

“Best Choices: The Ethical Journey” Guides

A project of the Canadian Child Care Federation and ECEBC



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Mary Burgaretta (Lower Mainland)

Mary Burgaretta works for the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society in a Child Care Advisor role. Her career includes over 20 years of supporting children and families in diverse settings, often in Aboriginal communities. Mary is a member of the Rama First Nation. Her formal training includes a MA in Child and Youth Care from the University of Victoria.



Cori Dewijn (Bulkley Valley)

Cori Dewijn has been working for 18 years as an Early Childhood Educator. The way children learn and the impact of the caregiver's role is her ongoing field of study. She has worked in a variety of programs including teen parenting, integrated preschool, play based daycare and a Montessori program. Cori's quest for learning has continued as she completed her ECE, Montessori diploma, Associate of Arts degree and is now working on her Bachelor of Education. Cori represented Early Childhood Educators in Career Trek BC, completed ECEBC's Leadership project and, as of 2012, is an Ethics Guide.



Anne Falvo (Prince Rupert)

Anne Falvo has been involved in child care for over 20 years in BC. During this time, she has worked in a variety of licensed settings in different capacities as a front line staff, substitute caregiver, support worker, manager and practicum supervisor. She is a qualified Infant Toddler Educator and Special Needs Educator. She is presently working as the Supported Child Development Consultant in Prince Rupert where she provides community and in-service training to child care facilities. Anne began her ethical journey during the 2008 ECEBC conference. Now she is excited to be a Best Choices Guide.



Diane Gabrielson (Prince George)

Diane Gabrielson is from Prince George, and currently works full time with the Prince George Native Friendship Centre in the Aboriginal Infant and Family Development Program. She also works part time with the Early Childhood Education Department at the College of New Caledonia. She values the journey of reflective practice and looks forward to the opportunity to share in the ethical journey.



Charlene Gray (Comox Valley)

I have been an early childhood educator for 23 years. I have a diploma, as well as early years specialization courses from the University of Victoria. In my work with children and families, I am reminded everyday how strongly ethics are woven into our work. The principles of ECEBC's code of ethics are the foundation for all early childhood practice and should be a part of every educator's training.



Carla Hees (Sunshine Coast)

Carla Hees has been a licensed Early Childhood Educator since 1985 in the provinces of BC and Manitoba. Her experience ranges from frontline educator, administrator, consultant and workshop presenter, both provincially and Internationally. She strongly believes that the Best Choices – Ethical Journey should be a mandatory part of the Early Care and Learning curriculum at all colleges and universities.



Sue Irwin (Lower Mainland)

Sue Irwin has been an Early Childhood Educator, with Infant/Toddler and Special Needs Certification, in BC and Alberta for 12 years. She is currently completing her CYC degree at the University of Victoria, distance education. Her experience includes work in 3-5yr programs, infant/toddler programs, out-of-school programs, CCRR and community service positions. She is currently living in North Vancouver with her husband and son, and is the Vancouver Coastal Regional Coordinator for Child Care Resource & Referral (CCRR) programs, a contract with MCFD.



Violet Jessen (Lower Mainland)

Violet Jessen is an instructor in the Early Childhood Care and Education Degree Program at Capilano University. She volunteers extensively and enjoys a variety of community work. As a past ECEBC Director of Conference and an ECEBC member since 1995, Violet is committed to ongoing professional development. Becoming a Best Choices Ethics Guide is a way for her to share that journey with others.

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Laura Kew (Sunshine Coast)

Laura Kew is an ECE who has taught preschool, school age and adult programs for over 24 years. She is a former chairperson for the Mount Royal University ECED program, past president of the Calgary Preschool Teachers Association. She currently works as a coordinator for Supported Child Development in Powell River, BC, and balances career with a love of sailing and stained glass arts. She successfully single-parented her own two children to become thinking and feeling human beings, and says this is her biggest accomplishment in life so far. She has always felt that teaching empathy to children helps them to become ethical, leads to better resiliency, and reduced impact on the social welfare system. Laura feels that this training will help caregivers to assist children with more than just saying “sorry”. Laura is dedicated to facilitating this training in smaller communities.



Birgit Larsen (South Island)

Birgit Larsen has been an ECE since 2002. She has operated her own family licensed daycare, worked in group child care facilities, pre-schools, after school programs and also as support for children with different challenges. She has participated in facilitator training for Safe Spaces and the Early Learning Framework. Becoming a guide for Best Choices, was a rewarding journey that she hope to share with other Early Childhood Educators.

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Dee McPhee (Quathiaski Cove)

Dee McPhee has been in the Early Childhood Education field for over 20 years. She works at Quadra Children’s Centre as the administrative director and on the floor with the children. Dee has a passion for creating joyful experiences with the children in her care. In 2010, Dee was awarded the BC Lifetime Achievement Child Care Award of Excellence. She looks forward to continuing her ethical journey and guiding others through their ethical journey.



Beulah Munson (Williams Lake)

Beulah Munson has been an Early Childhood Educator for 20 years. She has worked in a variety of childcare programs and is currently the co-coordinator for the Williams Lake Child Care Resource and Referral.



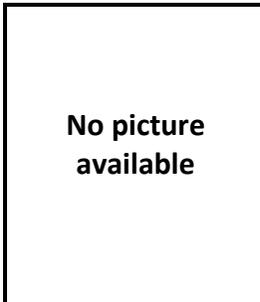
Sharon Nazaroff (Slocan Valley)

Sharon Nazaroff, a mother and grandmother has worked in children’s programs for 30 years. Professional training began with receiving a diploma in ECE in 2004. Sharon has continued her professional development with participation in the Investigating Quality Research project, the ECEBC Leadership Institute and recently the “Best Choices: The Ethical Journey” guide training. Sharon has been the teacher/manager at the Children’s Orchard Russian Exposure Preschool for the last nine years and con-currently for four years as the facilitator at Robson StrongStart. Her commitment is to be part of creating high quality early care and learning programs through the use of ECEBC’s Code of Ethics in decision making.



Denise Pawliuk (Lower Mainland)

Denise Pawliuk is certified as an Early Childhood Educator, Special Needs Educator and Infant/Toddler Educator in British Columbia and a Child Care Supervisor in Alberta. She has been working in the field for over 20 years. During that time Denise has worked in a demonstration day care in Edmonton Alberta, was the manager of an on-reserve child care centre in Fort Nelson, BC and for eight years was the Registrar with the Early Childhood Educator Registry in Victoria, BC. Denise is currently a part time instructor with a number of colleges in the lower mainland where she lives with her partner and their three children.



Kim Reid (Comox Valley)

Kim Reid has been an ECE for more than 30 years, and feels a strong desire to support children and families with extra needs, especially those in crisis. She views ethics and professionalism as the way to bring the work of ECEs and children to light. Kim is a BCGEU shop steward, activist, and loves kids, dogs, hiking and yoga.



Jocelyn Stuart (Quesnel)

I am currently an ASCD Consultant at the North Cariboo Aboriginal Family Program Society in Quesnel, BC. I hold a diploma in early childhood education and have been in the field for almost four years. I have experience facilitating parenting programs such as The Incredible Years and Aboriginal Literacy and Parenting Skills. I was very excited to have been trained as a Best Choices Guide as I believe this training will impact the quality of care in my community in a positive way. I share my downtime with my husband, 6 year old daughter and 3 year old son



Sara Sutherland (Lower Mainland)

Sara Sutherland has been an Early Childhood Educator for over 15 years and has worked in a variety of settings and capacities. Currently she is a Community Support and Outreach Consultant with Child Care Resource and Referral, a busy mom of two and a passionate advocate for children and families. As a new Ethics Guide, Sara is excited to facilitate this important training and to share this journey with colleagues in her community.



Diane Tannahill (Lower Mainland)

Diane Tannahill has been involved in child care for over 25 years. She holds a diploma in early childhood education. Over her career she has worked with toddlers, 3-5 year olds and currently holds a position with UBC Child Care as the Coordinator for the out of school care programs. Over the past four years Diane has embraced a role teaching adults learners. As a firm believer that professional ethics is explored by Early Childhood Educators on a daily basis and the importance of bringing this topic out to communities she decided to become a guide for "Best Choices: The Ethical Journey".



Rhonda Teramura (Campbell River)

I have been an ECE for 11 years and have worked across the spectrum within the field between having my own children. I have deep connection and passion for Reggio Emilia practice and philosophy, and have had the pleasure of working in supportive environments with strong, creative, nurturing and vibrant colleagues over the years. It has been in these working conditions that I have continually emerged and developed as my own professional, blending a myriad of influences along the way. Ethics are the foundation and mortar of the professional structure that I am, and the opportunity to really delve into the depths by participating in the Best Choices Ethical Journey was one I could not pass up. I am thrilled to be soon offering others the same experience I had, and look forward to guiding the process!