

ECEBC Branch E-Newsletter



ECEBC | early childhood
educators of BC

February 2013

Volume 4, Issue 1

ECEBC...

Is the association for advancing early childhood education and educators in British Columbia.

Promotes professional development and high standards of education and practice in the field.

Participates in developing ECE training programs and liaises with other early childhood associations.

Advocates for all ECE practitioners, young children and families.

Is supported and directed by its members.

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ECEBC Powell River Branch

On November 19, 2012, a lively group of Early Childhood Educators brought finger foods, energy and much laughter for a fun-filled Branch evening to decorate a small tree for PRACL's Festival of Trees—ECEBC is making an impact in the community of Powell River.

Festival of Trees is the kick off to the holiday season in our community and is hosted by the Powell River Association of Community Living. The festival is PRACL's largest fundraising event, with proceeds going to PRACL's Wish Fund. Decorating trees is a great way to promote businesses and local community programs, and supports a great cause. For tree decorators and wreath makers, it's a great way to showcase artistic talents, and

we know how creative Early Childhood Educators are!

The ECEBC Powell River Branch's Tree theme was



Photo by Carla Hees

"What does ECE mean to me?"

The tree was decorated with ECEBC's colour of green, toys, inspirational sayings and ECEBC's \$20/hour ornaments. Two Early Childhood Educators took the great effort to hand make a spe-

cial ECEBC garland featuring our provincial organization's logo.

The local Branch executive, being very aware of personal commitments in December and January, postponed the next Branch meeting until February.

In February, the Branch meeting will be taking a fun field trip to the Sliammon's First Nation ECD Program. Branch members will enjoy traditional food and have an introduction to the Early Care and Learning Sliammon Theme Boxes.

*Submitted by Carla Hees, Co-Chair
ECEBC Powell River Branch*

Call for Volunteers for Conference 2013!

You are invited to volunteer with us at this year's conference, from May 2 to 4, 2013! Your efforts will ensure that conference is a positive and enriching experience for delegates from across the province. If you have ever wondered how to become more involved with your provincial

organization, this is it!

If you would like more information regarding volunteering in May, please contact Carla Hees at hees.carla@shaw.ca or download the Volunteer Form from www.ecebc.ca and fax it to the ECEBC provincial office.

Thank you in advance for supporting your organization, and we look forward to hearing from you!

ECEBC Central Okanagan Branch



Photo by Shawn Nygren

Winter has arrived here in the Central Okanagan. We have had a successful Fall season and are looking forward to an exciting late winter and the coming of spring. Some of the activities our Branch has been engaged in are:

- * The \$10 A Day Child Care Plan, presented by Barb Duffy.
- * The Richard Louv Conference to celebrate National Child Day, where we set up an ECEBC display with information about local and provincial

membership information. We also handed out blue ribbons for attendees to wear.

- * We have our Winter Social Potluck and meeting coming up in late January. Our social committee has been working hard to organize and prep for this event. We will be doing something fun and exchanging seasonal resource ideas with other members.
- * We will also be holding a childcare workshop in February or March to help our

members gain training hours, resource materials and ideas for their programs.

- * Sherri Baran has graciously stepped forward to fill the position of President-Elect. Thanks, Sherri!
- * Our executive board met in early December and has been working on some new things to come. Some of these ideas will be shared at our upcoming meeting.

Submitted by Cindy Menghini, Chair
ECEBC Central Okanagan Branch

*The registration
deadline is
February 27, 2013
at 4:00 p.m. Don't
miss out, as spaces
fill up quickly!*

“Best Choices” Ethics Training Workshops

Save the dates! “Best Choices: The Ethical Journey” workshops have been scheduled in Quesnel and Williams Lake for early March and April.

Quesnel, Thursdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Quesnel CCRR

- March 7 (Module 1)
- March 14 (Module 2)
- April 4 (Module 3)

April 11 (Module 4)

Williams Lake, Fridays from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Thompson Rivers University's Williams Lake Campus

- March 8 (Module 1)
- March 15 (Module 2)
- April 5 (Module 3)
- April 12 (Module 4)

Best Choices Guides Beulah Munson and Jocelyn Stuart will be facilitating all four modules in both locations.

For more information, or to register, please contact Yasmin Irani at membership@ecebc.ca

For information regarding the “Best Choices” workshop series, please go to page 4.

MOVING TO A SYSTEM OF
integrated early care & learning IN BC



COALITION OF
child care
advocates
OF BC

\$10 A Day Child Care Plan

Have you and your Branch endorsed the “Plan”?

Go to http://www.ecebc.ca/news/integrated_project.html

where you can find useful information to engage and share with your community.

Twitter: @10aDayPlan Facebook: TenDollaraDayChildCarePlanBC

ECEBC Campbell River Branch



Photo by Rhonda Teramura

In Campbell River, we have been enjoying coming together in new and interesting ways. Holding meetings at new centres each month allows us to be inspired and curious about other professionals and ways in which they work. In September, we discussed the “Money in Your Pocket” campaign; by having some brainstorming and open discussion around the logistics and communication involved, we generated interest and heard centres come up with their own methods to deliver the campaign’s mes-

sage. An honorable mention to Dee McPhee and the staff of Quadra Children’s Centre, for making a visual display for their families to learn about and take action in this initiative.

Having pro-d built into some of our meetings has given us focus and engagement on topics such as mentoring and the power and benefits



Photo by Rhonda Teramura

of membership, presented by ECEBC’s executive director, Emily Mliczko, in February.

We have seen our membership numbers rise to 30, and hope to see a continuation of this. By pro-

viding a calendar of events outlining meeting times, places and topics, we hope to reach ECEs who may not regularly attend meetings and keep everyone in the loop.

Our executive members have increased, including three new members-at-large, Patricia Matthews, Rachel West and Liz Vance. Welcome ladies, we are pleased to have you!

We are eagerly looking ahead to experiencing “Best Choices” ethics training with our Courtenay Branch neighbours. Campbell River will celebrate Care for the Caregiver in May and Branch members will be supporting the event again this year by offering endorsements of the Plan and serving up sundaes!

Submitted by Rhonda Teramura, Chair ECEBC Campbell River Branch

ECEBC Caledonia Branch

This Fall, the Caledonia Branch in conjunction with the Leadership cohort hosted a leadership conference that was well attended and brought some wonderful new training opportunities to the community.

In celebration of the season, we hosted a book and article review in February. We are very excited to discuss the topic of gun play in our childcare settings. The book we are reviewing is “We Don’t Play With

Guns Here” by Penny Holland. It has generated a lot of conversation leading up to the meeting and we are all curious to hear one another’s positions on the subject.

The Caledonia Branch has partnered with our local CCRR and school district to provide the community with some fantastic professional development the first weekend in February. We are honored to have the great fortune of having Kim Atkinson and Danielle Davis,

Michelle Tannock and Brigitte Alomes presenting, with keynote Charlotte Diamond offering a special concert with her son Matt.

We are also working on hosting the second part to the Fall leadership conference; we would like to extend that opportunity into a weekend retreat on Friday, March 8 and Saturday, March 9 to bring out the leaders within.

Submitted by Tammy Christie, Membership ECEBC Caledonia Branch

Bring out the leaders within at our weekend retreat on Friday, March 8 and Saturday, March 9, 2013!



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Early Childhood Educators of British Columbia (ECEBC)

Mailing address:

2774 E. Broadway

Vancouver, BC

V5M 1Y8

Phone: 604-709-6063

Toll-free: 1-800-797-5602

Fax: 604-709-6077

E-mail: membership@ecebc.ca

The ECEBC Branch E-Newsletter, relaunched in September 2010, is published quarterly. We welcome and encourage submissions from Branches regarding news and updates about Branch activities and issues in your communities!

For more information, or for assistance in writing an article, please contact Executive Director, Emily Mliczko or Membership Administrator/Conference Coordinator, Yasmin Irani.

E-Newsletter Issue:

May 2013

September 2013

December 2013

February 2014

Articles Due:

April 12, 2013

August 16, 2013

November 7, 2013

TBA

“Best Choices: The Ethical Journey”

A project of the Canadian Child Care Federation and ECEBC.

Why is Ethics training important?

Professionals in the Early Care & Learning sector work with one of the most vulnerable groups in society – young children. The quality of the interactions between young children and their caregivers has a significant, enduring impact on children’s lives. The intimacy of the relationship and the potential that exists to do harm call for a commitment on the part of early childhood educators to the highest standards of ethical practice.

While individual children are the focus of the work done by early childhood educators, ethical practice extends beyond the child-educator relationship. Professionals in the Early Care & Learning sector care for and educate young children while recognizing and supporting the nurturing and socializing responsibilities of the children’s families. Early Care & Learning professionals accept their ethical obligations to the children and families they serve as both represent our society’s future.

About “Best Choices: The Ethical Journey”

ECEBC recognizes its responsibility to promote ethical practices and attitudes on the part of Early Care & Learning professionals. This four-part series guides participants on a journey of ethical discovery and awareness. Participants will have the opportunity to explore personal values, beliefs and assumptions, and examine the complexities in ethical decision making.

Module One guides participants through an exploration of their personal beliefs, values and ethics. Participants will examine what an ethical dilemma is using these systems as a point of reference. This module is a prerequisite for the remaining ethics training modules in this series.

Module Two guides participants on the purpose, structure and benefits of a professional code of ethics. Following the eight principles identified in ECEBC’s Code of Ethics, participants will experience and understand how a code of ethics can guide practice.

Module Three guides participants in the examination of making an ethical

decision. This examination prepares participants for the complexities in making “best choice” decisions, and the recognition that many best choices may exist. Participants will look into personal commitments to ethical decision making in practice.

Module Four works with participants in understanding how personal values, beliefs and ethics can support but also challenge ethical decision making. Participants will also identify potential inhibitors to making these decisions. Through examination of the six E’s to ethical commitment, participants will be able to renew their commitment of “best choice” decision making in practice.

For more information regarding booking a “Best Choices: The Ethical Journey” workshop in your community, please contact ECEBC at membership@ecebc.ca.