

Winter 2018

nsc

Early Childhood Development
Support Centres

Kingstec



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Monday—Friday 8:30—4:30

Follow us online!

Website:

www.ecdsc.nsc.ca

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Header photo:

“Alien” (Bxxters Harbour, Nova Scotia) ©Justine MacDonald, 2017.

Images on pages 2 & 3:

Submitted by Alice Taylor.

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This Issue...

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The Early Childhood Development Support Centre - Kingstec
will be closed for the Holidays

December 16th to January 3rd

We re-open 8:30 am on Thursday, January 4th.

Have a wonderful holiday season!



ECE Spotlight!

Alice Taylor, Wolfville Children’s Centre

Alice Taylor completed her Early Childhood Education training at Kingstec, graduating from the ECE Program in 1991 and the Early Childhood Management and Special Needs program in 1992. She’s worked at Wolfville Children’s Centre (WCC) since her first year in the program, recently celebrating her 25th year not only in the field, but at WCC, the same year the centre celebrated its 45th anniversary. During her years at the centre, she’s experienced almost every role. Currently, she is an afterschool teacher and Assistant Director, and participating in Mount Saint Vincent’s Early Childhood Administrators continuing education course.

We recently asked her about her years in the field, and the impact WCC has made on the community.

ECDSK: *What lead you to the ECE field and what has made you stay?*

Alice: I wasn’t quite sure what I wanted to do but knew I didn’t want to work with money or the elderly. I babysat quite a bit throughout my teens and enjoyed being with children so I applied for the Early Childhood Education Program and was accepted.

ECDSK: *What is your favourite age group to work with and why are you drawn to them?*

Alice: I have enjoyed working with different age groups throughout my career. Young children were my favourite for being cute and cuddly. Preschool children were my favourite for their curiosity and how they think we walk on water. Afterschool children, while in my younger years their attitude could be trying, now rank high as intelligent and independent. Childcare is demanding on the mind and the body so I appreciate not lifting children constantly but enjoy time spent with older children as they tell me about their day, share their ideas or greet me with a hug when they join us afterschool.

ECDSK: *How long have you been with WCC? What is it about the Centre that has kept you there?*

Alice: I celebrated 25 years with WCC in September while the centre celebrated 45 years. I couldn’t imagine working anywhere else besides WCC. The centre has evolved over the years and I have too. I believe in our philosophy of “Caring for our future” and “Every child is entitled to quality care”.

ECDSK: *Has WCC always been located on Earnscliffe? What other, or additional, locations have there been?*

Alice: WCC was formed by students in 1972 in the Student Union Building of Acadia University. The Centre then moved to Basinview (next to the Quikway) on Skyway drive and was there until 1993 when we relocated to main street (now the new L’Arche Building) for a year. In 1994 we moved to Fraser House (the former Acadia Child Development building that was vacant). In 1999, we moved to Earnscliffe Ave (as Fraser House was being demolished to build the KC Irving Centre) and we’ve been there ever since. We now own the building so don’t plan to move again!



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Alice Taylor

...continued from page 2

We run a Satellite afterschool program for 21 children at the Old Student Union Building at Acadia University in addition to our main site. WCC has come full circle!

ECDSK: *Aside from the care of its children, how has the Wolfville community benefited from WCC?*

Alice: We regularly visit both the Wolfville Nursing Home as well as Wickwire Assisted Living to bridge the gap between young and old. We read with the residents as well as sing songs and do gross motor activities and decorate trees at Christmas time. Some children may not have living grandparents or they may live far away and some residents may not have young children to visit them.

ECDSK: *What are some of your favourite community events or initiatives the Centre has been involved in? What made them so special?*

Alice: We also have fieldtrips to the local library, fire station, grocery store and other places and fundraise for causes such as Terry Fox and Muscular Dystrophy and take the children out in the community to raise awareness. We participate yearly in 1-2-3 Read program with Discovery Toys to encourage literacy. They show such pride in these events and their part in making them successful!

The afterschool children did an art sale. When asked what they wanted to do with the money raised by freewill donation. They opted to give it to the local animal hospital! They are so generous! I like that about them!

Thank you Alice! You have certainly made a difference in the lives of so many children, and you are an asset to the ECE community.

The ECE Spotlight will be a regular feature in our newsletter. If you know someone who should be featured here, please send Courtney an email! courtney.daniels@nsc.ca.



"Our 45th birthday party. Jean Kelly (Community Board member), Scott Brison, Mike Townsend (Board Chair (Community Member), Laurie St. Amour (Executive Director of 27 years!), Angela Baxter (former staff member - made our beautiful cake (Image 9581) for the party and facepainted!)"

Upcoming Networking Dates

ECE Networking	Hants Director's Meetings
Kingstec, 6:00-8:00 pm	Family Resource Centre of West Hants, 6:30-8:00 pm
February 14	February 27
March 21	April 24
April 18	

Annapolis Valley Directors Meetings: We would like to hear from YOU! What do you want to see in the valley? Time, location, frequency, topics, format, face to face or online? Call, email, or visit us to let us know!

Workshop Guidelines

The following guidelines must be followed:

- One participant per registration form
- NSCC student ID OR birth date is required on registration form.
- Pre-registration **AND** payment are to be received by us, at least **TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE** (unless otherwise noted)
- Send form and payment to Justine at the ECDSK. **Online Registration now available!**
- Registrations cannot be processed, nor spaces held, unless the above guidelines are followed.
- **Cancellations** must be processed before the workshop occurs. Therefore, to get a refund, please contact us at least **two weeks** prior to a workshop if you are unable to attend. This also allows us to offer your space to someone on our wait list.

Please remember to bring your own mug, cup, sport bottle etc. to help us save the environment!

Visit our website for maps to all workshop venues.

NOTE: We must sometimes cancel a workshop if there is a lack of participation and depending on the facilitators this may be done more than 2 weeks in advance. Please be sure to register as soon as possible to ensure that you will have a spot in the workshop and check for your workshop’s deadline.

Calendar

Please keep in mind the following deadlines and workshop dates:

<p>Jan. 17 Registration Deadline: Play with Words</p> <p>Jan. 23 Registration Deadline: Programming, Pedagogy and Curriculum Frameworks</p> <p>Jan. 24 Registration Deadline: Practical Ways to Encourage Positive Behaviour in Young Children Play with Words</p> <p>Feb. 1 Registration Deadline: Handle with Care Part 1</p> <p>Feb. 6 Programming, Pedagogy and Curriculum Frameworks begins</p> <p>Feb. 7 Practical Ways to Encourage Positive Behaviour in Young Children begins Session #1</p> <p>Feb. 14 ECE Networking</p> <p>Feb. 15 Handle with Care Part 1 Registration Deadline: Handle with Care Part 2</p> <p>Feb. 21 Practical Ways to Encourage Positive Behaviour in Young Children Session #2</p> <p>Feb. 27 Hants Directors Meeting</p> <p>March 1 Handle with Care Part 2</p> <p>March 8 Registration Deadline: Handle with Care Part 3</p> <p>March 21 ECE Networking</p> <p>March 22 Registration Deadline: Handle with Care Part 4</p>	<p>March 22 Handle with Care Part 3</p> <p>March 29 Registration Deadline: Understanding Autism Part 3</p> <p>April 5 Handle with Care Part 4</p> <p>April 14 Understanding Autism Part 3</p> <p>April 24 Hants Directors Meeting</p>
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The Support Centre is a nut-free, scent-free facility. We ask that you refrain from eating or using nut products (including coconut oil) during or prior to attending workshops or sessions hosted by the ECDSK. Please relay this message to your colleagues.

Programming, Pedagogy and Curriculum Frameworks: What do these mean in our practice?

Session I – Play-based learning and curriculum frameworks. What’s the Connection? Curriculum frameworks provide core principles that support early learning professionals in developing and implementing play-based programs. This session will introduce you to how curriculum frameworks support early learning professionals and children in planning for experiences that include Big Ideas, concepts, and unique programming within the early learning programs.

Session II - How do early learning environment designs connect to curriculum frameworks, play-based curriculum and children’s learning? Children’s environments influence their play. The more interesting the environment, the more expansive the play and the explorations that children engage in. This session will introduce you to the relationship of curriculum frameworks to children’s environments and their play options.

Session III – Do curriculum frameworks change programming strategies? Curriculum frameworks provide a foundation for an emergent and engaging program for children that encourages play, exploration, and discovery. This session will explore how curriculum frameworks influence programming strategies that support children, families, and philosophies.

Session IV – How can the programming process honour children’s inquiry? Early learning professionals have many factors that they take into consideration during the programming process. Early learning programs ensure that there is a focus on inquiry, creativity, and play. This session explores where collaborative and collective learning, reflection, and technology fit into the program design process.

Session V - Blocks, Art, Dramatic Play, Literacy, Math and Science. If, how, and why do they connect with curriculum frameworks? Is there still a place for blocks, art, dramatic play, literacy, math and science components in programs that follow curriculum frameworks? Are the experiences implemented differently when following a framework? This session will examine how these curriculum areas are influenced by curriculum frameworks.

Session VI – How does pedagogical documentation inform programming? Pedagogical documentation is often thought of as a way of telling the stories of children’s play and learning. When documentation is pedagogical, it plays a key role in programming. This session will examine how pedagogical documentation informs emergent and inspiring programming opportunities for and with children.

This is a multi-part ONLINE session!

DATE: Tuesdays February 6th, February 20th, March 6th, March 20th, April 3rd, April 17th, 2018

Flexible Attendance: Individual certificate PD hours adjusted based on your attendance.

TIME: 6:30—8:30 pm (12 PD hours)

PLACE: Online via Skype for Business

DEADLINE: January 24th, 2018

FEE: \$125.00 **CLASS NUMBER:** #4865

REGISTER: Fax/mail/drop-off registration & payment to Justine in the Support Centre!

FACILITATOR: Dr. Beverlie Dietze

About Beverlie: Dr. Beverlie Dietze has been researching aspects of children's outdoor play for more than 20 years. She has published three textbooks related to children's play and learning and is currently a lead researcher and facilitator on outdoor play funded through the Lawson Foundation. Beverlie has been involved in a number of outdoor play projects and presentations in Nova Scotia.

Important information about our online workshops:

Requirements:

- Internet
- PC (desktop or laptop)
- Access to email (we’ll send you a link to the session as well as instructions).
- Headset (you can borrow one from us!)

Registered participants will receive detailed instructions and be invited to a practice session to test your technology prior to the first session.

It is the participants’ responsibility to make sure their equipment, including headphones, will work at the session. As per our policy, refunds will not be issued less than two weeks before the workshop.

Handle with Care

Join our team of Handle with care facilitators offering support to families/caregivers with young children.

The Handle with Care program is a set of simple interactive strategies to help parents, caregivers, educators and public health professionals to promote the mental health of young children.

Mental health is part of our overall health. It’s about how we think, feel, our level of self-esteem and how we cope with the ups and downs of every day life.

Handle with Care believes the mental health of young children is critically important to flourish, thrive and grow into healthy adults. We believe that everyday interactives with children provide rich opportunities and teachable moments to promote mental health.

The spirit of the program is celebrating parenting and caregiving, promoting self-care and recognizing the value of each parent and caregiver and their role in strengthening the social and emotional well-being of young children.

\$70 per session!

No pre-requisites; this means you only sign up for the sessions that interest you!

* Snacks provided *

TIME: 6:30—8:30 pm

(2 PD hours per session)

PLACE: NSCC Kingstec, Kentville

DEADLINE: *Two weeks prior to each session*

CLASS NUMBER: *See individual sessions*

REGISTER: Fax/mail/drop-off registration & payment to Justine in the Support Centre!

FACILITATOR: Laura King and Marcia Nickerson

About the facilitators: Marcia Nickerson has been owner/operator of Allegro Child Care Centre Ltd for the past 20 years; in doing so she has learned the skills necessary to sustain a project, work with families and children of all needs and has an understanding of early childhood development.

Laura King has been inclusion coordinator since 2011 and has worked at Allegro since 2008. She too, through her experiences and training, values working with the family and values the importance of supporting children at an early age.

#1: Building Trust and Attachment *Class #2047*

Date: Thurs., 15 Feb. 2018 (snow date: 22 Feb.) Deadline: 1 Feb.

Building trusting relationships with children is one of the most important things parents or caregivers can do to promote children's social and emotional development. Building a trusting relationship involves parents and caregivers: providing a sense of security helping children regulate their energy states and emotions promoting expression of feelings and communication serving as a base for exploration.

#2: Self-Esteem *Class #2048*

Date: Thurs., 1 March 2018 (snow date: 8 March) Deadline: 15 Feb.

Parents and caregivers help shape positive self-esteem in children by responding to them in a warm, accepting, and flexible manner on a consistent basis. Children have different temperaments that can affect the development of their self-esteem. Every child is born with a certain way of interacting with and responding to the world. Parents and caregivers need to understand children’s different temperament styles so they can convey the message that everyone is valued and worthwhile. Healthy self-esteem involves feeling capable and feeling loved. Positive self-esteem is linked to good mental health, as well as fewer behaviour problems, social difficulties, and feelings of loneliness. A nurturing relationship, particularly with parents, is the strongest factor related to healthy self-esteem.

#3: Expressing Emotions

Date: Thurs., 22 March 2018 Deadline: 8 March Class #4862

There are many ways to express emotions, both verbal and nonverbal. It is parents and caregiver’s roles to pick up on these cues and empathize with the child. Young children experience a range of feelings, including happy, mad, sad, frustrated, scared, and excited. Learning to express emotions in healthy ways is a skill that takes time and practice. Young children need to test these new skills within a loving and patient environment. Parents and caregivers are role models for developing these skills. When children see the important adults around them identify and cope with strong feelings in positive ways they have a better chance of practicing these behaviours. The ability to read and understand emotions becomes even more important when children begin to develop friendships and other relationships outside the family.

#4: Relationships with Others

Date: Thurs., 5 April 2018 Deadline: 22 March Class #4861

If a child has a secure, trusting relationship with parents or caregivers, they are likely to be able to connect with others and feel concern for others. Relationships with adults shape children’s early social learning; parents and caregivers act as social role models and guide children’s interactions with others. As children grow older, peer relationships increasingly influence their self-esteem and well-being. Adults can help children feel good about themselves and about making friends. But not all children are the same in the way they relate to others; some are outgoing, and others are quiet and reserved.

Professional Development Around the Province

Check out PD offerings from other organizations around the Province!

- ⇒ **NSCC ECDSK Burrige:**
<http://ecdsc.nsc.ca/burrige.html>
- ⇒ **NSCC ECDSK Cumberland:** *(Online sessions!)*
<http://ecdsc.nsc.ca/cumberland.html>
- ⇒ **NSCC ECDSK Marconi:**
<https://www.facebook.com/MarconiECDSK/>
- ⇒ **CPRPS**
<https://cprps.ca>
- ⇒ **Jane Norman College**
<http://bit.ly/janenorman>
- ⇒ **Mount Saint Vincent University**
<http://bit.ly/MountPD>
- ⇒ **Nova Scotia Child Care Association**
<http://nschildcareassociation.org/>
- ⇒ **Nova Scotia College of Early Childhood Education** <https://www.nscece.ca/eycdc/>

Understanding and Working with Autism in an Early Learning Setting (Part 3)

Part three of this series builds on the learned principles during part 1 & 2. It:

1. Includes some theory about the developmental steps of communication
2. Teaches you how to connect and play optimally with the child. This will be taught and practiced through role play between workshop participants
3. Includes some revision of previously learned activities, some new activities, and how to implement those activities during “play”.

The session includes some video material but will be strongly focusing on hands-on work thus requires full participation during activity exploration!

No pre-requisites! * Snacks provided *

Participants are asked to bring ONE toy set. example: a set of little cars, building blocks, a few dolls and cookery set, etc.

DATE: Saturday, April 14th, 2018

TIME: 9:00 am—1:00 pm (4 PD hours)

PLACE: NSCC Kingstec, Kentville

DEADLINE: March 29th, 2018

FEE: \$70 **CLASS NUMBER:** #2049

REGISTER: Fax/mail/drop-off registration & payment to Justine in the Support Centre!

FACILITATOR: Nancy Ceulemans

About Nancy: Originally from Belgium, Nancy Ceulemans moved to Nova Scotia in 2008. Nancy first studied classical music and in 1989 also obtained a teachers degree (with honors) with an emphasis on Early Childhood Development and Education. For ten years, Nancy was the director and teacher of a pre-school and later became a practicum mentor for students in pre-school nursing. Nancy further developed her career internationally in a variety of educational settings in England and Switzerland. She was involved in toddler groups, taught preschools, primary classes and taught music and movement in elementary years. Additionally she studied multiple award winning neurodevelopmental approaches such as HANDLE®, DIRFloortime®, Irlen®, The Listening Program® and reflex integration. In her workshops, she integrates her knowledge and experience gathered from her diverse array of training. She has been in private practice for the past 9 years, working with children experiencing a wide range of difficulties. The majority of her clients are affected by autism.

Workshop Legend



Lecture and/or discussion



Hands on and/or Group Work



Active! Bring your comfy clothes!



This is an online workshop.

Play with Words: Fun and Early Literacy

Children learn how to express themselves, learn the meaning of words, and other early literacy skills by playing. Play does not require a lot of space, expensive toys, or specialized equipment. In this workshop, we will use books as a jumping-off point for learning how to play with inexpensive props, ideas, imagination, and encouragement. Participants will have some hands-on time to develop their own ideas and incorporate them into Literacy Play that they can use right away.

* Snacks provided *

DATE: Wednesday, January 24th, 2018

(*snow date: January 31st*)

TIME: 6:30—8:30 pm (2 PD Hours)

PLACE: NSCC Middleton

DEADLINE: January 17th

FEE: \$30 CLASS NUMBER: #4863

REGISTER: Fax/mail/drop-off registration & payment to Justine in the Support Centre!

FACILITATOR: Angela Reynolds

About Angela: Angela Reynolds is the Community Engagement Coordinator for Annapolis Valley Regional Library. She has been a librarian for over 20 years, and specializes in Children's Literature. She was a member of the 2015 Caldecott Committee, reviews children's books and audios, creates programs for children and families, and organizes the annual Summer Reading Club.

Practical Ways to Encourage Positive Behaviour in Young Children

Why Do Children Misbehave? This workshop will discuss reasons why many children may present challenging behaviors. Understanding effective guidance techniques will assist participants to reduce behavior problems in their early childhood classroom.

* Snacks provided *

DATE: Wednesdays,
February 7th & 21st, 2018

(*snow dates: Feb. 13th and 28th*)

TIME: 6:30—9:00 pm (5 PD hours)

PLACE: NSCC Annapolis Valley Campus,
Middleton

DEADLINE: January 24th, 2018

FEE: \$65 CLASS NUMBER: #4864

REGISTER: Fax/mail/drop-off registration & payment to Justine in the Support Centre!

FACILITATOR: Kathy Black

About Kathy: Kathy Black has been working in the early childhood field for over 30 years. Kathy worked 16 years as an early childhood education with children 4 months to 12 years of age. During Kathy's role as an Early Childhood Development Consultant and Licensing Officer over the past 15 years she has had an opportunity to view various early childhood environments across the province. Since 2005 Kathy has developed and facilitated curriculum focused workshops to early childhood educators.

Tuition Assistance

Need help paying for the Early Childhood Education courses you are taking? Take advantage of the program from Nova Scotia's Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. Check their website for more information. <http://bit.ly/ececoned>

NSCC Courses

Take advantage of NSCC's continuing education opportunities:

Online Courses for ECE Students

<http://bit.ly/nsccece>

Safety Courses

(Including First Aid, Food Handlers)

<http://bit.ly/nsccsafety>