

Leading With Passion and Intention to Support Professional Growth: A Learning Institute

with Internationally Respected Researcher and Author, Susan MacDonald

Friday Keynote: Strategies to Supercharge Professional Engagement!

With so much stress and uncertainty affecting the early childhood workforce, directors, supervisors, and professional development providers need to be intentional about utilizing strategies that help educators feel respected, appreciated, and valued. Join this inspiring keynote to kick off the New Year by embracing authentic ways to acknowledge and validate the unique strengths of each person and team. This session is designed for individuals who support the professional growth of educators.

Presented by author and early childhood leadership expert, Susan MacDonald, the session will highlight current research studies which show that appreciation in the workplace increases engagement and reduces employee turnover and absenteeism. You will be inspired to set in motion ripples of positive energy and enthusiasm to strengthen workplace relationships, enhance collaboration, and bring a renewed sense of joy to your school community. We will explore: positive communication techniques; appreciative inquiry strategies; daily practices for building engagement; and ideas for infusing appreciation into your staff meetings.



Presented *In Person in Niagara* (Balls Falls Conservation Area, 3292 Sixth Avenue, Lincoln)

Friday January 19, 2024 (Keynote) from 6:30 to 9:00pm and **Saturday January 20, 2024** (Full-day Institute) from 9:00am to 3:00pm

Niagara Administrators: \$165

Outside Niagara Administrators: \$180

To register, visit www.eccdc.org, email eccdc@eccdc.org or call 905.646.7311 ext. 304

Susan will provide participants with a comprehensive reflection guide containing a wealth of valuable resources, including information from her new book – *Supercharge Professional Development for Early Childhood Educators: 101 Ideas for Designing and Facilitating Engaging Learning Experiences*.

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Saturday Full-day Institute

Are you ready to re-ignite your passion, thrive as a leader, and discover new and empowering ways to sustain and recruit an engaged workforce? It's time to reduce the feelings of isolation and stress so that you can reconnect with your hopes and dreams and establish a more professional and positive work culture. Participating in this leadership institute will inspire you to rethink and refocus your work to re-energize and strengthen your learning community.

Topics include:

1. Creating a Vision for a Thriving Growth Culture
2. Professional Development Plans
3. Leadership Skills to Empower Professional Growth
4. Conversations that Matter - Strengths-based Communication Skills
5. Supporting Positive Teams
6. Managing Your Time to Enhance Your Leadership
7. Running Effective Staff Meetings
8. Designing and Developing a Professional Development Project
9. Cultivating Professional Collaboration
10. Leading Transformational Change



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Susan will use her signature three-pillar methodology - Passion, Intentionality, and Engagement (PIE), to empower you to create a customized leadership portfolio that will enhance your professional growth and enable you to make lasting changes in the areas you care about most.

Your portfolio will include:

Vision: A clear and concise vision statement focused on supporting the professional growth of the educators in your program

Plan: A year-long goal focused professional development plan for your staff meetings and professional days

Design: The design, development, and delivery of a professional development workshop

Communicate: A positive communication action plan to guide you in facilitating effective dialogues

Resources: A cultivated list of current and relevant resources to inspire your ongoing professional growth



Susan MacDonald, M.Ed., will be your inspirational and informative guide on this journey. She will share her expertise from her books, *Inspiring Early Childhood Leadership* and *Inspiring Professional Growth*, and her first-hand knowledge of leading early childhood programs from her years as a director of a Reggio-inspired preschool. Susan will bring her broad knowledge of the early childhood field and her unique background as a professional coach, with certifications through the Institute for Professional Excellence in Coaching and the Center for School Transformation into all aspects of this program.