



The Learning Exchange: Quick links for Inspiring Professional Growth

Issue 73 • December 2024

Explore your personal professional learning goals through a variety of workshops, webinars, resources, websites, and other virtual learning opportunities that support your ongoing journey and well-being.

Professional Development

Virtual

- Igniting Curiosity: Implementing Inquiry-Based Learning in ECE Series Part 2 - Delving into Guided Inquiry - **Tuesday January 14, 2025** from **6:30 to 8:30pm** EST: [click here](#)
- Building Relationships in School Age Programs Series Part 2: Developing Relationships with Schools and Community Partners - **Thursday January 16, 2025** from **7:00 to 9:00pm** EST: [click here](#)
- Professional Learning Series for Home Based Professionals Session 2 - Unlocking the Magic of Emergent Curriculum - An Introduction to the Emergent Curriculum Approach – **Monday January 20, 2025** from **7:00 to 8:30pm** EST: [click here](#)
- Stimulating Language and Literacy Development in an Inquiry, Play-Based Environment - **Tuesday January 21, 2025**, from **6:30 to 8:30pm** EST: [click here](#)
- Recruitment, Retention & Performance Management Series with Achieve Centre - Session 1: Hiring Strategies - Recruitment, Selection & Onboarding Strategies - **Wednesday January 22, 2025** from **10:00am to 12:00pm** EST: [click here](#)
- Trauma-informed Emotional Regulation & Well-being in Early learning Settings Series: How to Help Children Feel Safe & Seen Session 1: Holistic Emotional Regulation - **Thursday January 23, 2025** from **6:30 to 8:30pm** EST: [click here](#)
- Relationships through Research: Cultivating Connections & Engagement with Children & Families through Teacher Research Series for EarlyON Teams Part 2: Studying the Question - Looking Together - **Friday January 24, 2025** from **1:00 to 2:30pm** EST: [click here](#)
- Strategies for Promoting an Equitable & Discrimination Free Early Learning Environment - **Tuesday January 28, 2025** from **6:30 to 8:30pm** EST: [click here](#)
- Book Study: Illuminating Care - The Pedagogy and Practice of Care in Early Childhood Communities - **Wednesday January 29, 2025** from **6:30 to 8:00pm** EST: [click here](#)
- Designing YES spaces: Embrace the YES and Design a Space for Children - **Thursday January 30, 2025** from **6:30 to 8:30pm** EST: [click here](#)



In-person

- Laying the Foundation for Family Engagement - **Thursday January 9, 2025** from **6:30 to 8:30pm** EST: [click here](#) or choose live stream: [click here](#)
- Creating Circles of Support Through Cultivating Professional Friendships in ECE: A professional Conversation - **Saturday January 25, 2025** from **10:00am to 12:00pm** EST: [click here](#)

December Highlights

Universal Human Rights Month

- All About Universal Human Rights Month: [click here](#)
- Illustrated Version of the Universal Declaration of Humans Rights: [click here](#)
- Canadian Museum for Human Rights: [click here](#)
- The Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms: [click here](#)
- Truth & Reconciliation: [click here](#)
- Ideas to Recognize Universal Human Rights Month: [click here](#)
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights Children's Edition: [click here](#)
- Celebrating Human Rights Day at Nursery School: [click here](#)
- Activities to do with Children: [click here](#)
- Information & Resources for Kids: [click here](#)
- Activities to do with Kids: [click here](#)
- Watch Children & Youth ask About Their Rights: [click here](#)

Humans Rights Day - December 10

- UN: [click here](#)

Ugly Sweater Day - December 15

- All About: [click here](#)
- Decorating Gingerbread People and Related Activities: [click here](#)
- Brain Break - Sweater Would you Rather? (video): [click here](#)



Winter Solstice - December 21

- All About the Winter Solstice: [click here](#)
- How to Celebrate the Winter Solstice with Kids: [click here](#)
- 15 Winter Solstice Activities for Kids: [click here](#)
- Yule: [click here](#)
- Great Ways to Celebrate Yule with Kids: [click here](#)
- 5 Step-by-step Yule Activities: [click here](#)
- Dongzhi Festival: [click here](#)
- Exploring Dongzhi Festival at Nursery School: [click here](#)

Christmas Day - December 25

- Christmas Traditions: [click here](#)
- Reggio-inspired Christmas: [click here](#)
- Loose Parts Christmas Activities: [click here](#)
- Open-ended Christmas Activities: [click here](#)
- Sensory Play Christmas Activities: [click here](#)
- Elf-Sized Science Lab & STEM Activity Cards: [click here](#)
- Keeping Your Holiday Healthy - Tips from CCOHS Podcast: [click here](#)

Hanukkah - December 25-January 2

- Hanukkah 101: [click here](#)
- 8 Ways to Celebrate Hanukkah with Kids: [click here](#)
- Hanukkah Activities for Toddlers: [click here](#)
- Hanukkah Activities for Preschoolers: [click here](#)

Kwanzaa - December 26-31

- What is Kwanzaa: [click here](#)
- Celebrating Kwanzaa in the Classroom: [click here](#)
- Kwanzaa Story Books for Children: [click here](#)

Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Early Childhood Education: Closes January 15, 2025

- Nominate an Educator: [click here](#)



Early Learning Podcasts, Videos and Websites

- Networking for Growth: Exploring Communities of Practice (ECCDC podcast): [click here](#)
- Zones of Regulation for Pre-K in Action (Video): [click here](#)
- Morse Code for Kids: [click here](#)
- Sustainable Tips: Maximize your Organization When it Comes to Disposing of Waste: [click here](#)
- 10 Picture Books About Cooking that Promote Patience: [click here](#)
- Movement Breaks to Help Kids Stay Alert & Focused: [click here](#)
- Christmas Math Logic Puzzles (Sudoku Inspired): [click here](#)
- Harvard Center: Brain Building Through Play - Games to Play with Babies 6 Months Old: [click here](#)
- Harvard Center: Brain Building Through Play - Games to Play with Babies 9 Months Old: [click here](#)
- The Brain Architects Podcast - Building Resilience Through Play: [click here](#)
- Centre on the Developing Child - Play in Early Childhood: The Role of Play in Any Setting (video): [click here](#)
- Creating Maker Spaces: [click here](#)
- When Conversations About Quality Erase Care (Podcast): [click here](#)
- Hanen: Resources to Share with Families: [click here](#)

Diversity and Inclusion

- Two-Eyed Seeing - Decolonization & Reconciliation (CTRI Blog): [click here](#)
- The Power of Inclusive Classrooms (The Early Link Podcast): [click here](#)
- Preschool for All Evaluation with a Racial Equity Framework (The Early Link Podcast): [click here](#)
- Active Play & Indigenous Traditions: [click here](#)
- Northern Indigenous Games (Video): [click here](#)
- Picture Book Celebrates Children's Diverse Abilities in Action: [click here](#)



Health, Wellness and Safety

- How Gratitude Impacts you and Your Brain: [click here](#)
- CRTI Trauma-informed Care Free Resources: [click here](#)
- Music for Connection & Metaphor in Counselling (Podcast): [click here](#)
- Xavier's Voice - A Story About dealing with Anxiety Book Review: [click here](#)
- Anxiety and Depression: Recognizing the Early Warning Signs Leaflet: [click here](#)
- Anxiety and Depression: Research Articles: [click here](#)
- Calm Down Kits: [click here](#)
- 26 Calm Down Strategies: [click here](#)
- Centering Resiliency (Poster): [click here](#)
- Mindful Mondays: [click here](#) to register
- Nurturing your Resilience this Holiday Season: [click here](#)
- Creating Compassionate Workplaces CCOHS: [click here](#)

Outdoor Activities & Resources

- 5 Good Reasons Why Kids Should Play Outdoors in Winter: [click here](#)
- Eco-Emotions in Action (Podcast): [click here](#)
- Sparking Curiosity Through Nature Journaling: [click here](#)
- Inspiring Children's Spirit of Stewardship Toolkit: [click here](#)
- 3 Night Time Activities: [click here](#)
- Winter Gardening with Kids: [click here](#)
- Helping Licensed Child Care Programs Embrace Nature Play: [click here](#)
- How to Dress for Outdoor Play (poster): [click here](#)



Embracing Winter

- No Prep Christmas STEM Activities: [click here](#)
- Winter Fine Motor Activities: [click here](#)
- 9 Snow Day Activities so Fun Kids Won't know They're Learning: [click here](#)
- 10 Snow Day Activities to Encourage Speech & Language Development: [click here](#)
- Mindful Winter Activities for Kids: [click here](#)
- 10 Fun & Easy Outdoor Winter Activities for Kids: [click here](#)
- Winter Child Led Play with Loose Parts: [click here](#)
- 20 Simple Winter Hygge Activities for Children: [click here](#)
- Winter Scavenger Hunt: [click here](#)

Small Business Resources

- The New Rules of Engagement: Well-being as a Strategic Advantage: [click here](#)
- Canada Summer Jobs 2025 (closes December 19, 2024): [click here](#)
- Supporting Employees to Disconnect from Work (Infographic): [click here](#)

Uplifting Stories

- Canadian Waiter is Learning Cree to better Serve Customers: [click here](#)
- I'm Creating Tiny Homes to End Sleeping on the Streets: [click here](#)

Do you have any uplifting stories you would like to share? [Click here](#) to email the Early Childhood Community Development Centre and it may be included in a future edition of The Learning Exchange.



early childhood community development centre



Want to Know More about ECCDC Services?

- Check us out online at www.eccdc.org or in person at **3550 Schmon Parkway, Thorold**.
- We are open for members to visit onsite and can also make resource deliveries directly to member centres. Please contact the ECCDC at **905.646.7311 ext. 304** to make arrangements.
- The ECCDC offers a resource lending library of pedagogical materials, specialized workroom, an on-site conference room and a boardroom available for booking.
- Want to purchase items from a distance? We offer an online **EStore** with resources, books, and more!
- Our organization offers early learning programs organizational supports including indoor and outdoor environmental design services, team building, board development, curriculum planning and everything in between!
- The ECCDC designs and delivers professional learning opportunities in person and via webinar on a range of topics. We can customize and deliver to small or large groups, and we always have sessions advertised for anyone to join. [Click here](#) to view our professional learning calendar to see what we have scheduled or register for one of our sessions. [Click here](#) to view our Esteem page, advertising upcoming professional learning from September 2024-June 2025. [Click here](#) to view our customized training catalogue.