to means through which children's learning is strongly impacted by power dynamics and learn ways in which we can foster positive power solutions in the teaching and learning process. This session focuses on power relations that exist in multiple levels of children's developmental niches in the early years.

Exploring the Impact of Transition Times in Our Early Learning Environment (Live stream - choose to attend in person or watch virtually)

Transitions within our early learning environments can be moments of joy, chaos, learning, and stress. How do you see the impact of transitions within your early learning environment? In this session participants will have the opportunity to consider how creating meaningful and personalized routines for children can support the transformation of transitions from moments of challenge into opportunities for connection and relationship building. The session will offer reflection upon our intentionality and individualizing experiences, as well as tools and techniques that can be incorporated into your early learning environment to support the well-being of both the child and educator.

Strengthening Our Relationships with Children and Families through Gaining an Awareness and Understanding of Sexual and Gender Diversity (Webinar)

Join LGBTQ2+ Support Coordinator Celeste Turner from the Niagara Falls Community Health Centre for this informative presentation that will support Early Childhood Educators with increasing their awareness and knowledge of sexual and gender diversity to support the critical conversations and relationship-building with families of the children enrolled in early learning programs. During this webinar, Celeste will walk us through the following concepts:

- Background on why sexual and gender diversity is important to address
- An overview of key terms (Gender Identity, Gender Expression, Sex assigned at Birth, and Physical and Romantic Attraction)
- Pronouns what are they and how to use them
- How to be an Ally recommendations to foster more inclusion in personal and professional life

 Resources and information about the Niagara Falls Community Health Centre

Sharing Ideas to Connect Children to Nature within a Naturalized Playground in the Fall (In person at St. Thomas' Day Care)

Join the Team of St. Thomas' Day Care to play in their naturalized playground and learn how the Team continue to engage the children enrolled in their program with loose parts and extended experiences in the outdoors.

Behaviour Awareness and Self-Regulation (In person at ECCDC)

Join the Pathstone Mental Health Behaviour Consultant Team for this informative workshop that is back by popular request. In this workshop participants will gain knowledge to identify the function of behaviour, understand the importance of data collection, and develop strategies to help promote student success. This workshop will also cover Self-Regulation: what it is, why it's important, signs of it, and what we can do in child care settings to promote positive self-regulation skills.

Making the Most of Your Professional Learning Experiences - A New Series! (Webinar - all sessions)

Session One: Goal Setting for Your Professional Learning Experience

As educators, engaging in ongoing continuous professional learning is part of the cycle of learning. When educators register for a workshop, how do they plan their goals? In this session, participants will engage in discussions for goalsetting around the topics of self-reflection, strengthening daily practice, increased understanding of current theories and research, encouraging professional communication and collaboration with colleagues, and supporting their personal growth and development. Goalsetting plans, tools, and resources will be shared with participants for consideration and to incorporate within their learning journey.

Session Two: Strategies for Sharing Learning with Colleagues to Leverage Information within Programs

In this session, participants will explore ways to share their learning from professional development sessions with their colleagues. Both virtual and in person approaches will be shared, as well as strategies that support multiple learning styles. Educators will also have the opportunity to network and reflect on how they share information with their staff teams. Participants will leave with ideas on how and why sharing information with colleagues will benefit their team.

- 24 -

Session Three: Sharing Learning with Families and Community through Digital Media

In this session, participants will explore ways to share their learning from professional development sessions with families and community partners. Strategies for connecting with families, both virtually and in person, will be shared, as well as a variety of tools and platforms educators can use for daily communication and co-learning opportunities.

Inspiring Staff Performance: Moving from Managing Employees to Supporting their Leadership Development with Anisha Angella (Webinar)

Join with your peers to engage in conversations around stepping away from managing our Teams to inspiring them: inspiring them to grow, learn, and be the best professional they can be. This session will touch on how to inspire active change in performance in staff, how to support staff's growth, development, goal setting, and more. Conversations will include:

- Discussion on what it means to inspire change in staff performance
- How to support staff growth and learning
- Learn techniques to identify the cause of an employee's poor performance and how to successfully manage their performance
- Goal setting for staff performance management
- Strategies for motivating teams
- Gain knowledge on employee challenges you may face and tips and tricks for managing employee performance

Delving into Children's Social Worlds (Webinar)

Join Sandra Della Porta, PhD, RECE Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Education at Brock University for this interactive seminar. The home is the first learning environment, but what does that mean? This session will open doors into the mind of a child — a child who is part of a whole: their family. It's not just about what we know or how we teach, but how we learn from children. Join Sandra in exploring children's intricate social worlds and to develop a contextual understanding of what experiences children bring with them to the classroom, informs on their behaviours, and considers cultural contributions to social-emotional skills and development. Sandra will also provide strategies on how to adapt to each child's authentic lived realities through multiliteracy and multimodalities.

Supporting Children in the Early Years with Learning Disabilities (In person at ECCDC)

As Educators we have a role in observing and identifying children who

require additional support and assistance. Early Childhood Educators are invited to join the Learning Disabilities Association of Niagara to gain strategies for supporting children who are experiencing some learning challenges as well as ideas for communicating with families in sensitive ways.

The Ripple Effects of Loss with Angel G. Graham, Clinical Therapist and Registered Social Worker, Angel GG Consulting (In person at ECCDC)

This presentation will explore the various secondary losses that arise as a result of a death, with a discussion on the grief and loss that many have endured due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Now, more than ever, it is important to accept and allow for our grief related feelings. COVID-19 continues to leave a wake of unresolved grief in its path. It is only through acknowledging our collective grief and experiences that we can take steps to

Back to the Foundations of Early Literacy Development (In person at ECCDC)

Do you wonder about how to get back to the foundations of literacy in your Early Years program? Are you curious about how to support children in their oral development, phonics and phonemic awareness? Join us as we share practical tips and interactive experiences on how to incorporate experiences that support these crucial building blocks of literacy. Through hands-on exploration with manipulatives, outdoor resources and written activities, educators will delve into materials that will inspires students' literacy skills!

Building Connections, Knowledge, and Strong Early Learning Communities - A Fall Virtual Learning Institute (Webinar - all sessions)

9:00 am Morning Keynote Presentation: Keeping the Momentum with our Educator Wellness Practices as We Move Out of the Pandemic

As we have been navigating the pandemic, we have also been navigating our wellness practices. As we move out of the pandemic what can we consider to keep the momentum? What wellness looks and feels like will be different from educator to educator, and wherever you are in your journey, it's important to remember that you are the creator of your own path. During this session participants will have the opportunity to review their past goals, explore tools and resources that have been shared with the early learning community, and consider new tools and resources.

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10:15 to 11:45 am Morning Presentations (participants may choose one of the following 3 sessions)

- Session One: Sharing Sensitive News with Parents
- Session Two: What Does Indoor Risk Look like for Child Care? For Educators
- Session Three: Natural and Found Loose Parts for all Ages

12:45 to 2:30 pm Afternoon Sessions (participants may choose one)

- Session One: Exploring Nature through Creative Experiences
- Session Two: Inclusion in the Early Learning Classroom
- Session Three: Naturalizing your Indoor Early Learning & Child Care Environment

2:45 to 4:00 pm Strategies for Promoting an Equitable and Discrimination Free Early Learning Environment

This session is being offered by Dane Marco Di Cesare, PhD, Assistant Professor, Brock University, Faculty of Education. Dane will offer strategies to support early childhood educators in providing an environment free of gender identity and gender expression discrimination through creating gender-inclusive and gender-affirming spaces. The session will introduce gender vocabulary and discuss children's developmental milestones related to gender, speak to strengthening self-awareness to check assumptions and interrupt biases about gender. Dane will offer practical and tangible ideas and strategies for co-creating gender justice curricula in early years' classrooms.

Collaboration, Curiosity and Connection: Why Communication Is the Key to Successful Change Management with Lindsay Lapaquette, M.Sc.(A) (Webinar)

Too often, organizations implement change in a top-down fashion, while those who have to implement or are impacted by change are inadequate opportunities to voice concerns. Limited resources, fear of pushback and poor internal communication often combine into a perfect storm of resentment and disengagement as people are expected to adapt to change in a way that exceeds their capacity to cope.

So what does it take to effect change more smoothly? Particularly when people are already worn down?

People simply need to feel heard. Yes, change management requires a clear vision and a solid organizational strategy. But the foundation to any successful change management strategy lies in being able to navigate resistance with success, while simultaneously growing support and engagement for your new initiative. It requires aiming for collaboration

rather than consensus, leaning into discomfort with an open mind and being able to leave people feeling heard, even when you disagree.

After mastering these foundations to change management, you will find yourself no longer needing to manage change at all. Instead, you will find yourself with a team of supporters who are intrinsically motivated to implement, influence and lead the change themselves.

Learning Outcomes:

Learn how to set the groundwork for success for any organizational change

- Enhance your ability to influence change by recognizing where individuals sit in their current ability to embrace change
- Improve your ability to connect with and get buy-in from all members of your team
- Identify the root cause of resistance more quickly for decreased conflict through change
- Transform your ability to manage stressful moments during transitions and change

Métis Nation of Ontario Presents: Métis 101 and Early Learning and Child Care Programs and Services (Webinar)

In this workshop, presented by Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Advisors: Jennifer Boston, RECE. and Sherry Lance, we will focus on a brief overview of Métis history, culture and way of life. The session will also include information highlighting MNO ELCC programs and services for Métis children and families.

The ELCC Advisor Team at the Métis Nation of Ontario is dedicated to enhancing relationships with existing early learning and child care centres and programs, home child care, colleges and Métis RECEs across Ontario and strengthening partnerships with regional municipalities and school boards.

We are promoting and fostering these partnerships through community development; building collaborative relationships with ELCC stakeholders to increase awareness of Métis culture and way of life, which can be incorporated into early years programming.

Session Objectives:

- To build educators' awareness and knowledge of Métis history, culture and way of life.
- Information sharing about MNO ELCC services for Métis children and families

Being the Best Supervisor You Can Be! The Making of a Life-Changing Mentor ... What Makes a Good Leader?" with Simmy Zaret (Webinar)

An Interactive Workshop for all Mentors, including Supervisors, Directors, Team Leaders, and anyone aspiring to take on a leadership role. Empowering participants with the critical components that make one a positive, effective, and inspirational leader. A good mentor inspires, a good mentor is unforgettable, a good mentor can make an impact that lasts a lifetime. As the supervisor or manager, you play a key role in the lives of all those with whom you work. You have the capacity to inspire, support, and strengthen those around you, bringing out the very best in each and every member of your team. In this workshop we'll explore the fundamental attributes of a motivational leader in order to best support your staff, build a cohesive team, provide constructive feedback, and foster a positive and productive environment for all. A good leader makes all the difference in the world. Join Simmy Zaret for the opportunity to engage in some fun and enlightening activities and facilitated discussions, as you gain a deeper understanding of the critical role you play and the positive influence you have, in assuring the best in quality care for the children and families coming to your early learning program.

Reconceptualizing Early Learning Materials and Environments Post Pandemic - A New Series! (Webinar and In person - all sessions)

As the restrictions of the past two and half years ease and we move out of Covid towards our 'new norm', educators will have an opportunity to reconceptualize their early learning materials and the environments and experiences offered to children. Educators will consider how to return to a focus on the curriculum, pedagogy, and best practices that were prominent pre-Covid19 in order to set new goals and aspirations to develop a pathway forward. Throughout this series tips, strategies, and resources will be shared to support educators to move 'back to the future'.

Session One: Curating New Learning Materials and Rethinking our Existing Materials

During the first session in the series educators will have opportunities to reflect on the materials that have been sidelined over the past few years, along with the new practices and materials adopted in more recent times and consider how they can mesh together in a new way of being. Dialogue and discussion will be prompted around how educators select, organize and maintain their collections of materials and artifacts to support children's open-ended exploration and self-directed play.

Session Two: Re-Imaging the Possibilities of Messing About

This session is a continuum from session one. In this workshop educators will spend time re-imaging the experiences they offer children by becoming experts in their own learning. By utilizing the lens of Messing About educators are able to "conceptualize, understand, observe, and interpret children's work as they explore materials" (Hawkins, 2002). The session will also look at how Messing About can be utilized to co-learn and co-construct with children, educators and families, and to guide adults and children's inquiry.

Session Three: Recognizing the Play Value and Setting the Design Stage

The third session in the series will consider how educators can design environments and experiences to support children's learning and development by following children's interests. Educators will explore how they can assess the play value of the materials and experiences they offer to the children they work with.

Session Four: Revisiting Documentation and Conversations with Children

The final session in this series will focus on how educators can use documentation as a vehicle to engage in conversations and collaborative decision-making with children about their play. Educators will also explore how they can use pedagogical documentation as a tool to analyse and interpret with the children what is being seen in children's play to support and extend children's learning.

Celebrating a New Year: How to Create Ten Habits to Support Your Personal Growth and Learning *with Debbi Sluys* (Webinar)

Straight talk. It starts with you, not them. Clear old habits and replace them with ones that serve your purpose and support your Vision for your best life. This session is for those who have busy lives and are seeking to balance (blend) work and home life. Learn how to set goals and value the importance of self-care. Through this participatory workshop discover 10 tips for a better blended life. Uncover toxicity in your life and how to remove it. Find power in understanding the role your thoughts and focus determine your outcome.

In this webinar, participants will learn:

- to better recognize and embrace the purpose of joy in your life
- uncover a proven framework to identify what you truly want.
- discover the 10 habits to commit to in order to achieve any goal

"What to Do, When it Feels Like a Zoo!" with Simmy Zaret (Webinar) Join us for this interactive online workshop that will address the rise in the negative behaviours we are now likely to see during and following this unprecedented time. We will explore effective, compassionate behaviour management techniques that will promote and maintain a safe, peaceful, and productive place to learn and explore the roots of these behaviours and explore the means to circumvent their triggers. Together we will look at the means to prevent or defuse disruptive behaviours, in order to replace frustration with compassionate and supportive management techniques. A child care program doesn't have to feel like a zoo! This fun, engaging, and invaluable workshop will replace the headache pills in any teaching toolkit with some great and effective behaviour management skills!

Engaging Families with Sensitivity and Understanding (In person at ECCDC)

Join QCCN Staff for a lively discussion to explore all of the parent engagement tools and strategies for sharing sensitive information offered through the QCCN portfolio of tools, Participants will engage in dialogue and will have critical conversations about children's development, their strengths and areas which could be further supported.

From ECE to Child Care Leader - A New Supervisor's Guide with Anisha Angella (Webinar)

Becoming a supervisor for the first time can be an exciting, yet nerve wracking experience. You're in unfamiliar territory and maybe a little lost on where to go from here. Don't worry, you are not alone in feeling that way. All first-time supervisors have been there. This webinar takes an in-depth look at the best practices when starting a new supervisory role and will provide you with some tips and tricks that you won't want to miss. Within the webinar, we will focus on building community with staff, children, and families; leadership growth and development; and effective communication skills. Time will also be devoted to discussing burnout and how to prevent it. This session will provide a range of information you need to know to help prepare yourself for your new supervisor role and rock it!

The workshop highlights are:

- The diverse parts of your role, including Administrative, Customer Service, Marketing and Sales, Building Community, Being a Coach and Mentor, and Leadership
- We will look at how to prepare for the role
- · The qualities of an exceptional leaders
- Strategies for success

Coping with Challenging Behaviour *A Series by Canadian Author Barbara Kaiser* (Webinar - all sessions)

Barbara Kaiser is the co-author of *Challenging Behavior in Young Children*. She has taught at Acadia University and at Concordia University and College Marie-Victorin. In addition to presenting workshops and keynote speeches on challenging behaviour throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, Singapore, and Europe, Barbara has acted as chief consultant for *Facing the Challenge*, an instructional DVD based on Challenging Behaviour in Young Children, and a workshop, *What Do You Do With the Mad That you Feel* for Mr. Rogers' Family Communications, Inc.

Session One: "I Didn't Mean to Ruin Your Day" - Understanding Yourself and The Child

When you understand yourself, know which behaviours push your buttons, and recognize that a child's challenging behaviour is rooted in biological and environmental factors and not a desire to ruin your day, you are in a much better position to respond effectively. By bridging the gap between research and practice and bringing together information drawn from neuroscience, psychology, and special education, this session will help you understand why a child behaves in a particular way and make it much easier to effectively meet those needs.

Session Two: "Nothing I Do Works!" - Preventing a Child's Challenging Behaviour

No strategy works in a vacuum. It is probably impossible to eliminate challenging behaviour entirely, but a lot of it can be prevented. Prevention is the best form of intervention. When the environment meets their physical, cognitive, emotional, and social needs, children feel competent and capable of success, and their challenging behaviour becomes less necessary. This means that every aspect of the environment—the social climate, the physical space, the curriculum, and your teaching strategies—must take each child's needs into account.

Session Three: Where Is the Fairy Dust? - Responding Effectively to Children's Challenging Behaviour

Teachers often feel unable to help children with challenging behaviours to develop the skills they need to succeed, and as a result they may not be able to provide a safe setting for the other children in their classroom. Many of us keep doing something that doesn't feel right or have the desired outcome because we don't know what else to do. But you can respond effectively to a child's challenging behaviour when you have the appropriate knowledge, strategies, and skills.

Session Four: Addressing Challenging Behaviour in Young Children - The Leadership Role

As the head of a team, leaders play a crucial role in making it possible for children with challenging behaviour to remain in child care/school, develop positive relationships with their peers and adults, learn appropriate ways to express their needs, and be ready to learn. However, these goals can only be met when leaders believe in them and have the skills to develop and lead a team that supports them. Possessing good leadership skills is just the beginning. Acting as an advocate for children, staff, and families pulls you in all directions at once and requires you to understand and respect everyone's needs and challenges.

Simple Strategic Planning for the Busy Not for Profit Leader with

Shannon McMannis and Melanie Mears (Webinar - all sessions)
Join Shannon McMannis and Melanie Mears for this new webinar series to gain strategic planning strategies to support your short term or long term strategic plans to help achieve your organizational goals and to support your stakeholder engagement.

Day One: The Various Components of Strategic Planning

Leaders of local early learning programs are invited to join this webinar to begin having conversations about the strategic planning process and the various components that are critical in developing a plan that is inclusive of board, staff, and stakeholder engagement. Participants will consider why it is important for organizations to undergo a strategic planning process and will consider several elements that could be coordinated within strategic planning, including: an environmental scan; and the development of surveys, interviews, and focus groups.

Day Two: Developing Overall Strategic Directions and Specific Strategies

Participants will join a second session to engage in dialogue about how to move through the various stages of strategic planning, including the development or reassessment of organizational vision, mission, and values and the difference between the development of strategic directions and specific strategies.

Day Three: Strategic Director and Strategy Measurement and Evaluating Your Strategic Planning Success

Discussion will take place about methods and ideas for measuring progress and accomplishments for each strategy and overarching strategic direction. With the culmination of the series, leaders of local early learning programs with gain enhanced confidence in leading the strategic planning process and will have a menu of options to choose from.

The Healthy, Happy and Mindful Educator Series: Fostering Our Own Wellbeing as Educators with Carolyn Hadcock (Webinar - all sessions)

Session One: Rejuvenation of Your Spirit

Do you sometimes feel drained, tired, and stressed at the end of the day? Most Registered Early Childhood Educators experience some, if not all, of these maladies. During this workshop you will explore alternative ways for you to access your inner strength and become rejuvenated. You will have an opportunity to engage in conversations to gain strategies to assist you in a new way of seeing life and yourself. Bring your weary spirits and feel them soar by the end of this session.

Session Two: Motivating Self Through Times of Change

We have just lived through an unprecedented time of change. COVID-19 certainly upended most of our lives. How did you handle it? Is change an ally or foe? Did you find these changes scary, or could you see positive aspects in your new situation? Was there a silver lining? During this session with Carolyn, you will have an opportunity to examine your own feelings and possible causes. She will also assist you in discovering secrets to aid in motivating self to be a Master Change Handler. You will leave this session with the skills to embrace change, being able to view your changing circumstances in the brightest possible light.

Session Three: Exploring Healthy Self Esteem

Research has shown that in many cases women exhibit lower self-esteems than men. Since this field is mostly comprised of women it is understandable that we should look at our self-esteem so we can also help children develop their intrinsic healthy self-esteem. This workshop provides early childhood educators an opportunity to define a healthy, intrinsic self-esteem. You will discover your self-esteem level and learn ways to boost your self-esteem to optimum. Come prepared to enjoy interactive sessions filled with fun and laughter.

Session Four: Meditation, Mindfulness and Peace

Are you aware that people who meditate and practice mindfulness are happier, healthier, and more successful than those that don't? During this workshop Carolyn will provide an opportunity to discover the many vast and varied benefits of meditation and mindfulness. Discussion of the various types of meditation and mindfulness will be present. Time is allotted for you to experience firsthand a form of meditation & mindfulness, leaving you with the most awe-inspiring benefits of feeling relaxed and peaceful.

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Session Five: How to Unleash the Power of Positive Thinking

During this session you will learn how to cast any negative thoughts aside in order to rise above their power over you. You will discover techniques to assist in Positive Thinking like positive affirmations and focusing on good thoughts to name a few. You will leave this session knowing you can unleash the power of positive thinking and experience peace of mind and an ability to create the life you desire.

Building Connections, Knowledge, and Strong Early Learning Communities: A Winter Virtual Learning Institute (Webinar - all sessions)

9:00 am Morning Keynote Presentation: Reflecting Upon Your Work in the Early Years and Re-igniting Your Passion

This presentation will inspire reflection and deep conversation to support educators in recognizing the valuable contributions they make, the importance of resiliency during times of significant change, and strategies for considering how to include joy, enthusiasm, and fulfillment in our daily practice. The session will also include a fun, interactive quiz - including prizes - and an opportunity to create a self-reflective tool and a go-forward plan for including self-reflection into our work as part of an ongoing motivational and mindfulness practice.

10:15 to 11:45 am Morning Presentations (participants can choose to attend one)

- Session One: Exploring Children's Development through Everyday Materials
- Session Two: Roles of the Modern Reflective Educator
- Session Three: Supporting Children in Developing a Practice of Mindfulness

12:45 to 2:30 pm Afternoon Sessions (participants can choose from one of the following)

- Session One: Taking Care of Me to Take Care of You Wellness Session
- Session Two: Sensory Play for Children
- Session Three: Positive Interactions through Connecting versus **Directing**

2:45 to 3:45 pm Local Panelist Sharing Perspectives for Each Theme

Rose Gentilcore - NCDSB- Mindfulness Kim Cole - Teambuilding, ACW Wellness Initiative Sensory Play and Sensory Playground Pathstone Team Members - Sensory Garden

Pedagogical Documentation in the Early Learning Classroom (Live

streamed to enable educators to attend in person or virtually)

Pedagogical documentation is a process that invites us into a great story; a place where we get the privilege of capturing, reflecting upon, sharing, and celebrating the incredible brilliance of children. As we strive to be great storytellers, keen observers and thoughtful listeners, we are given the opportunity of exploring more of who we are as we notice more of who children really are. **During Session 1:** Participants will have the opportunity to dig into what pedagogical documentation is and how to engage in the process, as well as learn more about what and how to document. Participants will also engage in a writing exercise to discover more about what to include in a piece of written documentation. **During Session 2:** Participants will be invited to engage in an essential component of pedagogical documentation; studying to make meaning. Participants will be introduced to a few 'protocols' that can be used to guide the process of study as they are engaged in facilitated studies of written documentation and photos. Participants will also learn more about the difference between written documentation and display and how effective displays can be created that invite readers to study and reflect on children's thinking and ideas.

Diversity in the Early Childhood Environment: More Than a Book on the Shelf with Anisha Angella (Webinar)

Every child deserves to feel heard, welcomed and seen and this starts within our early learning environments. Although we can not protect children from every form of media, we can ensure the books and materials within our early learning environments are diverse and are representative of many cultures and approaches. Ensuring that our early learning classrooms are diverse is more critical than ever before. This webinar will showcase the many ways diversity may be promoted within your early learning environment. Participants will gain information that will support them in critically thinking about diverse practices in a new way and strategies for promoting more diverse practices in an authentic way.

The workshop highlights include:

- Gaining a deeper awareness and understanding of diversity
- Taking a look at the theoretical approaches to diversity
- Dialogue surrounding how to bring diversity into early learning environments
- How to take action

Sharing Ideas to Connect Children to Nature within a Naturalized Playground in the Winter (In person at ACW Woodlawn Child Care)

Join the Team of A Child's World Woodlawn to play in their naturalized playground and learn how the Team continues to engage the children enrolled in their program with natural loose parts and extended experiences in the outdoors. Time will be spent indoors and outdoors. Please dress for winter play outdoors.

Stress Management for Leaders with Natalie Royer from the Saroy Group (Webinar)

In the current climate there is a need for staff in leadership roles such as Executive Directors, Supervisors, Program Managers and others who have multiple responsibilities for fulfilling organizational requirements, legislative policies, and overseeing staff to relieve the plethora of stress in their lives. However, stress management starts with a shift in mindset. In this webinar, leaders will engage in lively conversation and will gain strategies on how to start this shift and implement changes that will last a lifetime. Participants will leave the webinar equipped to develop a personalized wellness plan.

- Examine how to manage stress and facilitate these strategies with your team
- Learn how to apply the WAVE skill in your workplace and in your everyday life

Reaching IN...Reaching OUT: Promoting Resilience in Adults & Young Children Since 2002 (In person at ECCDC)

RIRO Resiliency Skills Training is an evidence-based, two-part program for service providers who work with children from birth to eight years. The training uses a relationship-based, cognitive-behavioural and social problem-solving approach to prevent depression and promote resilience in children under eight years. Adapted from 35 years of research by Dr. Martin Seligman and colleagues at the University of Pennsylvania, the RIRO program is designed to help adults help young children steer through life's inevitable bumps in the road and make use of opportunities for optimal growth and development.

Research shows that children as young as two years begin to copy how adults in their lives respond to daily stresses, serious challenges and opportunities for growth. When adults use the RIRO skill-set in their own lives, they become role models for children by demonstrating effective thinking and coping strategies in response to both adversity and opportunity. Part 1 introduces adults to key resiliency research and skills

that enhance self-regulation skills and promote a "resilient" perspective and flexible approach to handling conflict, problems and everyday challenges.

Part 2 helps adults apply the resiliency skills directly with children by:

- increasing their understanding of children's thinking and behaviour
- supporting children's development of seven critical abilities associated with resilience
- introducing child-friendly approaches using children's literature, puppets and resilience-building activities.

How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years for Non-Registered Early Childhood Educators (Webinar)

This session is suitable for child care assistants, students, resource consultants, home child care professionals and staff of recreational programs.

I'm not an RECE so what does *How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years* look like for me? *How Does Learning Happen?* is a pedagogical resource developed for early learning professionals that promotes a shared understanding of what children need and what can be done to help them grow and flourish. The early learning field is moving away from prescribed checklists of tasks to complete or a template for a "one-size-fits-all" approach which recognizes the uniqueness of programs, children, families, and educators. *How Does Learning Happen?* is meant to promote deeper reflection on how to create places and experiences where children, families, and educators explore, question, and learn together in quality early years programs. This session has been designed to introduce non RECEs to the ideas and theories within *How Does Learning Happen?* and offers opportunities for reflection, discussion, and exploration of the document.

Back to the Foundations of Early Math Development (In person at ECCDC)

Introducing early numeracy skills to young children can set the foundation for later mathematical understanding. Join Rose Gentilcore and Jennifer Smith to explore practical strategies for incorporating mathematical concepts into your early learning environment. This session will highlight manipulatives and loose parts that can be utilized in play based experiences to support numeracy skills as well as practical activities to introduce with the children in your setting.

Next Steps for Supporting New Graduates - A Conversation Café on Successes, Barriers and Future Opportunities with Anisha Angella (Webinar)

This workshop will support Supervisors in learning how to recognize the unique needs of new staff to help mentor and guide the staff member to success within a new Team that is inclusive of setting up environments to meet the needs of children, how to navigate through organizational policies and legislative requirements, team building and building strong relationships with families. Leaders are invited to join to dialogue about educator development and to create a plan to help ensure that new staff thrive within a circle of support and mentorship.

A New Institute: Inspiring Children's Wellness through Sustainable Food and Nutritional Practices, Menu Planning, Positive Food Experiences and Food Growing Opportunities (Webinar - all sessions)

8:45 to 10:45am All Participants - Nurturing Children's Healthy Development with Patricia Couroux and Ginette Wilson, ECCDC Staff *How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years* offers educators guidance and reflection on the importance of incorporating daily practices that nurture children's healthy development and support their growing sense of self. In this session, participants will have the opportunity to explore ways to set up a positive food environment, consider early experiences that encourage connection to food and conversation, reflect on what this could look like throughout their early learning environment, and how this information can be shared with families.

Breakout Room, 11:00am to 12:00pm (participants choose one)

- Option 1: Educating Children About Healthy Eating with Danielle Medina, Food for Life
- Option 2: Gardening in Early Learning Environments: Grow, Harvest, Eat!
 With Garden Jane

12:00 to 12:30pm Lunch and Learn: Cooking Demonstration

Breakout Room, 1:00 to 2:00pm (participants choose one)

- Option 1: Mindful Eating Experience with Elizabeth Skronski, Certified Mindfulness Coach
- Option 2: Menu Planning Using Canada's Food Guide with Christina Dupont, Registered Dietitian and Diabetes Educator

2:00 to 4:00pm All Participants - Cooking Connections: The Social Justice Implications of the Food We Feed Children with Valerie Trew, University of Guelph Early Learning Centre

Join Valerie Trew, Director of the University of Guelph Child Care and Learning Centre, for this webinar on the social justice implications of food. Learn about how food connects with racial injustice, the role of animal agriculture in environmental racism, how policies are making and keeping us sick and destroying the planet, and the role of early childhood environments in charting a more just and liveable future.

Indigenous Cultural Appreciation vs. Appropriation *with Author Elizabeth Joy Erwin* (In person at ECCDC)

The Fine Line is helping to navigate the difference between cultural appreciation vs. cultural appropriation to create culturally safe and inclusive spaces. We will look at ways to integrate Indigenous heritage into the classroom. While we learn to grow on Turtle Island, together we will focus on disguising the fine line and walking this journey together.

Planting and Cultivating Seeds of Mindfulness in Early Learning

with Willow Shawanoo-Kechego, Pow Wow, Outreach and Fundraising Coordinator (Webinar - all sessions)

The purpose of this series is to critically examine the joy and power of presence in education. Dr. Elizabeth Joy Erwin discusses:

- Why we have so much to learn from children, especially the youngest ones
- How to develop a culture of mindfulness and how to maintain it over time
- Simple mindfulness practices to engage in starting now

Participants will gain a deeper understanding of how to practice mindfulness together with young children. By discovering how to integrate simple ideas and practical strategies to calm the body and quiet the mind, educators can select the exact tools they want to ensure all children learn and thrive. Additional benefits of attending this series will include thinking more expansively about the connections between social justice and mindfulness and exploring why reflective inquiry can transform our own learning and teaching. Through a variety of diverse educator, family, and child voices, participants will gain knowledge and tools for a wide menu of classroombased and individualized mindfulness practices (i.e., breathing, meditation, yoga, guided imagery).

- Session 1: What Does It Mean to Be Mindful?
- Session 2: Inclusiveness and the Early Childhood Classroom
- Session 3: Deepening Mindfulness Practices and Pedagogy

Top 10 Ways to Bring Mindfulness to Children in Your Early Years

Environment with Lisa Clarke, ERYT-200, RCYT, Aura House (Webinar)

For children to grow, succeed, and thrive in the care of early childhood professionals, those professionals need to be equipped with tools that allow them to be caring, responsive, explorative, playful and curious. A mindful educator is all of that and more. Using Jon Kabat-Zinn's definition of mindfulness as paying attention, in a particular way, on purpose, in the present moment, non-judgmentally ... we will explore the parallels found in the 4 Foundations of Belonging, Well-Being, Engagement & Expression, and how to bring mindfulness to life in 10 of the best, and most meaningful ways for young children. This session will set the stage for successfully embodying and implementing what it means to be a mindful professional and bring a sense of lightness to the early childhood classrooms that they serve. Educators will leave this session with practical, mindfulness-based tools, resources & inspiration to plan and create experiences for their children across all developmental domains.

FLIP IT: Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Young Children and Reducing Their Instances of Challenging

Behaviours (Livestreamed - choice of in person or watch virtually) The ECCDC Team are trained facilitators in this unique program offered through the Deveraux Centre for Resilient Children. FLIP IT® is a strategy that offers a simple, kind, strength-based, common-sense, and effective four-step process to address children's day-to-day challenging behaviour. The four steps are embodied in the FLIP mnemonic which stands for F – Feelings, L – Limits, I – Inquiries and P – Prompts. FLIP IT is nothing new but transforms best practice into a strategy that is easy to remember, applicable in a variety of challenging situations, and portable.

Managing Difficult Phone Calls (Webinar)

Handling difficult interactions on the phone is a challenging task, especially if the caller is in a heightened state of emotion. For many, the ability to navigate difficult phone conversations with respect and professionalism is an essential workplace skill. This workshop is designed to provide practical strategies for dealing with clients and customers over the phone who are in a heightened emotional state. Participants will learn over-the-phone techniques for de-escalating anger, resolving conflict, and communicating effectively. Some of the topics Include:

- The Complexity of Phone Communication
- Qualities of a Skilled Communicator
- Key Skills for the Phone Tone, Volume, and Inflection
- Communication Style Test

- Practical Tips for Calming the Distressed Person
- Identifying and Prioritizing Issues Raised
- Delivering Bad News
- Effective Notetaking
- Politely Ending the Conversation

At the end of this workshop, participants should be able to:

- Apply effective listening skills to enhance understanding
- Support emotionally heightened clients over the phone
- Problem-solve with clients for best outcomes
- Demonstrate a plan for delivering bad news

Inspiring New Ideas for Connecting Children to Nature Virtual

Series with Christine Brown of Atlast Forest Schools (Webinar - all sessions) Handling difficult interactions on the phone is a challenging task, especially if the caller is in a heightened state of emotion. For many, the ability to navigate difficult phone conversations with respect and professionalism is an essential workplace skill. This workshop is designed to provide practical strategies for dealing with clients and customers over the phone who are in a heightened emotional state. Participants will learn over-the-phone techniques for de-escalating anger, resolving conflict, and communicating effectively.

Session One: Risky Play Benefits and Using Tools

This webinar will discuss the premise and benefits behind risky play and how to safely incorporate it into your classroom and/or outdoor space. We will go beyond "climbing things" and discuss how to encourage students to find their potential and how to individualize risky play to each of your students. Furthermore, we'll discuss tools and how to incorporate these into your weekly plans.

Session Two: Setting Up Your Outdoor Play Space and Bringing Nature Inside

This webinar will discuss appropriate ways to set up your outdoor space without hindering the students' learning or exploration. When we create a space that is too manipulated by an adult, it actually discourages creative and exploratory play. We know not every day is perfect for outdoor play, but predictability of outdoor play is beneficial for children at this age. We will discuss how to bring the outdoors inside your classroom to keep a consistent "nature time" in your daily/weekly schedule.

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Session Three: Macro-Modelling - Using the Children's Interests to Build Games and Activities Outdoors

Macro-modelling is a concept created by outdoor educators to incorporate learning into daily play. This doesn't hinder passion-driven and interest-based learning but rather enhances it and provides a deeper learning experience. We will discuss how to quickly take an interest and macro-model and also how to follow up on the interests in a deeper way.

Reflecting on Our Daily Practice of Communication, Diversity & Engagement - A New Series! (Livestreamed - attend virtually or in person - all sessions)

Session 1 – Concepts Rooted in Early Learning

Participants will explore the concept of weaving ethics, diversity, inclusion, and professionalism through authentic engagement approaches that are rooted in respectful, reciprocal, and effective communication strategies with children, families, and colleagues. This session is underpinned by the College of Early Childhood Educators' *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice* and gain new ideas around focusing on Positive Communication and Collaboration Strategies, Work Ethic and Professionalism: Our Role in Work with Children, Families and With Each Other as a Staff Team.

Session 2 – Creating Awareness to Support Reflection

In early learning it is important for educators to have the knowledge and confidence to implement inclusive practices and understand the why behind the importance of diversity and inclusion. Participants will have an opportunity to reflect upon their beliefs and bias, and to consider how they can influence their daily practice, explore ways to build relationships and communicate across differences, and discuss how to co-create culturally responsive, inclusive learning environments that are welcoming for all children, families, and caregivers. Participants will explore current research around diversity, inclusion, and culture.

Session 3 – Implementing Practices into the Early Learning Setting

Participants will have an opportunity to co-construct knowledge and reflect upon ways of using current research as well as resources and tools from the College of Early Childhood Educators to redefine their daily practice for communication, diversity, and engagement in collaboration with children, families, and colleagues. Participants will also be encouraged to review any related organizational policies, continuous professional learning goals, discuss their values, and consider working agreements.

Body and Mind for the Stressed-Out Educator *with Ron Shuali* (Webinar)

We all get stressed out for a variety of different reasons. That stress affects our minds, bodies, spirit, and all of the relationships that we have in our lives. This kinesthetic keynote is the stress relieving solution for all who attend. Participants will have opportunities to laugh out loud and learn how to increase their energy and relieve their stress through various breathing, stretching, and strengthening movements. Reduce or eliminate pain from your back, neck, knees, sciatic, and ankles gently and easily. Learn at last three different types of breathing exercises for different situations and the keynote will finish with a peaceful and relaxing meditation. Participants will leave the session feeling invigorated and happy.

Creating a Culture of Reflective Practice: The Role of Pedagogical Leadership in Early Childhood Education Programs Book Signing and Full Day Institute with Anne Marie Coughlin and Lorrie McGee Baird (In person in Niagara)

We are living in a rapidly changing world, where we are becoming more aware of the societal and environmental challenges that impact all of us. As people who live and work with the earth's youngest humans, we make decisions every day that have an extraordinary impact on children, ourselves, and our communities. As early childhood educators and leaders, how might we start to evolve our approach to early learning and take up the work of creating inclusive, vibrant learning communities in a way that is responsive to our times? How might we nurture an approach to leadership that is constructed around relationships rather than rules? How do we focus our teaching practices on compassion, curiosity, imagination, experimentation, collaboration, innovation, and kindness? This institute takes a comprehensive, practical look at creating systems, structures and protocols for supporting people in large and small organizations, and individuals working as mentors, coaches or pedagogical leaders to invite educators into a thinking and learning process about their work. Participants will develop the skills and mindsets that can enhance their performance and effect organizational change. The institute will offer stories and structures connected to four principles of pedagogical leadership with specific ideas to enhance the work of educational leaders from a place of values and vision.

- · Building strong relationships
- Seeing and supporting strengths and competencies
- Supporting professional learning in multiple ways

Sharing Ideas to Connect Children to Nature within a Naturalized Playground in the Spring (In person at North End Co-operative Preschool)

Join the Team of North End Co-operative Preschool to play in their naturalized playground and learn how the Team continue to engage the children enrolled in their program with loose parts and extended experiences within the outdoors. Please dress for outdoor play.

Leadership and Integrity: The Leader with Integrity *with Natalie Royer of the Saroy Group* (Webinar)

Organizations are realizing that one of the most important qualities of a leader is integrity. What does this mean? Staff are more likely to stay if they are led by someone who exhibits integrity. This quality must be an integral part of your leadership team and prospective talent. Participants will:

- Gain an understanding of integrity and how it looks in the workplace
- Explore strategies for leaders that will exude integrity to your team
- Methods on how to ensure integrity is sustainable in toxic environments

101 Ways to Supercharge Your Professional Development: A Learning Institute with International Speaker and Author Susan MacDonald (Ramada Beacon Harbourside Hotel)

Friday Evening Keynote Presentation and Book Signing with Susan: Supercharge Your Professional Learning Experiences! Creating professional learning experiences that truly engage and inspire adult learners can be challenging. You will need a clear plan to keep staff motivated and invested in their ongoing professional growth. Discover innovative and concrete strategies for designing and delivering impactful professional development.

In this workshop, you will gain new ideas for establishing learning communities where adults are empowered with the mindset, focus, and motivation to achieve their professional goals. You will also learn about a wide range of resources to help you expand your repertoire of activities and practices to create or support a diverse community of adult learners.

Saturday's session will include a variety of learning experiences that participants can adapt and replicate in their staff meetings and trainings.

Taking Emergent Literacy Outdoors (In person at ECCDC)

Since 2014, How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years has been encouraging educators to move away from viewing outdoor spaces as places for children to blow off steam and towards seeing outdoor environments as places for discovery and learning. However, research indicates that outdoor experiences afforded to children tend to focus on physical activity, science, and math at the expense of emergent literacy. Although educators are very well-versed in facilitating child-centred, literacy rich indoor environments and they have embraced the move to outdoor pedagogy, it would appear that emergent literacy has not made the move to the great outdoors. If you would like to gain strategies regarding enhancing the outdoor experiences that you offer children to support emergent literacy, then please join us for this interactive, knowledge sharing experience. The session will utilize an emergent literacy theoretical framework to support educators in their intentional planning of literacy experiences outdoors that are fun, motivating, and spark children's curiosity. This session will be facilitated outdoors and educators will have opportunities to Mess About with a variety of innovative experiences that they can offer to children.

A Look at Learning Disabilities from the Inside Out with Simmy Zaret (Webinar)

This workshop will dispel the myths and provide an in-depth overview of some of the most common difficulties faced by so many children in our early learning programs today. Through a variety of interactive activities, participants will have the opportunity to experience first-hand what it's like to actually have a disability of their own! As well, we'll look at a wide range of strategies, accommodations, and alternative approaches that can be used in order to build a child's self-esteem, demystify their challenges, and maximize opportunities for social and academic success.

In this workshop, we'll look at:

- Visual/Spatial Perception Deficits
- Auditory Language Processing Difficulties
- Conceptual Challenges
- ADD/ADHD Attention Deficit (Hyperactivity) Disorder
- Pervasive Developmental Disorders Autism and Asperger's
- Childhood Anxiety and other areas related to Mental Health

Yes, some children develop differently. The more we begin to understand, accept and appreciate challenges for what they truly are, the more opportune a world we can provide for all children.

Bullying within Early Learning Classroom: Why it Happens and How to Manage It *with Carolyn Hadcock* (Webinar)

Bullying is a serious societal concern. Early Childhood Educators need to be proactive in their approach when they encounter a child who has been bullied, as well as assisting the child who is the bully. During this webinar you will examine why bullying happens, the characteristics of the child who is a bully, and the reasons why certain children are the targets of the bullies. You will also explore many different, interesting action plans to manage and prevent bullying. Join me in discovering how you can be the catalyst for changing behaviours that can encourage children to act cooperatively.

Delight! Excite! Inspire! Teach! - Creating a Fun and Motivating **Learning Environment For Children Within Early Learning Environments** with Simmy Zaret (Webinar)

8:45 to 10:45am All Participants - Nurturing Children's Healthy **Development with Patricia Couroux and Ginette Wilson, ECCDC Staff**

As Early Childhood Educators, you have the capacity to make a difference in the lives of the children you see in your centres every day! In this fun and team-building workshop we will celebrate your role, as well explore a broad range of strategies that can foster a stimulating and nurturing child care environment. Together we'll look at the means to create a setting rich in all the tools needed to help each child grow, learn, and reach his or her full potential; a place where each child is made to feel secure, confident, curious, and excited to explore and discover a world of wonder, joy, and awe!

Through a variety of interactive activities, discussion, and demos, this informative workshop will investigate the essential elements within a motivating, child-focused learning environment. Together we will zoom in on the critical components needed to ignite curiosity, assure understanding, impart practical skills, and heighten the emotional, social, and academic success among those in your care.

You and other specially trained educators will come together to explore and share ideas pertaining to:

- The Vital Role You Play in the Lives of Those in Your Care
- The Impact Covid has had, in Working with the Children and your Colleagues
- Piaget's Stages of Early Childhood Cognitive Development
- Creative Child-Centred Program Planning Strategies
- Presentation Skills that Foster Engagement, Creativity, Fun, and Learning

Leading for Change: Leadership and Administration of Early Childhood Programs in Canada, 7th Edition - Book Launch and **Professional Learning Session** (formerly Administering for Quality:

Leading and Collaborating in Canadian Early Childhood Education Programs) with Valerie Trew (In person at ECCDC)

This book, which is being updated and relaunched by Valerie Trew, Executive Director with Guelph University Early Learning Teaching School, is intended to facilitate early childhood educators' understanding of leadership, professional, and advocacy responsibilities. Considering that each educator's influence on young children and families is so lasting, it is important to be prepared for this commitment. A rich source of information for leaders at all levels, this book includes up-to-date Canadian statistics, highlighting current research, and identifies a variety of resources including vital web links.

Leadership and Culture: How to Create a Workplace Where People Like to Work (Webinar)

Based on the book, The Culture Question, this workshop provides a guide for how every organization can become a great place to work. Workplace culture is the most significant factor that influences employee engagement, work relationships, and job satisfaction. Culture determines whether your organization will succeed – or even survive. It profoundly affects both the quality of the products or services you provide and the lives of those who work in your organization. The good news is that culture is something we can influence. By exploring six key elements that make up a healthy workplace culture, participants will learn the answers to two fundamental questions: "How does your organization's culture impact how much people like where they work?" and "What can leaders do to make it better?"

Some of the topics Include:

The Case for Caring About Culture; Focus on Culture, Not Perks; Workplace Cultural Health Assessment; Communicating Your Purpose and Values; Providing Meaningful Work; Focusing Your Leadership Team on People; Building Meaningful Relationships; Creating Peak Performing Teams; and Practicing Constructive Conflict Management.

Learning Objectives: At the end of this workshop, participants should be able to:

Recognize why a healthy culture is essential and a competitive advantage; Understand the connection between culture and purpose; Implement strategies for creating peak performing teams; Incorporate key ideas for creating and sustaining a healthy workplace culture; and Follow a framework to change and maintain culture.

Setting the Stage for Summer Fun and Learning (In person at ECCDC)

Come and join us to set the stage for summer fun and learning to reenergize your programs with experiences that are engaging, suitable for multi-age groupings, link to the four foundations of *How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years* and connect children to nature. Educators will have the opportunity to engage in conversations and discussions with fellow educators while exploring new ideas, experiences, materials, and resources that will enhance your summer curriculum.

Virtual Outdoor Play Institute: Rethinking the Rules and Practices of Outdoor Play (Webinar - all sessions)

$8:\!30$ to $9:\!30$ am - Institute Opening Keynote: Rethinking Rules & Practices for Outdoor Play with Rusty Keeler and door prize draw of Rusty's new book

What if you could reflect on your philosophies of outdoor play and your hopes and dreams for children's experiences and then craft new rules based on things that really made sense for your children, your yard and your program? Join Rusty Keeler, Internationally Renowned Playscape Designer and Author, to re-examine your outdoor rules and practices and to consider how to offer the best experiences for the children in your program

9:30 to 10:30 am - Debra Harwood, Professor (PhD), Department of Educational Studies - Embracing Outdoor Nature Play & Shifting Pedagogies

Are you curious about the benefits of outdoor nature play and how to shift pedagogies? Outdoor nature play offers opportunities for children to explore, imagine, wonder, create, discover, and respond with infinite possibilities. Ultimately, it is through this cycle of curiosity and creativity that young children develop the confidence, competence, and security to test ideas, learn new skills and ideas. Educators must be purposeful in designing outdoor environments and adopting intentional practices that help sustain children's thinking and engagement in outdoor play spaces. From mud play, dramatic play, STEAM experiences to rowdy dizzy play and more, outdoor environments and practices must support a diverse spectrum of play-learning opportunities for every child.

10:30 am to 12:00 pm - Choice of Session

- Canada Through the Seasons with the ECCDC Team
- Opportunities for Play in a Forest School Setting with Greenbelt Academy

 Extending Your Indoor Curriculum Outdoors with Kimberly Squires, Pedagogical Leader, University of Guelph

12:30 to 2:00 pm - Choice of session

- Rethinking Outdoor Play Materials with the ECCDC Team
- Land Art with Links for Greener Learning
- Garden Planning, Programming and Play with Garden Jane, Permaculture Designer and Gardener, and Community Developer

2:00 to 3:00 pm Inclusion of Children with Special Education Needs in Outdoor Play with Monique Somma, Faculty of Education, Brock University and Rachelle Gibbs, RECE

Outdoor play has overwhelming benefits for all children including the development of their gross motor skills, self-confidence, decision making, risk-taking, communication and collaboration skills, overall wellbeing and more. These abundantly researched benefits are true for all young children, including children with special education needs. This session will highlight how using an inclusive framework through concepts of universal design for learning and differentiated instruction, outdoor play opportunities can be designed to provide access points for all children in your care.

3:00 to 3:45 pm - Panel of Speakers with Prompting Questions



Engage and Connect with Quality Child Care Niagara (Webinar - all) The QCCN Team invites you to join our QCCN Community Conversation Cafés for a drop-in chat via Zoom in order to come together as a community of practice and to connect with your Niagara child care colleagues as well as answer any questions you have about Quality Child Care Niagara.

QCCN Community Conversation Café: The Level of Support Visit Process

As part of the QCCN program, centres may receive a customized support visit to connect and have conversation about the QCCN Tools and Resources, how they are being implemented in their program, what strategies have been put in place to support the children, educators, and families in the program.

Join the QCCN team live to learn more about the new Level of Support Visit Process and how Quality Child Care Niagara can support your program. During this Community Conversation Café, you'll have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss what the support visit process may look like for your unique centre from how to prepare for a visit to what the follow up process looks like.

QCCN Community Conversation Café: Fostering QCCN Champions and Mentorship in Your Program

Having a QCCN Champion or Mentor in your program provides numerous benefits - from providing space for educators to learn from one another to promoting leadership opportunities as well as developing goals and action planning to effectively grow on our teams strengths. In this café, we will consider and discuss what is a QCCN champion or mentor, what do they do in your program and what are the benefits of having a champion or mentorship opportunities.

QCCN Community Conversation Café: Preparing for a New Year with QCCN

In early learning and child care, we know that every group of children we teach is unique. Starting our year building positive connections with the families and setting clear expectations on the tools and resources we use in our programs will build the foundation for quality care and build on the excitement of a new year.

Please join us as we discuss practical ways to approach the QCCN portfolio of tools to plan for the 2022-2023 year ahead. We will explore how we can connect with families during the orientation process, the timelines for completing the QCCN tools, and explore the flexibility of the developmental resources so you can approach the year with confidence.

- 38 -

Niagara Communities of Practice Network Meetings (Webinar - fall 2022 meetings, TBD for winter and spring meetings)

Licensed Child Care Supervisors Network (Thursday September 15, 2022 from 9:30 to 11:00am)

Supervisors will have an opportunity to network with their colleagues to reflect upon tools and resources to support their team. The Fall network meeting will focus on supporting educator teams with planning indoor environments that spark children's curiosity. Supervisors are encouraged to share tools, resources, and strategies they use when supporting their educator team to intentionally plan indoor environments. Supervisors are invited to bring photos and/or learning stories about their centre's journey over the last few months. Time will be included for engaging in round table discussion and brainstorming solutions to challenges.

Winter and Spring Meeting Dates:

- Thursday January 26, 2023 from 9:30 to 11:00am
- Thursday May 4, 2023 from 9:30 to 11:00am

New to Early Learning Network (Tuesday September 20, 2022 from 5:30 to 7:00pm)

If you have graduated in the last three years or are about to graduate as an Early Childhood Educator, this network will provide opportunities for educators to connect and engage in reflective conversations with other early learning professionals new to the field from across Niagara. The network will provide opportunities to reflect upon a resource chosen specifically for new educators and take part in a mindfulness experience that can be used in their daily practice with children. The Fall network meeting will focus on intentionally planning early learning environments that spark children's curiosity. Participants are invited to bring photos of what their programs have been working on over the past few months. There will be opportunities to engage in a round table discussion to share challenges and brainstorm solutions.

Winter and Spring Meeting Dates:

- Wednesday February 8, 2023 from 5:30 to 7:00pm
- Wednesday May 10, 2023 from 5:30 to 7:00pm

Licensed Child Care Cooks Network (Thursday September 15, 2022 from 3:00 to 4:30pm)

The Cooks Network provides opportunities to connect with fellow cooks; to share experiences and reflect upon challenges while collaborating to find solutions. During their time together participants will have an opportunity to experience a mindfulness exercise and share recipes. The focus for the Fall network will be the revised Canada Food Guide. Participants are encouraged to share ideas regarding how their programs are incorporating the revised Canada Food Guide into their programs.

Winter and Spring Meeting Dates:

- Thursday January 26, 2023 from 3:00 to 4:30pm
- Thursday May 4, 2023 from 3:00 to 4:30pm

Niagara Nature Alliance Network (Thursday September 15, 2022 from 5:30 to 7:00pm)

We invite you to join this network for those who have an interest in bringing nature to preschool and school age children. During the Fall network we will be focusing on the impact that nature-based outdoor programming has on children's social and emotional learning. There will be opportunities to engage in discussions regarding challenges and to collaboratively brainstorm solutions, along with opportunities to share photos and/documentation of the nature experiences their children engage in.

Winter and Spring Meeting Dates:

- Thursday January 26, 2023 from 5:30 to 7:00pm
- Thursday May 4, 2023 from 5:30 to 7:00pm

The following networks will offer educators time to connect with colleagues working in the same age range

Educators will have an opportunity to reflect upon a resource chosen specifically for their age group and take part in a mindfulness experience that can be used in their daily practice with children. The Fall network meeting will focus on intentionally planning early learning environments that spark children's curiosity. Educators are encouraged to bring resources and tools they use in indoor environments to share and explore with follow educators. Participants are invited to bring photos reflecting what they are noticing and seeing the children explore in their indoor environments. There will be opportunities to engage in a round table discussion to share challenges and brainstorm solutions.

Infant and Toddler Network

- Thursday September 15, 2022 from 7:00 to 8:30pm
- Thursday January 26, 2023 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm
- Thursday May 4, 2023 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Preschool Network

- Tuesday September 20, 2022 from 7:00 to 8:30pm
- Wednesday February 8, 2023 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
- Wednesday May 10, 2023 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

School Age Network

- Tuesday September 20, 2022 from 9:30 to 11:00am
- Wednesday February 8, 2023 from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm
- Wednesday May 10, 2023 from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm





Getly childhood community development centre

The ECCDC extends gratitude to Niagara Region Children's Services for their longstanding commitment to funding many of ECCDC's local services and supports

