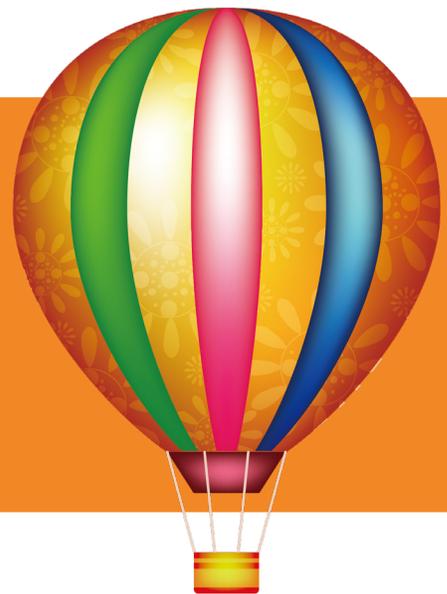




Early Childhood Development
ASSOCIATION of PEI

Online via Whova Virtual Conference Platform

Schedule



Welcome!

The 2021 ECDA Fall Conference is a little different this year due to Covid-19 regulations, but it will be an exciting event held virtually with some bonus content accessible in “Whova” (our event software), on the days between!

This past year and a half our sector has shown resilience and leadership countless times. We have shown this in how we have adapted, pivoted, and grown, and continue to do so.

As the world spiraled, and began navigating a global pandemic, ECEs stepped up to the frontlines, navigating this new world alongside children and families. They used their unique skillset to create safe places, consistency and security for the children in their lives, even when they weren't feeling these things themselves. It has been a difficult year at times, but it has also been a time of learning and growing! With this conference we will continue to learn and grow, both in our professional and personal advocacy skills. Regardless of which sessions you attend, the expertise of the facilitators will revitalize your passion for your work in the field of early childhood care and education, and encourage you to become the leader you would want to follow!

We thank you in advance for attending the 2021 ECDA Fall Conference! The knowledge you gain enriches the futures of the families and children in your care!

Sincerely,

The ECDA Board and Staff



ECDA Fall Conference 2021

Dates:

Friday, November 12th, 2021

Monday, November 15th, 2021

Location:

Online via Whova Platform

Contact:

(902) 368-1866

info@ecdaofpei.ca

www.ecdaofpei.ca

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Conference Schedule



ECDA Fall Conference 2021 is worth 12 Professional Development hours

Friday, November 12th:

8:45 - 9:00 am	Opening Remarks: ECDA Executive Director & Board President
9:00 - 10:30 am	Opening Keynote: Pam Boulton
10:30 - 11:00 am	Break
11:00 - 12:30 pm	Plenary Session: Cindy Blackstock
12:30 - 1:30 pm	Lunch Break
1:30 - 4:30 pm	Breakout Sessions: 1A - 1 E

Monday, November 15th:

9:00 am - 12:00	Breakout Sessions: 2A - 2D
12:00 - 1:00 pm	Lunch Break
1:00 - 2:30 pm	Plenary Session: Susan MacDonald
2:30 - 4:15 pm	Closing Keynote: Dr. Jody Carrington
4:15 - 4:30 pm	Closing Remarks

** There will be simultaneous translation in French for all main sessions.*

** Il y aura une traduction simultanée dans Français pour toutes les sessions principales.*

Please Note: Schedule is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.



Leadership is a Way of Being!

Leadership is not only a position, it is a way of being – a way of seeing the world – our world – the world of early childhood education and care. Leaders are found everywhere in our field, bringing vision, trust, and hope. Not just anybody can do this work we do – caring for and about our youngest children and their families. We provide intentionally excellent early childhood experiences for children – filled with wonder, love, an expectation that each child is seen as capable and competent and is cared for and nurtured. We support our families and provide a foundation for our communities. Our passion sustains us, but it can wear thin.

We need each other, relationships we can count on. We need to embrace the power of reflective practice and we need to nurture our own sense of wonder. Margaret Wheatley in her 2017 book asks, “Who Do We Choose to Be?” My question is “Who do we choose to be for our children, our families and communities? If we are to succeed at who we choose to be for them, as leaders, who do we need to be for ourselves and each other?”

Facilitator Biography:

Pam Boulton, Ed.D., is the Coordinator for the Exchange Leadership Initiative for Exchange Magazine and is one of the Conveners for the Exchange ROW (Reimagining Our Work) Initiative. She teaches a four course leadership series for early childhood professionals, is a founding member of the Wisconsin Nature Action Collaborative for Children, is actively



involved in the World Forum Foundation Working Group on Children’s Rights and is UW- Milwaukee Child Care Director Emeritus. Pam continues to be a guiding force in the design, development and delivery of child care leadership courses, training programs and professional development opportunities.

Plenary Session



November 12th
11 AM – 12:15 PM

Spirit Bear - Echoes of the Past

How to engage children in learning about the diverse history of First Nations to prepare them to implement the TRC's calls to action and create an equitable future for all children. The session will show how all educators can be allies and stand up for the rights of all children so that all children can reach their full potential. Educators can be embracing and teaching indigenous culture so that we can acknowledge our past and forge a pathway together. By modelling empathy, understanding, curiosity and inclusion we are setting the stage for the children to be better and to do better.

Facilitator Bio:

Cindy Blackstock, PhD

A member of the Gitksan First Nation, Cindy is honoured to serve as the Executive Director of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society and a professor at McGill University's School of Social Work. She has over 30 years of experience working in child welfare and Indigenous children's rights and has published more than 75 articles on topics relating to reconciliation, Indigenous theory, First Nations child welfare and human rights. Cindy was honoured to work with First Nations colleagues on a successful human rights challenge to Canada's inequitable provision of child and family services and failure to implement Jordan's Principle. This hard-fought litigation has resulted in hundreds of thousands of services being provided to First Nations children, youth and families.

She recently served on the Pan American Health Commission on Health Equity and Inequity and fundamentally believes that culturally-based equity is fundamental to meaningful reconciliation. Cindy is frequently sighted in the company of the Caring Society's reconciliation Am-bear-ristar, Spirit Bear, engaging children in meaningful actions to implement the TRC Calls to Action.





1A: Peer-Mentoring through Communities of Practice: Opportunities for Belonging, Engagement, and Renewal

As Early Childhood Educators, we all know the importance of the early years for young children, but what about the importance of the early years for early childhood educators? The journey of becoming an early childhood educator takes time, and it does not happen in isolation. The Early Childhood Educators of British Columbia (ECEBC) reports that as many as 50% of beginning early childhood educators leave the field within the first five years of work (ECEBC, 2012). This statistic does not have to include you or your fellow educators. Are you an Administrator, a Senior Educator, or a Team Leader? As a leader, you have the opportunity to make such a difference in the lives of beginning early childhood educators, including all of your staff. How can you move beyond managing to leading – giving direction, offering inspiration, building teamwork, setting an example, and gaining acceptance (Rodd, 2006)? How can you develop a culture of learning and respect within the workplace? What aspects of mentoring are important to ensure a successful experience for both mentors and mentees?

In this workshop, you will learn about the Peer-Mentoring for Early Childhood Educators in BC Project. Information on how the project was set up, what components helped to make it a success, as well as what participants experienced will be shared. Through this project, participants found a safe space to share their everyday experiences as Early

Childhood Educators. As one educator shared, “The Peer-Mentoring [Project] gave us a space and an intention, a structure to come together and share our individual journeys and our different journeys”. Ideas for starting up a peer-mentoring program in your community will be shared.

Facilitator Biography

Dr. Laura K. Doan is an associate professor in the Faculty of Education and Social Work at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, BC, where she teaches in the Early Childhood Education and Master of Education programs. Laura recently completed a province-wide peer-mentoring project for early childhood educators, that took place in 17 regions across British Columbia, Canada. Laura is inspired by the wisdom, strength, and resilience of early childhood educators.



Sessions 1B & 1C



November 12th
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

1B: Compassionate Leadership

This workshop will focus on navigating these challenging, yet promising times through leading with compassion. There will be a focus on listening well, maintaining purpose and cultivating joy in our work.

A quote from an article featuring Kristie being interviewed by Margie Carter in Exchange Magazine entitled - Our Work is More Than Our Job- "I find a great difference between my job and my work. My job is about tasks that I complete. It's laid out in my job description. My work is about purpose. It informs me on how to do my job." (Exchange, 2016)



Facilitator Biography

Kristie L. Norwood, M. Ed. is a mom and wife. She has worked in Early Childhood Education for over 25 years. She has been in Head Start for over 20 years. She is currently Grantee Education Manager for Start Early in Chicago, IL. where she oversees the implementation of quality education and disabilities services. She is a thought leader who focuses on supporting and developing passionate and intentional educators that create positive experiences for children and their families. She currently serves on the Steering Committee for the Advancing Racial Equity Committee in her workplace. She is also one of the convenors of the Reimagining Our Work Initiative (ROW) through Child Care Exchange-Dimensions Education.



1C: Can anyone be a pedagogical leader?

The answer is ...yes! Let's explore the why, how and what of this important role. We will explore what a pedagogical leader is; how they work; why this is important and, most importantly who can do this. Make sure you have paper and pen, so you can brainstorm, and reflect as we work through these important concepts!

Facilitator Biography:

Liz Hicks, elementary teacher from England, ECE diploma, 39 years in early childhood, in various capacities, and at present a private consultant working in early childhood education in NS, providing professional development in a variety of topics, and consultations and program coordination, plus delivering modules for the NS Early Learning Framework. I believe children are capable, curious and need to connect with people and the world around them, which is also a belief I have for the educators that work with the children.



1D: Nutrition Session on Ellyn Satter's Division of Responsibility.

Division of Responsibility (DOR) feeding framework, developed by Ellyn Satter of Satter Institute is considered the gold standard for feeding children and has been identified as a protective factor against the development of childhood obesity and nutrition-related disease later in life. DOR can be applied to every stage of a child's nutrition development from infancy to adolescence. The 5 components of DOR feeding framework are; the caregiver decides what, where and when and the child decides how much and whether. Join registered dietitian Bethany Vessey in an interactive discussion about how DOR can help reduce picky eating, meal-time battles, and help children develop healthier relationships with food.

Facilitator Biography:

Bethany Vessey, RD has been a registered dietitian for 12 years. Founder of Synergy Fitness and Nutrition in Charlottetown, Bethany left Synergy in 2017 to further her education in nutrition and pursue her career in family nutrition. When COVID-19 hit PEI, Bethany's career goals in nutrition were put on hold as she was tasked to support the border entry screening team and is currently working as the manager of this team. Bethany's passion has always been in preventative nutrition. She has worked with many families, organizations, businesses and individuals providing education and support on how to improve one's quality of life through healthy eating and active living. As a mother of two young boys Bethany believes strongly in the benefits of Ellyn's Satter's Division of Responsibility feeding framework

and hopes to use her education and experience to support other caregivers as they learn more about this powerful feeding framework.





1E: Le professionnel; un leader pédagogique

Dans le cadre de cette formation, vous serez en mesure de placer l'apprentissage de la petite enfance à l'avant-scène grâce à l'enseignement adaptés au contexte et aux fondements de la recherche et de la pensée réflexive. Elle vous appuiera dans le développement de vos compétences vous permettant de créer, appuyer et évaluer vos pratiques éducatives par le biais de la rétrospection mettant en valeur votre leaderships pédagogique tout en s'arrimant avec les expériences et histoires quotidiennes en milieu de garde éducatif.

Il faut un village pour éduquer un enfant!
-Loris Malaguzzi

Facilitator Biography: Emmanuelle Sow

Qui suis-je ?

- Passionnée par l'éducation et le cheminement professionnel
- Enseignante au Centre Collégial de l'Alberta (Éducation Petite Enfance)
- Pedagogical Partner Curriculum Framework ARCQE
- Formatrice domaine de la petite enfance en Alberta
- Étudiante Maîtrise Université d'Ottawa (Enseignement et apprentissages)
- Formation continue (webinaire) et aventurière Europe-Australie





2A: Two-Eyed Seeing (etuaptmumk) Early Childhood Care and Development

Have you ever wanted to learn more about the Mi'kmaq, Mi'kmaq Children, their language and culture?

Join Nik Phillips, as he explores a historical overview of the Mi'kmaw people, their customs and practices around child rearing, and how gender plays so little in traditional Mi'kmaw child rearing. Participants will have an opportunity to see Early Childhood Education through a different lens.

Facilitator Bio:

Nicholas (Nik) Phillips is a Treaty Education policy analyst for the provincial department of Office of L'nu Affairs, and a faculty member of the Nova Scotia Community College, teaching Early Childhood Education and the Poqjiki-kina'masulti'kw tel-kina'mujik mijua'ji'jk (Mi'kmaq Early Childhood Education) program.

He is a member of Mulin Sipu (Millbrook Mi'kmaw Nation). As a young two-spirited knowledge holder, Nik embodies the practice of Etuaptmumk (two-eyed seeing), bringing a wealth of Indigenous and Western knowledge to his life and work. He holds the belief that reconciliation is imbedded in our ability to share, listen, and understand one another. He is a well-rounded person who believes in supporting others in their own places of knowing.

Nik holds a BA (Honours) and MA (Child and Youth Study) from Mount Saint Vincent University. He is an active member of community who advocates for language, culture, inclusivity, and equity. He most recently served as the Director of Early Education for Mulin Sipu.

Aside from Nik's professional pursuits, he is an adventurous individual who enjoys the outdoors, collecting traditional medicines, hunting, fishing, gardening, bee keeping and growing. He is also a traditional artist, collecting and designing Mi'kmaw traditional baskets, porcupine quill work and bead work.





2B: Sharing the Power: Including Children's Voice in Pedagogical Documentation

This session will look at the how's and the why's behind pedagogical documentation and will challenge the participants on ways that they can 'share the power' of leadership in an early learning setting by involving children in the co-construction of documentation. This co-construction can provide opportunities for rich reflective and meaningful dialogue amongst children and ECEs, leading to a more democratic and inclusive program.

Facilitator Biography:

Dr. Christine McLean is a as Associate Professor in the Department of Child and Youth Study at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Prior to this position, Christine lived and worked in St. John's, NL, for almost three decades where she was involved in the ECE community in a variety of capacities. Her research interests include pedagogical documentation, implementation of early learning frameworks, reflective practice and, of course, play.



2C: Are You Stuck?

This session is an opportunity to talk and share about your experiences. It can help fellow participants get "unstuck" or build a network of support. Matthew and Justin have a YouTube channel where they talk about topics of importance to them. One of their videos was about just that—being stuck and how to move on, what to do and how to work with your team both as a mentor and a mentee. We will branch off and build upon this talk to help guide our conversation

Facilitator Biographies:

Matthew Sampson has worked in the ECE field for 20 years. He recently graduated with a Master of Arts in Child and Youth Studies from Mount St Vincent University. In 2018, Matthew was the recipient of the Prime Minister's Award of Excellence in Early Childhood Education. His research interests are emergent classroom environment design, emergent curriculum and pedagogical documentation.

Justin West is an instructor at NSCC in the Africentric Early Childhood Education diploma program. He has been in the ECE field for 19 years after graduating with an ECE diploma from Humber College. He completed a B.F.A from NSCAD University and a Master's degree in Art Education from Boston University. In 2013, Justin received the Prime Minister's Award of Excellence in Early Childhood Education. Justin infuses creative expression into his daily practice with children and ECE students.

** Photos on following page*



Matthew Sampson



2D: Le leadership – Spadrole!

Ton énergie joue un rôle important dans le développement de tes relations, ta prise de décision et ton style de leadership. Le rire est la fondation de ton énergie positive et nous allons expérimenter avec différentes techniques pour découvrir ensemble ce qui fonctionne pour toi. Pourquoi? Pour que tu deviennes le leader que tu rêves devenir.

Tu vas découvrir:

- La relation entre tes énergies positives et négatives,
- des stratégies pour activer et alimenter tes énergies positives et
- des activités qui génèrent de l'énergie positive pour toi, ton équipe et les enfants de ton centre.



Justin West



Facilitator Bio: Rolande Kirouac

Rolande, propriétaire de Spadrole, œuvre en développement communautaire et avec des centres de petite enfance depuis plus de 25 ans. Rolande Kirouac est propriétaire de Spadrole, une entreprise vouée au bien-être de la personne et offre des programmes sur le leadership, les bonnes communications et la gouvernance des conseils d'administration de petits organismes à but non lucratif.

Plenary Session



November 15th
1:00 – 2:30 PM

Shining Bright – Bringing Passion, Intentionality, And Engagement Into All Aspects Of Our Work

How can you infuse positive energy into all aspects of your work? How do you embrace the current challenges and re-connect with your passion for your work? How can you make a positive impact on the early childhood field? These are the questions we will explore through reflective, interactive, and engaging learning experiences. You will leave this session recharged and refocused on the new skills and strategies you can weave into your professional work!



Facilitator Biography:

Susan MacDonald is passionate about inspiring positive change in the early childhood field. Her expertise is reflected in her professional speaking, coaching and her books, *Inspiring Early Childhood Leadership* and *Inspiring Professional Growth*. Susan is the founder of Inspiring New Perspectives, a consultancy focused on empowering educators and school leaders to create programs that deeply respect and nurture the possibilities that lie within each child, parent and teacher. Her background includes director of a Reggio inspired preschool program, and a Commonwealth of Massachusetts licensing supervisor. Susan holds a Master's degree in Instructional Design.





LEADERSHIP: TAKING THE WHEEL IN COMPLEX TIMES

As an entrepreneur, CEO, and clinical psychologist, Dr. Jody Carrington believes that every successful team must have the inherent ability to repair and reconnect if they ever hope to serve their clients well. Her leadership style promotes building healthy relationships among her employees to ensure synergy and a positive, dynamic workplace. By combining her expertise as a workplace leader and clinical psychologist, Dr. Jody will motivate other leaders to change their team-building approach from the inside out and really focus on connection and collaboration for better outcomes

DR. JODY CARRINGTON BIOGRAPHY

Renowned Psychologist & Bestselling Author, Jody Carrington is a renowned psychologist, sought after for her expertise, energy and approach to helping individuals, teams and organizations solve their most complex human-centred challenges. A bestselling author and revered speaker, Jody focuses much of her work around reconnection - the key to healthy relationships and productive teams.

Her approach is authentic, real and often hilarious. She speaks passionately about resilience, mental health, leadership, burnout, grief and trauma - and how reconnection is the answer to so many of the root problems we face. Her best-selling book *Kids These Days* was published in 2019 and has sold 150,000 copies



worldwide. Her second book, *Teachers These Days* will be released in 2021. Jody's message is as simple as it is complex: we are wired to do the hard things; but we are so much braver together.

The highlight of any agenda, energizing every audience she speaks to, she is a masterful communicator, helping audiences deeply understand their challenges and the opportunities to overcome them. Always wrapping the information in poignant stories, funny anecdotes and actionable takeaways, Jody will leave you inspired.

With a PhD in clinical psychology, work with major institutions and a thriving clinical practice, she brings a depth of experience and insight that is unmatched in the industry.

Jody lives in beautiful Olds, Alberta with her husband and three children (she had 3 kids in 2 years to test her own resilience) and leads the amazing team at Carrington & Company.

Registration Fees & Information

Regular Rate

Member: \$150.00 + HST
Non-member: \$300.00 + HST

The registration deadline is October 31, 2021.

Registration Submission

Register online at www.ecdaofpei.ca.
Please log in to the Member Area to receive member rates.



Submitting your Payment

Cash: Please hand deliver payments made in cash to the ECDA office

Cheque: Please make payable to the ECDA of PEI

PayPal: Please use Visa or MasterCard via online registration form

Email transfer: Please make payment to payments@ecdaofpei.ca

Credit Cards: Call the ECDA office @ (902) 368-1866 to pay by phone or pay in person at office with Visa, Mastercard or American Express

**Thank you for registering
for the
2021 ECDA
Fall Conference!**

