

**Children  
The Heart of the Matter  
14th Annual Early Learning Conference**

**February 4 - 5, 2011**

Bell Performing Arts Centre  
Sullivan Heights Secondary  
6250 144 Street, Surrey, BC

Map: <http://www.bellperformingartscentre.sd36.bc.ca/>



**Registration Package**

## JOIN US FOR OUR 14TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE!

Children: The Heart of the Matter conference brings together all those involved in the care and education of young children. Our purpose is to raise the awareness and profile of child care and early childhood development services, family resource programs and others through professional development, networking, and sharing of information and resources.

This conference will be of interest to all those who work with young children and families in child care settings, family resource programs, primary school grades and other community programs. These include early childhood educators, teachers, community health professionals, parents, grandparents, government officials, parks and recreation staff.

Certificates of attendance will be provided for the completion of each two hour workshop and keynote presentation.

Please join us February 4 and 5, 2011 in Surrey, BC!



### Children: The Heart of the Matter 2011 Conference Planning Committee

Danielle Jimeno, APTG-Surrey Hospital Community Childcare Society  
Karen Came, Langley Child Development Centre  
Sherrie Jamieson, Reach Child and Youth Development Society  
Debbie Jackson, BC Association of Family Resource Programs  
Tina Thomlinson, Langley Child Development Centre  
Cathy Robinson, The Centre for Child Development  
Karen Norman, Options Community Services  
Jasbir Randhawa, Newton Family Resource Program OCS  
Dr. Vanessa Lapointe, Registered Psychologist  
Susan Papadionissiou, Office of Early Learning Development and Care

Leona Chutskoff, ECE  
Erin Balmer, City of Surrey  
Bonnie Mackwood, School District #36  
Barb Walks, ECEBC  
Ruth Beardsley, Child Care Options OCS  
Sharlene Wedel, Child Care Options OCS  
Nina Uppal, Child Care Options OCS  
Michelle Davies, Child Care Options OCS  
Shelby Gordon, Child Care Options OCS

*We gratefully acknowledge the  
Conference Planning Committee  
and the staff of Child Care Options  
for their many hours of hard work.  
This conference could not happen  
without you!*

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## CONFERENCE AT-A-GLANCE

### FRIDAY - FEBRUARY 4

- 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm  
Marketplace and Community Displays Open
- 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm  
Registration Desk Open
- 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm  
Pre-Conference Event: ECE Registry and PLAR
- 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
Keynote Address by Mary Gordon



### SATURDAY - FEBRUARY 5

- 8:00 am to 3:30 pm  
Registration Desk Open
- 8:00 am to 1:30 pm  
Marketplace and Community Displays Open
- 9:00 am to 9:15 am  
Conference Welcome in Theatre
- 9:15 am to 10:15 am  
Surprise Keynote Address
- 10:45 am to 12:45 pm  
Session A Workshops
- 12:45 pm to 1:45 pm  
Vegetarian Lunch Buffet in Gym
- 1:45 pm to 3:45 pm  
Session P Workshops
- 3:45 pm  
Conference Close

**Marketplace and Community Displays  
close at 1:45 pm**

## PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS

### Register for a Pre- Conference Event!

Friday - 5:30 TO 6:30 pm ~ Pizza will be provided

#### ECE Registry

This session will include information about:

- The ECE application process •
- Labour mobility for Early Childhood Educators •
- Roles and responsibilities of ECEs and Assistants •
- The ECE Registry investigative process •

*Presented by*

Denise Pawliuk, ECE Registrar MCFD



#### Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition For Early Childhood Educators

This session will discuss PLAR for licence and course credit and the methods used in determining how people can work toward achieving their credential. A panel of PLAR graduates will share their stories.

*Presented by*

Kathleen Price, ECE Program Coordinator  
Douglas College

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

#### Visit the conference marketplace!

Friday, Feb 4th - 5:30 pm - 9:30 pm  
Saturday, Feb 5th - 8:00 am - 1:45 pm

*Over 30 vendors! Including...*  
Books, toys, puzzles, music, etc.

#### **Welcome Community Organizations!**

The Centre for Child Development  
Reach Child and Youth Development Society  
Community Care Facilities Licensing  
Surrey Public Library  
Options Community Services  
BC Family Child Care Association  
Langley Child Development Centre  
Kla How Eya Aboriginal Centre

#### **Do You Twitter?**

Child Care Options will be tweeting before and during the Conference. Follow [www.twitter.com/chcareoptions](http://www.twitter.com/chcareoptions) and search the hashtag #chomconf.



#### **Mary Gordon Keynote Address**

**Friday, Feb 4th  
7:00 - 9:00 pm**

Mary Gordon is recognized internationally as an educator, best-selling author, child advocate and parenting expert who has created programs informed by the power of empathy. In 1996, she founded Roots of Empathy, which now offers programs in Canada, New Zealand, the United States and the Isle of Man. In 2005, Ms. Gordon founded the Seeds of Empathy program. She is a Member of the Order of Canada and an Ashoka Fellow.

Ms. Gordon is also the founder of Canada's first and largest school-based Parenting and Family Literacy Centres, which she initiated in 1981. They have become public policy in Ontario, with more than 120 schools involved for Fall 2008. They have been used as a best-practice model internationally. The Nelson Mandela Children's Foundation brought Ms. Gordon to South Africa to share her parenting expertise.

***Join us for a surprise keynote about the power of communication and teamwork that will lift your spirits and motivate you to achieve your goals!***

**Here's what some past participants had to say about it:**

*A unique teambuilding experience, unlike anything we've done before. .... Truly Stimulating!*  
**John Lee - Senior Vice President- CNN**

*Our team left energized, and emotional . . . and very motivated!*  
**Mark Barnard, Vice President—Unilever**

*Absolutely amazing! There is no other way to describe it.*  
**Kim Thompson, Sunny Delight Beverages Co.**

*The joy and exhilaration we experienced is unsurpassed.* **Care International**

*I would highly recommend it and have already begun spreading the word . . .* **Rick M. Peterson Phillips, Global Brand Innovation Manager**

*This was a great ice breaker and a wonderful exercise in team collaboration— thank you for winning over even the biggest skeptic in our group!*  
**Camia Peacock, Georgia Power Company**

*Completely blown away!*  
**Kristie Schroeder, Starbucks Marketing**

*We all had a great time and the feedback has been very positive!* **Wendy Crothers, Senior Communications Specialist**

*Wow! What a great experience!*  
**Joanne McDonough, Price Waterhouse Coopers**

## WORKSHOPS AT-A-GLANCE

### A SESSIONS (10:45 AM - 12:45 PM)

- A1** Growing Up With Autism
- A2** Stress Free Parenting: Fact or Fiction?
- A3** A is for Anaphylaxis
- A4** "I Know an Old Lady who Swallowed a What?"
- A5** Circle Time Potpourri 2
- A6** Creating a Rich Sensory Learning Environment for Infants and Toddlers
- A7** Block Play: Building Together with Young Children
- A8** Making Sense of Bullying: How to Protect our Children
- A9** Circle Time Tool Box
- A10** Superheroes!
- A11** Greening Your Day Care 101
- A12** The Outsiders: Going Beyond the Walls of Your Imagination
- A13** The Drum Café with Marc Lalonde

### P SESSIONS (1:45 PM - 3:45 PM)

- P1** Stop the Gossip
- P2** Helping Children Build and Maintain Healthy Self-Esteem
- P3** Coping With Challenging Behaviour (Punjabi)
- P4** Working with Aboriginal Families: An AECD Perspective
- P5** Wrestling, Battling, and G-U-Ns: Understanding Aggressively Themed Play to support Healthy Outcomes for Children
- P6** It Looked Like Maple Syrup
- P7** Sign Me a Story (Volume I)
- P8** Art for Children: It's the Process, Not the Product
- P9** An Introduction to Storyyoga and Some of its Playful Elements
- P10** Rhymes and Songs for Babies and Toddlers
- P11** Raising the Bar for Family Resource Programs
- P12** Infant Massage: Creating Connections Through Nurturing Touch
- P13** Policies and Procedures in Licensed Child Care Facilities

**A1 Growing Up With Autism**

Faced with autism since age 2, Myles and his family have conquered each new hurdle along life's path. Myles spreads hope to families, professionals and the world with his words of encouragement, his willingness to teach, and his brave ability to share. He wants the world to know that you may not be able to cure autism, but you can certainly make the life of someone with autism much brighter.

*Presenter: Myles Mckie*

*Myles is a recent high school graduate who shares his experiences about growing up with autism. Myles has presented to school districts, colleges and universities, and community groups.*

**A2 Stress-Free Parenting: Fact or Fiction**

Do you want to be calm, confident, in control and effective as a parent, teacher or guardian? By learning and applying the stress-reducing tool of Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT), you will bypass the automatic fight response (aggressiveness) or flight response (withdrawal). EFT helps you handle any situation in a positive, appropriate manner, so you and your children will be happier, healthier, more productive and better balanced people!

*Presenter: Sheryl Stanton*

*Sheryl Stanton is a speaker, trainer, and author of four stress-relief books. She is a finalist for the "Women of Worth" Health and Wellness Award 2010, and is mother to six children and foster mother to three special needs children.*

**A3 A is for Anaphylaxis**

This workshop is a must for all people charged with the care of children. There has been a large increase in the number of children with food allergies in the last decade. Anaphylaxis affects about 8% of kids and 4% of adults now. Find out the causes, signs and symptoms, what to do when a serious reaction occurs and what you can do to prevent it. Learn how to use an epinephrine auto-injector, a simple device that can save a life.

*Presenter: Pam Lee*

*Pam is a Vancouver School District Special Education Assistant by day and Associate Editor of Allergic Living Magazine by night. She has operated a licensed family child care and has been advocating for people with food allergies and anaphylaxis for 13 years. Pam sits on the provincial Anaphylaxis Advisory Committee and provides training on recognizing and preventing serious allergic reactions.*



**A4 I Know an Old Lady who Swallowed a What?**

This make and take workshop will explore the wide variety of themes in which you can use this versatile story. Discuss new ways to brighten up your old themes as well as extending themes throughout the centre. This workshop will be fun and interactive and you might just surprise yourself with how creative you can be. **Please bring sharp scissors and a cookie sheet to take home your creations.**

*Presenter: Jannine Goddard and Tanya Kirk*

*Jannine and Tanya have been working as ECE's since 2005. Along with their business Heartfelt Stories, Jannine works with Abbotsford CCRR and facilitates a children's program in Cloverdale. Tanya works with Heartfelt Stories and is a stay at home mom, but still finds time to substitute teach as often as she can.*



**A5 Circle Time Potpurri 2**

Now that you have the basics for conducting Great Circle Times, add to your repertoire with new book titles, new themes, felt-board stories, songs, props and puppets. Participants will receive hand-outs, booklists and sources, and a certificate of participation.

*Presenters: Susan Andrews and Anne Marie Weiss*

*Anne Marie is Surrey's Outreach Librarian, visiting family places and day care centres throughout the city. Susan has been leading storytimes for children and families for over 20 years at the Guildford Public Library. Anne Marie and Susan have been conducting storytelling workshops for early childhood care providers for more than 3 years.*

**A6 Creating a Rich Sensory Learning Environment for Infants and Toddlers**

This workshop examines ways in which infants learn through their senses, and how the senses are interconnected. These sensory connections are the infant's building blocks for increasingly complex thoughts and concepts that develop throughout childhood. We will explore how we as child care providers can enhance the infant's opportunities for sensory learning through thoughtful practice, using natural elements and a variety of simple props and equipment.

*Presenter: Ward Nakata*

*Ward Nakata has been working in child care for over 16 years. He is currently with UBC Child Care Services at Little Goslings Infant Centre.*

**A7 Block Play: Building Together with Young Children**

Blocks are an essential component of an early childhood environment. Come to this session to play with a variety of high quality materials designed to enhance young children's learning through play. Explore the links to curricular areas and development domains that are directly tied to the block centre. Leave with renewed energy about why block play is important in our programs!

*Presenter: Fiona Morrison*

*Fiona Morrison is currently Director of Family Literacy and Early Learning at 2010 Legacies Now. She has more than 35 years experience as an educator in a variety of roles and is passionate about her work with young children and their families.*



**A8 Making Sense of Bullying: How to Protect our Children**

Most approaches to bullying assume the behaviour is either learned or due to a lack of social skills. Not every act of frustration and aggression stems from the bully syndrome; this distinction is important if we are to protect our children. This workshop will help participants to understand where bullying comes from and how to help our children.

*Presenter: Dr. Deborah MacNamara*

*Dr. MacNamara is a clinical counsellor and educator in private practice helping parents, teachers, and child care professional make sense of children and adolescents in their care. She has over 15 years experience as a teacher and counsellor in mental health and educational settings.*

**A9 Circle Time Tool Box**

Workshop participants will explore the theory and creative practice behind a variety of circle time tools: music, storytelling and poetry, poems and rhymes, circle games and movement, and puppets. Participants will have the opportunity to learn and incorporate these tools into their own circle times.

*Presenter: Al Hirsch*

*Al Hirsch has 35 years experience working with children and over 15 years presenting workshops and keynotes for early childhood educators. Al has won 2 Parent's Choice awards for his children's audio recordings.*

**A10 Superheroes!**

In this superhero workshop you will explore the reasons that children play with superheroes and how to be a real superhero in your own everyday way; how to support children's play when it's time to redirect, and discover some super program ideas that you can take back to your program and implement right away.

*Presenter: Lise-Lotte Loomer*

*Lise-Lotte Loomer holds a degree in Child and Youth Care and has enjoyed working with groups for the past 20 years. She currently runs a company specializing in eco-celebrations and leads both her daughters' Girl Guide groups.*

**A11 Greening Your Day Care 101**

This workshop is designed to help owners, directors, and teachers 'green' the daily practices in their centres. Learn what other centres are doing to avoid toxic toys, provide healthier food, create better indoor air quality, improve daily health practices, conserve energy and water resources, reduce waste, and save money. This is a fast-paced class that covers a mixture of research, case studies, and lessons learned.

*Presenter: Manda Aufochs Gillespie*

*Manda is a consultant, writer, environmentalist, and mother. She founded the Green Mama LLC to bring green living information to parents and businesses. Manda has worked with green stores, daycares, and with corporations trying to live truly green. She has been featured as a green parenting expert in many media sources.*

**A12 The Outsiders: Going Beyond the Walls of Your Imagination**

It's rainy - what do you do? This is a super-fun workshop for attendees of all ages wanting to learn about small and large group games and activities that are completely outside. Come and learn about the endless fun things kids can do in sun, rain and snow throughout the year.

*Presenter: Jeff Willis*

*Jeff has spent over 18 years working with groups of all ages and backgrounds using supportive, innovative and experiential means. Jeff specializes in developing collaborative teams that work towards a stronger identity, effectiveness and foundation.*

**A13 Drum Café (1 hr) with Marc Lalonde (1 hr)**

Come and learn how to tap into our inner selves to lay the foundation for group success. As experienced through drumming, a group of individuals create a synergy which evolves into a unified consciousness. Applying this experience to everyday life means focusing on our intentions and being aware of how we interpret information and communicate.

*Presenters: Drum Café and Marc Lalonde*

*The Drum Café was started in 1996 by Warren Leiberman as a café where drumming was used to break down barriers, inspire people and bring people together. It has evolved into a global team building and entertainment program along with motivational speakers and Africa's top drummers. Marc is a fully certified ECE with Infant/toddler and Special Needs certification (see also P1 for more about Marc).*

**P1 Stop the Gossip**

This will be a lecture format where gossip is defined as well as the reasons it is often used. Direct communication is provided as an alternative. Practical suggestions are given so anyone can ensure she/he is no longer involved in gossip, as well as techniques to lead others to stop gossiping.

*Presenter: Marc Lalonde*

*Marc is a fully certified ECE with Infant/toddler and Special Needs certification. He holds a B.A. (with Distinction) in Child and Youth Care and has more than 30 years in the ECE field. Marc has spent the last 15 years leading ECD programs in First Nations communities, and is the manager of the Tseil-Waututh Child and Family Development Centre.*



**P2 Helping Children Build and Maintain Healthy Self-Esteem**

What is healthy self-esteem and why do we need it? This workshop will discuss aspects of healthy and low self-esteem and how they affect us. It will discuss the value of making mistakes and how to learn from them, and talk about the continuous process of building self-esteem.

*Presenter: Patricia Lessard*

*Patricia is a 'Breakthrough Parenting' master instructor with 23 years parenting experience. She is committed to sharing the insight, knowledge and tools that provided amazing results in her own home.*

**P3 Coping With Challenging Behaviour (Punjabi)**

This workshop is presented in Punjabi and will concentrate on preventing challenging behaviour in children. Participants will be provided with effective tools to deal with this behaviour when it arises and will also learn ways to reduce the behaviours. The workshop will include strategies on developing positive relationships between parents and caregivers to create the best guidance plan for children.

*Presenters: Ranjit Garcha and Jasbir Randhawa*

*Ranjit Kaur Garcha is an ECE with over 15 years experience in the field. She has been with Child Care Options for 11 years and has taught many parenting and care provider courses in English and Punjabi. Jasbir Randhawa is an ECE with 25 years experience and the recipient of the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award as well as the Prime Minister's Award of Excellence in Early Childhood Education — Certificate of Achievement.*

**P4 Working with Aboriginal Families: An AECD Perspective**

This workshop will focus on sharing cultural and historical information in regards to working with Aboriginal/First Nations families from an Aboriginal early childhood perspective. The presenters will discuss various topics such as the historical factors that impact Aboriginal families today including inter-generational affects of colonization and residential schools. Workshop participants will get an opportunity to better understand the barriers that Aboriginal/First Nations people continue to face in trying to heal their communities and families.

*Presenters: Nadine Gagné and Natasha Jones*

*Nadine Gagne is an Aboriginal Infant Development Consultant/Supervisor with Kla-How-Eya Aboriginal Centre and is also AIDP Advisor for the Fraser Region, responsible for AIDP programs from Tsawwassen to Chilliwack/Seabird Island. Natasha Jones is also an AIDP consultant with Kla-How-Eya Aboriginal Centre in Surrey.*

**P5 Wrestling, Battling, and G-U-Ns: Understanding Aggressively Themed Play to Support Healthy Outcomes for Children**

Care providers of young children often struggle with the idea of aggressively themed play. This workshop will focus on knowing what the "experts" have to say; understanding why children seek out these play themes; knowing when the themes are emotionally "safe;" and supporting children in developmentally healthy play.

*Presenter: Dr. Vanessa Lapointe*

*Dr. Lapointe has been supporting families and children for 10 years. Her areas of expertise include psycho educational and developmental assessment of children, as well as counseling children of all ages and supporting parents.*

**P6 It Looked Like Maple Syrup**

This unique experiential workshop will explore maple syrup as a key element of Canadian culture. Participants will explore several children's storybooks and extension ideas to introduce young children to the important cultural aspects of maple syrup. Each participant will leave the workshop with an activity packet they can use in their own programs as well as patterns for making a simple felt board story.

*Presenter: Nora Mejia, B. Ed, ECE*

*Nora's work in ECE is inspired by the principles of Reggio Emilia as well as her Montessori training. She is a diversity trainer for Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre.*



**P7 Sign Me a Story (Volume I)**

Stories are a fundamental part of a child's life. Spice them up by telling stories in sign. The children enjoy imitating and participating with these stories. Signing stories is an inclusive activity to do in any centre. It can help facilitate language development, plus it's fun!

*Presenter: Kim Brown-McKoryk*

*Kim has been working with families for over 25 years. She has her ECE/Special Needs and a BA in Psychology. Kim teaches a variety of American Sign Language courses designed for child care providers as well as facilitating parenting programs, supported child development, and para-scuba diving. Kim has been hard of hearing since 1988.*



**P8 Art for Children: It's the Process, Not the Product**

Join MaryAnn to look at how true art experiences are important for children's development and well-being, as she shares scores of art ideas with all the how-to's as well as slides of children's inspiring artworks. MaryAnn will provide a handout full of art ideas and resources.

*Presenter: MaryAnn F. Kohl*

*MaryAnn is the award-winning author of over 20 books on process art for children of all ages and abilities. Her goal as an educator is to help teachers and child care providers bring art to children so they can develop their creativity and grow to be independent critical thinkers. Visit MaryAnn's website at [www.brightring.com](http://www.brightring.com).*

**P9 An Introduction to Storyyoga and Some of its Playful Elements**

Storyyoga is a self-designed program that combines children's literature and the joyous movement of yoga. Participants will be introduced to this unique way of working with children and will have the opportunity to explore a variety of Storyyoga components. Story, linking story to yoga, a "child friendly" sun salutation, fun floor poses and relaxation techniques will be presented in a fun and interactive way.

*Presenter: Vanessa Braun*

*Vanessa is the founder and instructor of Storyyoga. She has been working with children for over five years and continues to be inspired by their free spirit, creativity, and sense of wonder.*

**P10 Rhymes and Songs for Babies and Toddlers**

Babies and toddlers love to communicate with us, especially when we use the beautiful language, rhythm and touch of traditional nursery rhymes, songs, and stories. This playful language lays the foundation for language, brain, social and emotional development. Come and sing and play as Jane teaches rhymes well loved by the parents and children in her programs, and talks about the importance of this play for babies' development. Handouts will be provided.

*Presenter: Jane Cobb*

*Jane Cobb is the author of "I'm a Little Teapot: Presenting Preschool Storytime," and "What'll I Do With the Baby-o? Nursery Rhymes, Songs, and Stories for Babies." Jane is also a children's librarian and workshop presenter.*

**P11 Raising the Bar for Family Resource Programs**

Join us in a discussion about how Family Resource Programs are aspiring to high quality, comprehensive, accessible, community-based programs. Participants will learn about the Standards of Practice and the certificate program currently delivered through the Justice Institute.

*Presenter: Marianne Drew-Pennington*

*Marianne has a long history in the field of family resource programming and related sectors. Marianne has served of various provincial committees and as a director of the Canadian Association of Family Resource Programs.*

**P12 Infant Massage: Creating Connection Through Nurturing Touch**

Babies and children simply love to be touched; in fact, they thrive on it and it is a crucial part of their healthy growth and development. During this session learn the many benefits of infant massage, current infant massage research, and how to become certified to teach infant massage to parents and encourage children's development with the nurturing touch of infant massage.

*Presenter: Tina Allen*

*Tina Allen is the founder of leading children's health and nurturing touch organization Liddle Kidz Foundation, and has become an internationally respected educator, author, and expert in the field of infant and children's massage therapy.*

**P13 Policies and Procedures in Licensed Child Care Facilities**

Are you baffled by the policies you are required to have? Do you get overwhelmed when writing or re-writing them? Are you unsure exactly what Child Care Licensing is looking for? Explore the who, what, when, where, why and how of policies for licensed child care facilities.

*Presenter: Sheri Obera*

*Sheri has been an Early Childhood Educator for 18 years and also holds certificates in Montessori and Elementary school teaching as well as degrees in Linguistics, Psychology and Children's Literature. Sheri has been active in child care, preschool and infant care in Canada and Europe.*