

Community of Practice Series

**Building Curriculum from an Indigenous Story:
Incorporating Indigenous Perspectives in Early Learning
Environment**

Professional Development Opportunity for ECE Practitioners (15hrs)

Date: 5 Saturdays (January 11, 25, February 8, 22 and March 7)

**Time: 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM (+ optional networking and collaborative
dialogue session 12-12:30 PM)**

**Place: Burnaby Central Secondary School (6011 Deer Lake Pkwy,
Burnaby, BC V5G 0A9), Bill Reid Gallery (639 Hornby St, Vancouver,
BC V6C 2G3 on February 8th)**

Course Cost: \$Free

Registration Code:0298

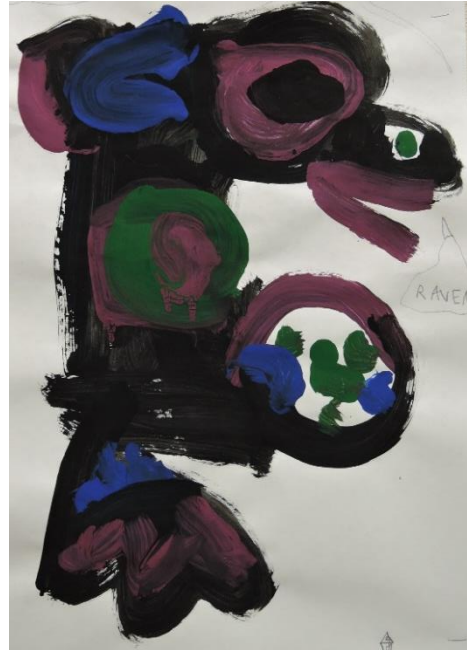
Please register at www.burnabycce.ca

(It is first come first serve basis, and your full participation and commitment is appreciated! This professional development series is supported by the funding through ECEPD Bursary Professional Development Fund)

“Together, Canadians must do more than just talk about reconciliation; we must learn how to practice reconciliation in our everyday lives – within ourselves and our families, and in our communities, governments, places of worship, school, and workplace. To do so constructively, Canadians must remain committed to the ongoing work of establishing and maintaining respectful relationships. (“Truth and Reconciliation: Calls to Action,” National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.)

What is our role in response to “the Truth and Reconciliation Calls for Actions (2015)”? How can we incorporate Indigenous worldviews and values in meaningful ways for young children? Exchange your questions, viewpoints, passions, concerns, and wonderings with other early childhood educators and an Indigenous Elder in our Community of Practice Series. Reflect on the ideas and possibilities to put them into action at your early learning centres.

During the five gatherings of this learning community, participants will explore the possibilities of incorporating Indigenous perspectives in their classrooms through using indigenous stories as a starting point. They will put the ideas into practice as they observe, document, and dialogue with the children and other practitioners. While the participants learn together in the community of practice as well as with the children in their centers, they will deepen their understanding and expand their research questions on how to incorporate Indigenous worldviews and cultures in early childhood settings.



Discussion topics will cover;

- What is our role in response to “the Truth and Reconciliation Calls for Actions (2015)”?
- Using an Indigenous story as a starting point.
- How to develop responsive curriculum from a story to deepen the children’s understanding of Indigenous cultures and values.
- How to document children’s questions and ideas on Indigenous perspectives.
- Appreciating Indigenous artworks as a story.

Natsuko Motegi along with Gabi Kirton will facilitate the learning community by sharing their experience of making Indigenous stories meaningful to the children at their Reggio-inspired Marpole Community Centre Preschool. Karen Hazelman from Musqueam Nation will be part of the Community of Practice. She will provide support and guidance to the facilitators and participants, and share her perspectives as an Indigenous Elder in the community.

*15 hours of Certificates of Attendance will be issued.

*Contents will be suitable for early childhood educators, strong start teachers and kindergarten teachers.

Biographies

Natsuko has been working as an Early Childhood Educator since 2002 after obtaining a Master's degree of Education in curriculum and instruction. She has been working at Marpole Preschool since 2005 where she demonstrates Reggio-inspired responsive curriculum in practice. She also teaches Responsive Curriculum in the Burnaby School District Early Childhood Education Program.

Gabi began her career in education working as an Educational Assistant. Years later, she did extensive volunteer work at the parent participation preschool that her son attended. Gabi realized her true passion for Early Childhood Education and returned to school to study ECE at Burnaby School District ECE Program. This is Gabi's fifth year working at Marpole Preschool.

Karen is from Musqueam Nation in Vancouver. She has worked as an Early Childhood Educator for many years. Currently she is supporting the Indigenous students in the MIB Early Childhood Education Program at Vancouver Community College. It is a privilege for the Community of Practice to have Karen to reflect authentic perspectives of Indigenous cultures in Early Childhood Education practices.

Testimonials

"I thought incorporating Indigenous perspectives in the curriculum was impossible, but now I feel It's doable."

"When I enter the learning journey, I had no knowledge of Indigenous culture. It was a privilege to join the learning group, being able to hear stories from Karen, learning Indigenous art at the gallery and hearing an amazing children's exploration at Marpole Preschool. All of these experiences help me continue to understand the part of the history of Canada that I didn't know of."

"I thought in this Community of Practice I will learn more about Truth and Reconciliation, but I discovered more of myself, my values and background and cultural history."