

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 Branch E-Newsletter

September 2012



ECEBC | early childhood educators of BC

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ECEBC Cowichan Valley Branch

Spring and summer was time to lay the groundwork in the Cowichan Valley for the 2013 provincial election by trying to get everyone to hear about "The Plan."

Mid-Island ECEBC Board member Charlene Gray came to Duncan in March to facilitate a training workshop on "The Plan" that attracted 14 early childhood educators from around the Valley.

Social Planning Cowichan (Child Care Council), generously donated \$500 to assist presenters in making presentations on "The Plan" in the community at the Duncan Public Library, to School District 79 and North Cowichan Council. Duncan and Ladysmith councils will hear the presentation in August. ECEBC provincial office and the ECEBC

Cowichan Valley Branch also donated money to help with local newspaper advertising costs.

Branch chair Mary Dolan and her team are looking to labour unions for further financial support. The Branch plans to bring forward focus groups in the Fall, especially for parents, to ensure they are behind "The Plan" and are encouraged to vote during the next provincial election.

The Branch is partnering with Success by 6, Aboriginal Success by 6, the Child Development team and CCRR to hold a one day local conference in Duncan in October. Early childhood educators are encouraged to attend one session facilitated by local ECEBC members on the future of our profession, with a look at the importance of becoming a member of ECEBC.

The workshop will also give a brief overview of "The Plan" and participants will receive a professional development certificate for the day.

Building up our profession is essential for everyone working in this field. Here in the Cowichan Valley, we are committed to bringing early childhood educators together in voice and strength.

Submitted by ECEBC Cowichan Valley Branch

2012/2013 ECEBC Board of Directors

ECEBC welcomed new Board members Glenda Burrows (Co-Director of Conference), Carla Hees (Member-at-Large), Marc Lalonde (Director of Communications) and Lyndsay Spencer (Member-at-Large) at the first Board meeting of the 2012/2013 term on July 17, 2012.

Returning Board members are Jamie Anderson (Co-Director of Personnel), Renuka Bhardwaj (Treasurer), Charlene Gray (Director of Conference), Denise Marshall (President), Bev Superle (Director of Personnel), Katie Wahl (Secretary), and Taya Whitehead (President-Elect).

ECEBC North Okanagan Branch

We held executive meetings in April and June, and the next meeting is scheduled for August to discuss strategic planning for the upcoming year.

May is Child Care Month - As part of ECEBC's Leadership Initiative Project "Children as Active Citizens", ten banners were made to promote children's rights in Vernon. The set, featuring local children, was displayed along the highway through town for a month. Our hope is to continue with an annual display each May.

ECEBC Conference - Lynne

Reside, Trina Devine and Shawna Miller-Poitras presented a workshop on children's rights and Vernon's journey to create a Children's Charter of Rights.

The Children's Charter of Rights for the City of Vernon was endorsed at a public event on May 25 to launch the children's charter at CCRR's annual picnic in the park. Together with the NOECD Coalition, the event invited children and families to a "Picnic in the Park" with live entertainment and activities put on by local businesses and agen-

cies. The Charter was endorsed by several community members including Mayor Rob Sawatzky, Chief Byron Louis of the Okanagan Indian Band, District #22 Superintendent Bev Rundell, Kristine Larsen for Interior Health, Social Planning Executive Director Annette Sharkey, Constable Kerri Parish, Adrian Johnson for the Chamber of Commerce, Rachel Zubick for Community Policing, Kemp Redl for the NOECD Coalition, and ECEBC. All members of the community were invited to

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ECEBC's 42nd Annual Conference

Save the date! ECEBC's 42nd annual conference has been scheduled for May 2 to 4, 2013 at the Radisson Hotel Vancouver Airport in Richmond, BC.

Members of this year's Conference Planning Committee are Board members Renuka Bhardwaj, Glenda Burrows, Charlene Gray, Carla Hees, Denise Marshall, Lyndsay

Spencer, Taya Whitehead, Executive Director Emily Mliczko, and provincial office staff.

Directors of Conference Charlene Gray and Glenda Burrows will be contacting Branches in late August to let them know how they can be a part of making conference successful through solicitation

of "small gift" sponsorships in their communities, distribution of Call for Presenters applications, and spreading the word about volunteer opportunities.

More information will be available in late August at www.ecebc.ca.



Photo by Shawn Nygren

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



COALITION OF
child care
advocates
OF BC

Community Plan for a System of Integrated Early Care and Learning

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 help understand
and engage your community.

ECEBC Powell River Branch



ECEBC Powell River Branch Executive:

(Standing, from left to right) Carla Hees, Laura Kew, Jeanie Fuller
(Sitting, from left to right) Roxanne Penner, Sherry Pagani

* Jeanie Fuller - Director of Networking

The Executive has also met twice since the Kick Off BBQ and is working through the plans for our first Branch event in September. Our first event will be a special presentation to the community of Powell River of the Community Plan For a Public System of Integrated Early Care and Learning. We are looking forward to meeting and listening to Emily Mliczko, Executive Director of ECEBC.

"Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean..."

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

It was a miracle! Mother Nature heard our pleas in Powell River and the clouds departed and the sun gloriously appeared on June 2. A group of dedicated Early Care and Learning professionals in Powell River gathered for a wonderful backyard Kick Off BBQ for the local ECEBC Branch.

There was much laughter, food and story sharing amongst the professionals in attendance. Most importantly, we capitalized on the positive energy we all felt at the provincial conference.

We developed a "wish list" for our Branch and identified important goals for the upcoming year. All agreed that social media will enable us to get out our message that by working together we will become a strong, united group of Early Care and Learning professionals.

The Branch has already created a Facebook page and the first local newsletter will be distributed by July 15 to all those on our mailing list.

The individuals gathered also felt the importance to partner with other communities and echoed what has always been said, that it is important to build those relationships in other communities so we don't feel as fragmented and to also identify those local Early Care and Learning professionals who could offer workshops and training to others in Powell River.

The Branch Executive was chosen and those individuals who will provide the leadership for the Branch are:

- * Carla Hees - Branch Chair
- * Laura Kew - Vice-Chair
- * Roxanne Penner - Secretary
- * Sherry Pagani - Treasurer

"It is important to build those relationships in other communities so we don't feel as fragmented"

ECEBC North Okanagan Branch (cont'd)

endorse a poster-sized children's charter document, from our senior citizens signing their names to our youngest, newest members who left their mark. This poster is now a travelling exhibit and will circulate through many agency offices throughout the year.

A six-hour workshop, "Growing Up Wild", was held on June 9 and filled to capacity. Lunch and a valuable re-

source book were included with the \$40 registration fee.

A Caregivers Appreciation Evening was held on June 13, where child care providers enjoyed an evening of networking at the BX Grill at the Vernon Lodge from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Door prizes, provided by NONA and our local ECEBC Branch were drawn through the evening and every care provider left with

handmade fudge wrapped inside a tissue paper flower.

*Submitted by Shawna Miller-Poitras, Secretary
ECEBC North Okanagan Branch*



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educators of BC

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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:
December 2012
February 2013
May 2013
September 2013

Articles Due:
November 2, 2012
January 14, 2013
April 12, 2013
July 19, 2013

Branch Social Media Sites & Contacts

Branch	Chair/Co-Chair	Email address	Facebook page/Website
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A warm welcome to
the ECEBC Bulkley
Valley Branch and
ECEBC Powell River