

BUILDING BRIDGES

Supporting Children & Families

Strategies for Empowering Professionals



Friday & Saturday ~ June 1st & 2nd, 2012
Coast Capri Hotel ~ Kelowna, BC

The conference Planning Committee consists of the following partner organizations;



please visit the conference website at: www.kelconference2012.blogspot.com

Conference Itinerary

Friday, June 1st, 2012

- 5 - 8 PM Conference Registration Open
- 7 - 9 PM Networking Wine & Cheese Social

Saturday, June 2nd, 2012

- 8 - 9 AM Continental Breakfast, provided
- 8 - 9:30 AM Conference Registration Open
- 8 - 5.00 PM Exhibitor / Vendor Marketplace

- 9 - 10AM **Keynote**
(10 - 10:15 - Break)
- 10:15 - 12:15 **Morning Workshop**
(12:15 - 1 pm - Lunch, provided)
- 1 - 2:30 PM **Early Afternoon Workshop**
(2:30 - 2:45 - Nutrition break, supplied)
- 2:45 - 4:15 PM **Mid Afternoon Workshop**

Conference Accommodations

Guest accommodations for delegates are available at preferred rates for the nights of May 31st, June 1st & 2nd, 2012. *(Please note all guest rooms are the responsibility of the delegate and are NOT included in conference registration).*

Make your reservations directly:

Coast Capri Hotel - www.coastcaprihotel.com
1171 Harvey Avenue
Kelowna, BC V1Y 6E8
Tel: 250-860-6060 Toll Free: 1-800-663-1144
Quote Group #: **CCH-GFC11663**

Preferred rates based on single/double occupancy:

Comfort - \$100+ taxes / Superior - \$120+ taxes / Premium - \$140+ taxes

Rates available until May 31st, 2012

Keynote Speaker



'Electronic Childhood' with Michaela Wooldridge

We are pleased to welcome Michaela Wooldridge as our Keynote Speaker. Michaela Wooldridge has been a Clinical Supervisor at Surrey Infant Development Programme (IDP) for five years, following 17 years as an IDP consultant. She has taught in college ECE programme, and serves as peer trainer/educator in assessment and a variety of early intervention/development topics. She is also mother to three children.

This presentation is an overview of the emerging research on children's exposure to technology and the effects on development. Both benefits and risks associated with technology are highlighted. Participants, who themselves are overwhelmed with information, will gain a clearer understanding of the enduring developmental needs of children in a rapidly changing world

The Building Bridges Conference brings together all those involved in the care of young children. Our purpose is to provide strategies to child care providers and early childhood development (ECD) professionals including family resource programs and others.

This conference will be of interest to all those who work with young children and families in child care settings, family resource programs, primary schools and other ECD community programs. These include early childhood educators, teachers, community health professionals, parents, grandparents, elders, government and non-profit organization officials.



A1: Dealing with Challenging Behaviour and Techniques That Work

with Heather Ross

This interactive workshop will focus primarily on working with aggressive behaviour. We will discuss some of the reasons children engage in aggressive behaviour and explore concrete options for responding effectively in the midst of aggression. Consideration will be given to how to respond both to the child who is acting out as well as how to respond to other children who may be affected by the behaviour.

Heather Ross has worked as an Early Childhood Educator in Kelowna since 1981. She spent 15 years as the supervisor of 2 different daycare centres and also worked as a Supported Child Care Assistant helping to facilitate the inclusion of children with extra support needs. In addition, she operated her own business as a behaviour consultant working with families and centre staff who feel challenged by their children's behaviour. Currently Heather is an instructor of Early Childhood Education at Okanagan College. Her educational background includes a diploma in Early Childhood Education, Post Basic certification in Special Needs, a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Psychology, and a Master of Arts degree in Applied Behavioural Science. Heather is also a foster parent of a young man with autism who has extremely challenging and volatile behaviour.

A2: Helping Parents and Child Care Providers Understand Their Child's Temperament (part 1)

with Michele Hucul

Part I – This workshop will be interactive, will cover the 9 temperament traits and look at temperament 'goodness of fit' between parent/care provider and child. *(This workshop is continued in the afternoon)*

Michele Hucul is a Social Worker and has been a Parent Education and Support Facilitator for over 20 years and has worked for The Bridge Youth & Family Services in this role for the past 11 years. She is a single, part-time parent to two teenage children. She is a board member with BC Family Resource Program and an advocate for family resource programs in the Okanagan.

A3: Communicating Effectively with Parents / Caregivers

with Marianne Drew-Pennington & Susan Foster

This presentation will cover the pivotal role of the practitioner and how skilled communication creates the foundation for providing families with individualized support. As presenters, we will discuss the art of active listening, the effective use of questions, and methods for delivering clear and concrete messages. Also included will be a discussion on how to address the fine line a practitioner treads between "friend" and professional. Through interactive demonstrations we will model strategies and approaches in fostering relationships through skilled communication.

Marianne Drew-Pennington serves as the Executive Director of the BC Association of Family Resource Programs. She has a long history in the field of family resource programming and related sectors. She began her career teaching in an inner-city school in the United States where she experienced the unfortunate reality of the impact of neglectful parenting on children's development. Marianne has served on numerous committees and boards both provincially and federally.

Susan Foster has been working as the Early Childhood Development Community Development Co-ordinator in the Tri-Cities for the last 6 years, and is currently employed by the Ministry of Children and Family Development. Susan has been working in the field for over 20 years in a variety of positions, primarily focussed on parents and families with young children.

A4: How to talk so Dads will listen and listen so Dads will talk...

with Jeff Hay

Today's fathers are more involved than ever in the lives of their children. This workshop will focus on strategies for working more effectively with Dads – from tips to opening up better communication with fathers to emotionally supporting the Dads within your program. Special attention will be paid to starting Dad's programs and to attracting new fathers to your existing program. There is no more loyal client than a dedicated dad that respects and believes in you as an enthusiastic caregiver for their child. This entertaining workshop will give you a better understanding of the unique needs and fears of today's Dads.

Jeff Hay is a father of 2 who continues to dedicate his life's work to improving the well-being of children by increasing the proportion of children growing up with involved, responsible, and committed fathers. He wants to motivate fathers to stay involved in all aspects of their child's life – creating a strong and effective lifelong relationship - moving away from the lonely roles of provider and punisher and embracing exciting NEW roles. With a background in recreation, teaching, broadcasting, and motivational speaking, Jeff wants to motivate fathers to be Mentors, Leaders, Nurturers, and Playmates for their children. When he is not playing his favourite role of "DAD", Jeff is speaking throughout BC as a popular parenting educator.

B1: Separation and Divorce: Putting Kids First

with Tracey Kikals

The process of separation and divorce is challenging for both parents and children. Family changes can bewilder and upset children but the good news is they can travel successfully through major life transitions with the right kinds of support. This workshop will look at the role of professionals in supporting children and their parents through divorce and separation. Participants will gain an understanding of how separation affects children and practical strategies to assist children through the separation. Information regarding the emotional experience of separation for adults and strategies to help them parent in ways that are beneficial for their children during this transition will also be explored.

Tracey Kikals has been working with young children and their families for over 20 years. She has been involved in a diverse range of programs focusing on early development, including childcare programs, programs for young parents, family resource programs and parenting education. Tracey is committed to empowering parents to be the best parents they possibly can be and to creating programs for families that are built on community partnerships and foster community connection. She currently resides in Nelson, B.C. and has two sons, Damian, 22 and Michael 20.

B2: Helping Children Learn to Manage Stress: Tools for Lifelong Mental Health and Resiliency

with Susan Foisy & Cindy Andrew

This presentation will focus on how child care providers, teachers and other professionals that support families can become more aware of and attuned to the signs and symptoms of stress in children and provides practical examples of techniques and approaches that have been shown to be effective in reducing and helping children learn to manage stress.

Susan Foisy is currently a Youth Transitions Program Facilitator for The Bridge Youth and Family Services in Kelowna BC. She has worked closely with children, youth and families for over 25 years. Sue is passionate about supporting parents, caregivers, teachers and practitioners as they learn effective tools and strategies to help children manage stress. Sue is a BC based 'Kids Have Stress Too' program facilitator.

Cindy Andrew is a former teacher and long time health promotion specialist. Cindy's experience in working both within and with the Education and Health non-government and government sectors helps ensure her work is grounded in evidence and relevant to the needs of those working directly with children and youth. Cindy is the BC based program consultant with the Psychology Foundation of Canada and lives in Victoria BC.

B3: Developing Positive Parent-Infant Relationships in the Digital Age

with Michaela Wooldridge

Children under three years are uniquely dependent on their parents and caregivers to create a foundation for healthy social and emotional development. The quality of the parent-child relationship strongly influences the child's developmental course across multiple domains of growth and well being. However, the technological innovations and tools, now available to everyone, may constitute a risk to very young children to the extent that they interfere with the development of positive parent-child interactions. This workshop will outline parent qualities and behaviours that children need for healthy development and will show the extent to which today's infants and toddlers are exposed to digital media technologies directly and indirectly from birth. Finally, by way of discussion, practitioners will learn ways to support families to adopt and integrate technological tools in ways that support healthy child development.

Michaela Wooldridge has been a Clinical Supervisor at Surrey Infant Development Programme (IDP) for five years, following 17 years as an IDP consultant. She has taught in college ECE programme, and serves as peer trainer/educator in assessment and a variety of early intervention/development topics. She is also mother to three children.

B4: Our Children's Play Diet: is it Hazardous to Their Health?

with Yvonne Adebar

This workshop will begin with a brief theoretical summary of children's play in the modern age and how it is impacted by technology and current societal practices and beliefs. We will then discuss why it is important for parents and caregivers to understand the need for a balanced "play diet" and what the long term implications might be when young children are not provided with "healthy" play experiences. An information flyer for distribution to families will be provided.

Yvonne Adebar has worked in the field for over 30 years as an Early Childhood Educator, College Instructor and Infant Development Consultant. She has a great deal of experience working with typical and atypically developing children. She has presented at a number of conferences including the Early Years Conferences in Vancouver.

Mid Afternoon Workshops

2:45 - 4:15

C1: The Gift of Giving

with Chantelle Adams

Chantelle will share with participants the steps that can be taken to help children move from a state of entitlement and what she likes to call the 'gimmies' to a place of compassion and giving. Participants will walk away with many ideas to start implementing in their program to help children become more aware, more money savvy and wanting to make a difference in their homes, schools, community and world. This is the greatest gift we can give our children.

Chantelle Adams has spoken at Parenting with Pizzaz, the Central Okanagan PAC Parenting Conference and delivers 150 + assemblies each year to elementary age students on values, keeping parents involved through tips and strategies each month. Chantelle is the Family Volunteer Director for The Power of Moms and writes Monthly Make a Difference Challenges. She presents Keynotes and Workshops at Professional Development Days and other Professional Events around BC.

C2: Beyond the Birds and the Bees: Child Development and Sexual Abuse

with Paula Farrell & Iain Grim

This workshop will outline stages of healthy sexual development, and will assist caregivers and professionals to identify areas of concern for sexual abuse. Participants will utilize practical learning techniques for responding to disclosures of sexual abuse, and will gain knowledge about the law, and police procedures. Participants will develop an understanding regarding the psychological impact of sexual abuse and the dynamics of abuse-related trauma in order to gain skills for supporting survivors.

Paula Farrell is the Coordinator for the Sexual Assault Counselling Centre at the Elizabeth Fry Society. For the past 5 years, her specialization has been working with child survivors of sexual abuse and assault.

Cst. Iain Grim has been responding to and investigating sex crimes at the local RCMP detachment since 2009. Cst. Grim utilizes the stepwise technique for interviewing child survivors of violence.

C3: The Role of the Practitioner in Supporting Vulnerable Parents in Their Parenting Practices

with Marianne Drew-Pennington & Susan Foster

The objectives of the workshop are: To describe the practitioner's responsibility to ensure that the children in their programs are safe from abuse and neglect. To describe the practitioner's relationship with parents whose children are at risk of abuse or neglect. To describe strategies to balance the practitioner's role in supporting parents with ensuring the safety of the children. To describe key components that contribute to strengthening families. To examine strategies for strengthening families within Five Core Areas (Family Support, Play Based Learning, Parent Education & Learning, Early Literacy & Learning, Information & Referral)

Marianne Drew-Pennington serves as the Executive Director of the BC Association of Family Resource Programs. She has a long history in the field of family resource programming and related sectors. She began her career teaching in an inner-city school in the United States where she experienced the unfortunate reality of the impact of neglectful parenting on children's development. Marianne has served on numerous committees and boards both provincially and federally.

Susan Foster has been working as the Early Childhood Development Community Development Co-ordinator in the Tri-Cities for the last 6 years, and is currently employed by the Ministry of Children and Family Development. Susan has been working in the field for over 20 years in a variety of positions, primarily focused on parents and families with young children.

C4: Helping Parents and Child Care Providers Understand Their Child's Temperament (part 2)

with Michele Hucul

Part 2 - Developing resiliency for children: Building upon temperament and parent-child 'fit', this workshop will provide parent and care provider strategies to support and encourage positive adult-child relationships. *(This workshop is a continuation of the workshop in the morning)*

Michele Hucul is a Social Worker and has been a Parent Education and Support Facilitator for over 20 years and has worked for The Bridge Youth & Family Services in this role for the past 11 years. She is a single, part-time parent to two teenage children. She is a board member with BC Family Resource Program and an advocate for family resource programs in the Okanagan.

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Registration Form

Early Bird - \$125 (before March 31st, 2012)

Standard - \$160 (April 1st - May 18th, 2012)

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Title _____

Organization _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Prov / State _____ Postal / Zip _____

Email Address _____

Phone Number _____ Fax Number _____

Dietary Requirements _____

Will you be attending the Friday evening Networking Wine & Cheese Social event? Yes No

WORKSHOP CHOICES

Please indicate your workshop preference by number.

1st Choice 2nd Choice

	1st Choice	2nd Choice
Morning		
Early Afternoon		
Mid Afternoon		

REGISTRATION & PAYMENT

Online available at www.kelconference2012.blogspot.com

Credit Card Call **250-763-0456** and provide your billing information. Your receipt will be provided at the conference or to the email address specified above. or Fax **250-763-4910** this completed form with all billing and contact information.

NAME ON CARD: _____

MASTER CARD

VISA CARD # _____

SSV CODE: _____ EXPIRY DATE: _____ / _____
MONTH / YEAR

Cheque

Cheques payable to "The Bridge Youth & Family Services"
Enclose payment with registration form and deliver to:

The Bridge Youth & Family Services
1829 Chandler Street
Kelowna, BC V1Y 3Z2

Registration & Payment must be received and confirmed on or before May 18th, 2012.
Registration will not be guaranteed until payment has been received.

BC Family Child Care Association invites you to attend their AGM and an exciting workshop Sunday June 3, 2012. See our website www.bcfcca.ca for details.