



BC Family Child Care Association

Caregiver E-Connection

Winter 2017

It is that time of year when our thoughts turn to family, friends, faith and renewal. The board of BCFCCA would like to wish you the very best for this holiday season and the coming year. We hope that you can spend some time with your family and friends to enjoy the wonders of the season.

2017 has been a very busy year for child care and your BCFCCA board has been involved in several discussions on proposed changes coming to child care and as a voice for family child care, we feel that there are many reasons for optimism. During 2017, BCFCCA had representation at:

- ◆ Canadian Child Care Federation's meeting in Ottawa, which included a visit from The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development.
- ◆ A 2-day forum Towards Universal Early Care and Learning in Richmond, BC.
- ◆ Meeting with Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care in the province of B.C.
- ◆ Attended Children The Heart of the Matter conference in Surrey, B.C. promoting BCFCCA and networking with similar organizations.
- ◆ Successful AGM and workshop an informative presentation by Pam Collins on Challenging Behaviours and from the responses all had an enjoyable time.

In the spring of 2017, BCFCCA released a newly revised and expanded edition of our GOOD BEGINNINGS: Professional Development for Child Care Providers training, which included a new 20-hour Responsible Adult component. These updates and additions are in line with our mission to ensure the highest quality of child care and early learning opportunities for children and families in the province of British Columbia. There has also been an announcement both provincially and federally with regards to child care:

- ◆ *"To give kids and their parents a real and fair chance at success, the Government will invest \$7 billion to support and create more high-quality, affordable child care spaces across the country, including programs for Indigenous children living on- and off-reserve. These investments could support as many as 40,000 new subsidized child care spaces for low- and modest-income families in the next three years."*
- ◆ *On November 16, B.C. Premier John Horgan says the NDP government's \$10-a-day childcare plan, a central plank from the party's spring election campaign that could eventually cost as much as \$1.5-billion a year, hinges on funding from the federal government. He also said he hoped to have the "universal, accessible" childcare in place by the 2019 gathering of delegates for the Women Deliver international conference on gender equity.*

BCFCCA knows that you provide a very valuable service to the families in the communities where you live. Be very proud of what you do, we face many challenges and issues but remember that family child care providers are an integral component of the child care sector. BCFCCA can best represent you when you make your concerns known to us. Please share those concerns, office@bcfcca.ca and your board of BCFCCA will ensure the voice of family child care is heard and counted in 2018.

Sincere Wishes for Happy Holiday Season!

Your BCFCCA Board of Directors

Notable News



Congratulations Rena!

Rena Laberge (appointed Oct. 10, 2017 to the Provincial Child Care Council) is the owner/operator of Buddy Bears Family Child Care in Victoria, a past chair of the BC Family Child Care Association, past president of Southern Vancouver Island Family Child Care Association, and owner of Felt Stories by Rena. As a licensed family child-care provider for more than 20 years, Rena realizes the need for child-care providers to access inexpensive activities that allow children to learn while playing. [Read more about the Provincial Child Care Council](#)

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We have exciting news to share with our followers and supporters. At the Annual General Meeting on October 18, the **Child Care Advocacy Association of Canada (CCAAC)** voted to become:

Child Care Now

Time for child care for all



The name change took effect the week of November 20, 2017.

CCAAC's Board of Directors initiated a project to re-brand the organization and contracted NOW Group to lead the project, which included nation-wide focus group discussions with child care advocates, and a national public opinion poll. Subsequently, the Directors proposed to the membership to change the English and French names of our organization, our logo, and our colour scheme.

Our new website, www.timeforchildcare.ca, also launched the week of November 20.

Our updated names and tag lines reflect the need for accessible, affordable universal child care now through an inclusive and comprehensive publicly managed early childhood education and child care system.

The rebranding coincides with National Child Day. The day commemorates the adoption of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of the Child* in 1959 and the UN adoption of the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (CRC) in 1989. The latter provides specific rights to Canadian children, many of which have yet to be fully realized, including the rights of children of working parents to benefit from child care services (Article 18), the right to child care services for children with disabilities, disorders, and/or health impairments (Article 23), and the requirement for Canada to establish standards that ensure child care staff will be suitable and will provide competent supervision (Article 3).

Join our call at childcareforall.ca for the Federal Finance Minister to make quality, affordable, inclusive child care a budget priority.



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Two representatives, Vida Shahghabi and Suzanne Schlechte, from the BCFCCA Board attended the ***Towards Universal Early Care and Learning in BC*** forum, held in Richmond BC, on November 15 and 16, 2017.

This forum was attended by representatives of many organizations of child care, education and resources, First Nation and Indigenous communities, school districts, municipalities, and ministries. The Minister of Children and Family Development, Katrine Conroy, and the Minister of State for Child Care, Katrina Chen, also attended this forum on both dates.

There were different speakers along with many facilitated group discussions, with the purpose of gathering different perspectives and feedback about child care in BC. The forum provided a platform to revisit and discuss four important elements of affordability, accessibility, quality, and workforce in child care, in order to understand and address the challenges and needs, as well as to recognize and maintain the existing valuable quality and resources.

As the Universal Child Care plan is making its journey in to BC, we would like to encourage family child care providers to join BCFCCA to have a stronger voice, and to have our needs heard and feedback valued.



BC Family Child Care Association Meeting with Minister Chen



Rena Laberge, BCFCCA Co-Chair

After the "Towards Universal Early Care and Learning in BC" forum, there was this air of hope and optimism for all aspects of child care in BC. This was the first time I have seen any Minister stay in a meeting for over 2 hours during my child care career. The forum was held over two days and both Ministers, Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Children and Family Development and Honourable Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care, stayed the full two days of the forum and wandered around listening to the different discussions. Seeing this, as I said, there is a feeling of hope for child care in the province of BC.

Fueling this feeling of hope, BCFCCA had the opportunity of having a meeting with Honourable Katrina Chen, Minister of State for Child Care.

Minister Chen has been travelling the province listening to parties involved with all aspects of child care. This was a favourable time to be meeting with Minister Chen as she was very eager to hear from us as a representative for the Family Child Care voice.

We were able to discuss how family child care providers are unsure how they will fit into the \$10.00 a day plan that has been in the news lately. As well as how family child care would be able to fit into a Universal Child Care Plan as there has been very little said on this subject and FCC providers are very worried for both the continuum of care for the children in their care and their own businesses they have worked hard building.

The government realizes that Family Child Care is a very large piece of the pie of child care in BC and they are trying to come up with a plan on how to keep the quality, accessibility, affordability of child care in the province and keep the workforce in place. This is a very enormous task for the new government and we are hoping that this will not be the last discussion we are able to have with Minister Chen as we move forward with the NDP governments goal of a three-year plan for child care in BC.

Please watch for the upcoming budget in February 2018 as we have been told that a child care plan will be unfolded in the February 2018 budget.

www.cccf-fcsge.ca



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Suzanne Schlechte, BCFCCA Co-Chair

I attended an affiliate meeting November 5th & 6th, 2017 with Canadian Child Care Federation. We were given reports from the affiliate organizations, and I gave a prepared report from BCFCCA, as well.

The meeting was held at the Metcalf Hotel in Ottawa. They had organized a cocktail reception and there I was introduced to a few people from across Canada. It was a good opportunity to meet and network with many other people who are passionate about children.

We heard reports from provinces who had signed the bilateral agreements: PEI, ON, and NB. Karen Isaac from the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society, gave a report on the Indigenous Framework Update. Sandra Griffin with CCCF, had us brainstorming on Membership of CCCF. I hope to use the information presented to benefit BCFCCAs membership as well.

Marie-Claude Lemieux from Quebec gave a fascinating talk about the child care system in Quebec. What stood out most for me was a comment that Quebec has been excelling at creating work / family balances but would like to excel at creating an equality of chances.

We also heard from Christopher Smith, from the Muttart Foundation from Alberta. He gave his perspective of Early Learning and Child Care in Canada. His talk really reminded me of what government and government representatives need from organizations like CCCF (and from BCFCCA, possibly).

Jennifer Howard, the former Finance Minister for the Province of Manitoba and prior to that was the Minister of Family Services, which was responsible for child care in Manitoba, gave us "5 Points on Lessons in Government Relations". To summarize, very briefly, these were:

1. *Find ways to enlist parents*
2. *Use media and advertise on social media*
3. *Be credible and trustworthy, offer solutions and not just problems.*
4. *Make your fight local and encourage individuals to phone and contact officials*
5. *Look for unconventional allies ie: employers or others who might champion our cause.*

These were worthy lessons for BCFCCA as well as CCCF in the days ahead.

Finally, we heard from Minister Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development. I was personally impressed, as I believe most of us in attendance were. He strikes me as an honest and genuinely caring person who truly is committed to working with CCCF and its affiliates to creating a change for the better in child care.

If I could only tell you one thing from this meeting, I would tell you this, that this is a time for optimism about child care in Canada. Though each affiliation has challenges, it was encouraging to see our challenges were all similar. I hope that all of the affiliates will continue to have opportunities to network and brainstorm solutions to our challenges. We may have a long way to go, but at least we are on the right path.

BCFCCA's 2018 Record keeping Calendar for Child Care Professionals is now available!
Created with full colour pictures and all the tools needed for your child care business.
Don't miss out, [order your copy now!](#) Or purchase one through our [online store](#)

Many thanks to the following members who contributed photographs to our 2018 calendar and received a free copy in return.

Munchkin Land Family Daycare—Rosangela Giacobetti
Country Lane Learning Centre—Patricia Chu
Bee Happy Montessori House—Valeria Almeida

Keep your cameras at the ready for BCFCCA's 2019 calendar. We are looking for pictures of active play through the different seasons in the year. If your picture is selected for publication you will receive a free copy of the 2019 calendar!!

BC Family Child Care Association

2018 Record Keeping Calendar for Child Care Professionals



Children of Munchkin Land Family Daycare (Ages 1 1/2 - 5yrs).

BC Family Child Care Association #100-6846 King George Blvd., Surrey, BC V3W 4Z9

www.bcfcca.ca

Ph: 604-590-1497 or 1-800-686-6685 Fx: 604-590-1427



January 2018

"We worry about what a child will become tomorrow, yet we forget that he is someone today."
— Stella Tauscher, dancer and artist

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Happy New Year! New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6 Epiphany
7	8	9	10	11 Step in a Duckie & Splash With Your Friends Day	12	13
14	15 Hot Day	16	17	18	19	20
21 Family Literacy Week	22 Hot Day	23	24	25	26 Family Literacy Day	27
28	29	30	31 Tu B'Shevat	Emergency Drill Days		

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Up and Coming



Register now for:
[Children The Heart of the Matter Conference 2018!](#)

The Dalai Lama Center for Peace and Education is pleased to announce Heart-Mind 2018: Take Care of Yourself - The Science and Practice of Well-Being.

The conference will take place in Langley, BC on February 23-24, 2018. Early Bird tickets are available until December 15, 2017. **Heart-Mind 2018: Take Care of Yourself** explores how self-acceptance, being kind to ourselves, and connection improve our well-being, and make it possible for us to be more present and caring for the children and adults in our lives.

<http://www.dalailamacenter.org/conference/heart-mind-2018-take-care-yourself>

Nominations for the 2018 Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Early Childhood Education are now being accepted until January 12, 2018.

[Nomination Guidelines and Package](#)

Resources

For a low monthly cost, **LegalShield** gives you the ability to talk to your law firm on any matter without worrying about high hourly costs. We understand that operating a home-based business means you wear several different hats between your business and your family, and any legal situation affecting you can also affect your family. Receive assistance in areas such as:

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For more information:

[About LegalShield](#)

Contact:

Kalon Goodrich

1-250-618-8718

www.legalshield.com/info/

Child Care Provider Resources

Newly revised and updated resources are now available to our members through the members only section of our website. www.bcfcca.ca

Included in these are PDF documents and website links to quality information on all aspects of the Child Care Profession.



Magenta Insurance Professionals underwritten by Gore Mutual Insurance; have created access for BCFCCA members to business liability insurance. **The Security Blanket** program has been exclusively designed for licensed and regulated home child care providers. Coverage in this package includes:

For more information:

Contact Magenta directly:

childcare@magenta-ins.ca

1-800-489-7889

www.magenta-ins.ca

- Commercial General Liability \$2,000,000 limit
- Accident Coverage \$5,000 principle sum
- Broad Form Contents coverage \$7,500
- Business Interruption – Profits from \$20,000

[Information Sheet](#)

[Quote Request Form](#)

GOOD BEGINNINGS: Professional Development for Child Care Providers

Is an introductory curriculum that meets the training requirements to qualify individuals to work in child care settings for children from birth to 12 years of age.

[Upcoming courses and registration](#) or email us at goodbeginnings@bcfcca.ca

Check out Canada's Family Resource Program's new magazine: [PLAY](#)

Active Play



What is ACTIVE PLAY?

Active play is physical activity which includes moderate to vigorous bursts of high energy, raises children's heart rate and may make them 'huff and puff' such as running or jumping. For an infant or toddler, active play may include reaching out for a toy, rolling over, balancing in a sitting position and crawling/walking.

Why is ACTIVE PLAY Important?

Active play helps to promote healthy growth and development and supports body control and movement. Active play can help build strong bones and muscles, improve balance, coordination and assists with the development of gross motor and fine motor skills. Active play also helps to promote children's confidence, improves concentration and thinking and learning skills and provides opportunities to develop social skills and make friends.

Find out more about the Standard of Practice for Active Play, including screen time limits and Canadian guidelines for physical activity. [Active Play](#)

Young children should get 3 hours of physical activity a day! Watch and read Global News report on young children & physical activity [watch here](#)



With all the active play children need to be doing; it is just as important that healthy eating be a part of the program. For some great tips and ideas on food choices and menu planning to support a child's active play, check out [Appetite to Play](#)

Winter is a great time for active play outdoors ! It is even more enjoyable knowing that everyone is enjoying these activities safely. For ideas on how to keep winter play safe, [click here](#)



When your active play is done, try this craft idea to keep little hands busy.

[Paper Plate Reindeer](#)



Active Indoor Play Ideas

<p>Indoor Bowling</p> <p>You can use tin cans, blocks, or plastic bottles as pins. Roll the ball and try to knock them down.</p>	<p>Hopscotch</p> <p>Use masking tape to mark off your design and hop away!</p>	<p>Free Dance</p> <p>No prep work for this one. Play your favourite music and show off your dance moves!</p>
<p>Obstacle Course</p> <p>Have the children crawl under tables, over cushions, and around other objects along a path you've created.</p>	<p>Bucket Toss</p> <p>Throw a ball, bean bag or small stuffed animal into a bucket or box.</p>	<p>Follow the Leader</p> <p>Take turns leading the group through a variety of actions: hop, skip, jump, crawl, etc.</p>
<p>Musical Chairs</p> <p>Chairs are not even a necessity for this one. You can use cushions or even mark spots on the floor with tape. Children move around the room as the music plays, then when it stops, they sit on a spot. You don't have to follow the tradition of removing a spot each round. Just have fun!</p>	<p>Balloon Badminton</p> <p>Bat a balloon back and forth with badminton racquets or just your hands. Make sure to supervise at all times and discard popped balloons immediately!</p> 	<p>Indoor Snowball Fight</p> <p>Mismatched socks can be balled up to make great snowballs, or use crumpled newspaper. Have the kids help make the snow balls, then divide into teams and let the games begin!</p>
<p>Lava Floors</p> <p>Create some safe areas, perhaps using cushions for this children's game. Have fun moving around the room, but, whatever you do, don't step on the hot lava floor!</p>	<p>Freeze Dance</p> <p>Dance and be silly and when the music stops, FREEZE in the position you are in!</p>	<p>Animal Actions</p> <p>Have the children pretend to be different animals. Have them slither like snakes, fly like birds, swim like fish, etc.</p>
<p>Action Songs</p> <p>Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes; The Hokey Pokey and Johnny Works With One Hammer are favourite examples but there are many more.</p>	<p>London Bridge</p> <p>Did you play this as a child? Why not teach it to the children in your care? Don't know it? Google it to learn this children's classic.</p>	<p>Bubble Wrap Stomp</p> <p>A little planning is needed but it's worth it. Tape a roll of bubble wrap to the floor and let the kids stomp and pop the bubbles. Try to keep off them yourself!</p>



“Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and desires of little children; to remember the weaknesses and loneliness of people who are growing old; to stop asking how much your friends love you, and to ask yourself if you love them enough; to bear in mind the things that other people have to bear on their hearts; to trim your lamp so that it will give more light and less smoke, and to carry it in front so that your shadow will fall behind you; to make a grave for your ugly thoughts and a garden for your kindly feelings, with the gate open? Are you willing to do these things for a day? Then you are ready to keep Christmas!” *Henry Van Dyke(1852-1933) poet, author*



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In order to best represent you, BC Family Child Care Association (“BCFCCA”) needs members to promote and talk about the need for a strong voice in the field and to promote the unique and valuable contributions family child care providers make everyday. The more members we represent, the more influence we’ll have to ensure that family child care remains a viable option for parents and providers.

Visit us at: www.bcfcca.ca

Join or renew your BCFCCA membership [online](#) or print a [membership form](#)

“Joining the Conversation”

Don’t miss out on the opportunity for great conversations and interactions with other Child Care Providers on our

[Members only page](#)

Stay connected with us:



Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the contributor, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the BC Family Child Care Association (BCFCCA). The Caregiver E-Connection reserves the right to review and edit submitted material as necessary for inclusion in any issue. Please direct all comments, submissions, and inquiries to:

BCFCCA Newsletter

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