



# BC Family Child Care Association

*Your Early Care and Learning Professional Organization*



[www.bcfcca.ca](http://www.bcfcca.ca)

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.

## “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](#)

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## Children the Heart of the Matter conference

By Suzanne Schlechte

Rosangela and I attended CHOM, Children the Heart of the Matter conference in Surrey. The conference began Jan 18, on the Friday evening with a welcome reception. The keynote presenter was Dr. Vanessa Lapointe, a local author, parenting expert and psychologist. She spoke on the topic of Parenting Right from the Start and The Science and Heart of Growing Up Children and was available for book signing. You can learn more about Dr. Vanessa Lapointe at her website: <https://drvanessalapointe.com>

Saturday’s keynote speaker was Stuart Ellis-Myers, who has Tourettes Syndrome, one of the most misunderstood neurological disorders of our time. His lively, playful presentation showed us how to experience a remarkable and “unstoppable” life. Stuart’s website is here: <http://www.itwitch.com>

In addition to the fantastic keynote speakers, there were numerous other workshops provided by knowledgeable and qualified presenters, and a great lunch! Kudos to all the people who worked together to organize this conference.

Rosangela and I enjoyed speaking with current members and were especially excited to speak with those of you who had not become members yet but were interested in becoming members. If you weren’t in attendance this year, we encourage you to watch for the opportunity to attend next year’s CHOM conference. I hope we’ll see you there!

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## G20 Makes Early Childhood Development a Priority

In 2018, G20 (A World Organization made up of 19 individual countries plus the European Union) prioritized Early Childhood Development with the Initiative for Early Childhood Development. “We launch the G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development and stand ready to join all stakeholders in enhancing quality and sustainably financed early childhood programs that consider the multidimensional approach of ECD, as means of building human capital to break the cycle of intergenerational and structural poverty, and of reducing inequalities, specially where young children are most vulnerable.” With this initiative, the importance of Early Childhood Development was once again put into the global spotlight.

You can read the initiative here: [G20 Initiative for Early Childhood Development](#)

## News from CCCF

While we have been making progress in BC, our friends in Ontario seemed to have taken a step backwards. In December, Doug Ford proposed to make some changes to the child care regulations that really seemed counteractive to safe, quality child care. Most concerning of these changes were:

- A home child-care provider or unlicensed child-care provider will be allowed to care for up to three children under the age of two, rather than two children.
- A home child-care provider with two caregivers can include up to six children under the age of two, instead of four.

In response to these proposed changes, Canadian Child Care Federation drew up a letter to be sent to Minister Lisa Thompson, Ontario's Minister of Education. They requested that affiliates support their response and BCFCCA board members voted unanimously in agreement to do so.

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### Take our CCCF Survey—Help the CCCF and You Could Win a \$100 Amazon Gift

The CCCF and its partner, [Storypark](#) want to better understand child care programs, practitioners and professionals' use of social media. We want to learn about your current digital practices and perspectives.

By participating in this survey, you can choose to be entered into a draw for a \$100 Amazon gift card—as a thank you—and you will help us develop upcoming online workshops and better understand your social media thoughts, practices and needs.

[Take our CCCF survey here](#) and share with your friends and colleagues in the child care community.

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### Federal Investments Early learning and Child care in Canada

Government of Canada on track to deliver on the creation of up to 40,000 more affordable child care spaces.....[read more](#)

Liberals told to work harder for universal daycare to help women in labour force.....[read more](#)



Let's Skate

[How to skate inside](#)



Celebrate Chinese New Year with this craft:

<http://senedipitous-discovery.blogspot.com/2012/10/mrs-blairs-pig-pen/html?m=1>

# Have Your Say on Basic Income

First Call, the BC Child and Youth Advocacy Coalition, has been tracking child and family poverty rates in BC for two full decades. Its first provincial report card containing data for 1996 showed that one in five BC children were poor. Twenty years later, the data still shows one in five BC children live in poverty. Children are poor because their parents are poor. Their parents may be poor for many different reasons, but what is universal is that the stress and deprivation of living in poverty have lifelong negative implications for children and their families.

BC is reported to have the highest rate of wealth inequality in the country. The richest 10 per cent of B.C. families control 56 per cent of the province's wealth. This is higher than Canada's national average, which is 48 per cent. We know that inequality has negative impacts on physical and mental health, education outcomes, trust and community life, homicide rates, children's health and wellbeing, drug abuse, and more. More equal societies have far less health and social problems than those with higher inequality.

As part of the BC government's Poverty Reduction Strategy, this summer the Province appointed a committee of experts to understand how offering basic income could reduce poverty in BC. Basic income is also sometimes referred to as a guaranteed annual income. Essentially, a basic income is a "no strings attached" transfer from government to individuals or families that can be simpler to administer and provide more dignity to recipients than welfare payments and other forms of social assistance.

This expert committee has invited BC Family Child Care Association members to share their input from now until Feb. 15, 2019. All viewpoints, ideas and feedback are welcome and you are encouraged to participate. You can make your submission and have your say on Basic Income at this website:

<https://feedback.engage.gov.bc.ca/212765?lang=en>

Sources:

<http://bcpovertyreduction.ca/learn-more/cost-of-poverty/>

<http://still1in5.ca/report-card/>

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## Up and Coming Dates & Events

### National Child Care Conference Vancouver, BC April 10—13, 2019



#### Conference Brochure

Keynotes include:

Cindy Blackstock - Canadian-born Gitksan activist for child welfare and Executive Director of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada

Tove Mogstad Slinde - Senior Adviser in the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research

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### Health and Wellness Show Abbotsford, BC March 09-10, 2019

#### Visitors Show Guide

Time to pamper yourself. Check out the offerings at the Health and Wellness show this year.



**January 27th 2019: Family Literacy Day**



**February 2, 2019: Ground Hog Day**



**Gung Hay Fat Choy!**

**February 5, 2019: Chinese New Year**