

The Connector

Volume 21, Issue 3

Autumn 2010

Program Staff

Coordinator

Belinda Macey

Consultants

Lisa Yates

Shauna Fraser

Patsy Dutton

Receptionist

Danielle Dzioba

Office Hours

Monday to Friday

8:30am - 4:00pm

Wednesdays

12:00pm - 7:00pm

Contents

- 1 *Coordinator's Message*
- 2 *Important Dates*
- 3 *Playing in Backyard*
- 4 *Got Wheels?*
- 5 *Victoria Foundation*
- 6 *Baby Fair*

Coordinator's Message

Aaaaah, fall, my favourite season! If you have been reading our newsletter over the past few years you will know that indeed, I love the autumn best.

We did two launches of our fall training, one mid July and one mid August. If somehow you got missed, please check our website, under Workshops, to see our fall line up. I hope you received this information and that you are planning to attend some of our training events in October. *Move & Grow, with Barbara Karmazyn*, was sold out within two weeks of release. This was the first time that Sooke/Westshore CCRR and our CCRR have co-hosted an event. I want to thank all of the staff that were involved with the registration at the Sooke/Westshore office. I appreciate how smoothly everything went.

We still have seats available in our four workshops on October 23. We have coupled Child Care Subsidy and Income Tax together for the day. You can attend the two hour Subsidy workshop, with Christine Kapoor, in the morning, and then stay for the afternoon Tax workshop with Jan Kuprowsky. Both of these workshops will be featured in our upstairs classroom.

There are spaces available too, in *Becoming an Askable Adult* and *Playing in the Backyard*. We are very excited to be featuring these new workshops for our membership! Both facilitators host very successful workshops in the Victoria community and come highly recommended for their expertise and presentation abilities.

I have written the feature article about outside play and playing with children in the hopes of inspiring some reflective thoughts about your work with children. Even in my capacity as the program coordinator, I take time to reflect about who I am professionally and how our program is serving you, our membership.

Happy Autumn, everyone! I hope to see you at one of our training events or on a Wednesday evening when you drop by for resources or to use the die cut machine.

Sincerely,

Belinda Macey

Program Coordinator





Important Dates

September 26– National Police & Peace Officer's Day

October 11- Thanksgiving Day
(office closed)

October 31- Halloween

November 7- Daylight Savings Time

November 11– Remembrance Day
(office closed)

November 20– International Children's Day

December 2– Hanukkah

December 21– Winter begins



Back to School!

Need back to school resources? It's that time again. Educators and families are preparing for transitions and NAEYC has this toolkit of helpful resources for you!

<http://www.naeyc.org/back-to-school>

SVIFCCA Workshops

SVIFCCA is hosting workshops on every fourth Thursday of each month (except December). **A certificate of educational hours is provided for all workshops.**

Where: North Douglas Pentecostal Church, 675 Jolly Place (near Glanford & McKenzie)

Time: Doors open at 6:45 PM and the meeting begins at 7:15 PM

Thursday, September 23rd "Science for Young Children" *presented by Mad Science of Vancouver Island*

Thursday, October 28th "Using Your Computer to Enhance Your Programming" - *Facilitator– Rena Laberge*

Thursday, November 25th "Rough and Tumble Play – The Good, the Bad and the Ugly" - *Facilitator– Meagan Brame Owner/Operator of Saxe Point Daycare*

Please check their website www.svifcca.com for more information on their 2011 workshops.

Aboriginal Early Years Conference

Join parents and educators for a day of free learning!

Hosted at the Victoria Native Friendship Centre

231 Regina Avenue

Saturday, September 25 from 8:30 to 5:00

Topics: Language Nests, Aboriginal literacy training, Granny & Grandpa Connection Box, FASD key worker presentation, "Beat the Drum" Aboriginal ECE curriculums, and an Elders panel.

Contact Jody Bauche at 250-385-3211 ext. 304 for registration details

Child minding available

Sponsored by Success By 6, the Victoria Native Friendship Centre, and the Victoria Child Care Resource & Referral program

Keeping a Log

Q: Section 56 of the Community Care Licensing regulations states: "A licensee must keep a log of minor accidents, illnesses and "unexpected events" involving children that did not require medical attention and were not reportable incidents." What is the definition of an unexpected event that should be recorded in the log?

A: An unexpected event is a something that happens or takes place that you were not able to foresee or anticipate. Some examples of unexpected events that should be recorded in your log:

- Your observations of a child who is having difficulty with transitions times or with another child in the program
- A biting incident between two children that does not require emergency medical treatment.



Playing in the Backyard

Play and playing...those lovely words that are used to describe what children do best. I know in our profession that we are often asked why a “play-based” curriculum is best for young children’s learning. Have you ever considered the opportunities **you get to play** as an adult? I believe our profession provides a wonderful outlet for us to play too and to enrich the lives of the children we care for by being playful.

Indeed, never underestimate the value of an energetic, fit, and playful care provider! I remember when I worked in a large group care setting in Edmonton. I was a fresh graduate from Grant MacEwan College’s ECCE program and I was ready to put-into-practice all of the wonderful things I had learned. One of the most important ideas that was shared with me was that I needed to **play with the children**. Upon reflection I remember those play times as some of the best times, just **being** with the children. As we laughed, ran, tumbled, hopped, and rolled, I was communicating with the children just how much fun it was to be with them and just how good their company was. Their ideas and play was important to me and I wanted to be with them.

As time goes by I know that it’s easy to stand back and allow children to play together, not engaging with their play, and to take a well-deserved break when everyone goes outside. When I played with the children and truly spent time with them, I found the need for redirection and guidance went down. I could spot when a situation might get out-of-hand and I could quickly strategize how to redirect the energy of the child/ren differently. If I had been standing a distance away from the play group, it would have been difficult to see the nuances of the play and to know when to offer help.

I had a situation disclosed to me this summer from a care provider who I have known and admired for many years. She was very upset when she witnessed two care providers who had met at a park and combined numbers for a play date. The two providers proceeded to sit a distance from the children, drink beverages, chat, and not pay much attention to the children. When the children would call out for assistance or a disagreement broke out, the care providers sat on the peripheral, yelling orders to the children. This story truly distressed me, as it did the witnessing provider. All of the safety issues aside, why would anyone want to care for children and not want to “**be**” with them? The wonderful opportunities that were missed to spend time with a child, and to value them. What kind of messages are being sent to the children when they’re simply left to their own devices?

I know that there are periods in our lives when we have so much going on that saving a bit of energy for ourselves is all that we can manage to do. I want to encourage you to be aware of how often these times occur in your life and to reflect about what you can do to take care of yourself and thereby, appropriately take care of the children too.

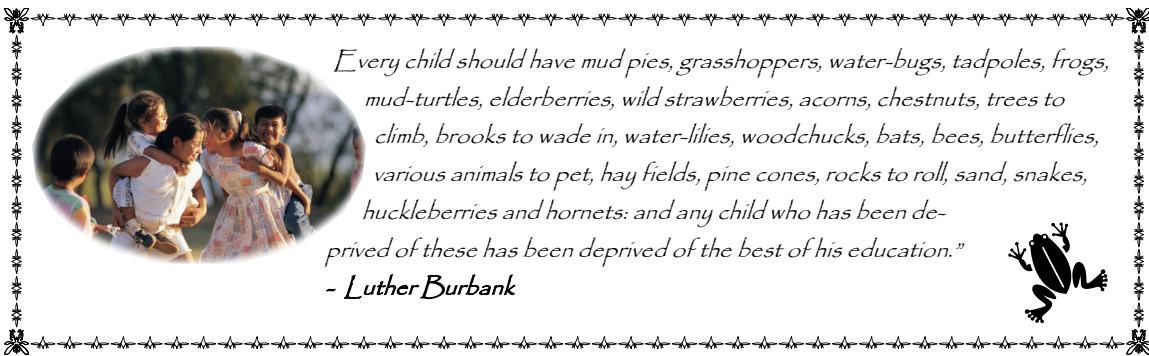
I know that there are times when “the well runs dry” and it’s difficult to find new ideas to do with children outside. As part of the solution, we are pleased to be offering the workshop **Playing in the Backyard**, which will be chock-a-block full of creative and active things

Playing in the Backyard (continued)

to do with children. These ideas and games will be transportable to parks too, where yes, you could meet up with a friend's child care group and combine numbers to all play together.

I want to encourage you to reflect on your care of children and to ask yourself what kind of care provider are you? Do you greet each child happily and do you look forward to the time you will have with that child today? On the difficult days, do you try to find some sort of happiness and do you share that feeling with your children?

Join us on Saturday, October 23rd for the Playing in the Backyard workshop. Come and be energized and inspired to play with children and to enjoy the wonderful work you do!



Got Wheels? Get a Helmet!



“Got Wheels? Get a Helmet!” was the theme of national **Safe Kids Week** in June of this year. Whenever a child straps on roller skates, mounts a bike, or hops on a skateboard, make sure they are wearing a properly fitted helmet.

Teach children to wear helmets and other sports safety equipment while riding a tricycle/bicycle, using roller skates or skateboards, and playing team sports. Adults must be aware of their responsibility to ensure such equipment is properly adjusted and worn.

British Columbia Statistics:

- From 2003 to 2007, 79 cases of head injuries in children riding bicycles were seen at BC Children's Hospital.
- 17 of those cases involved a collision with a motor vehicle & 86 cases resulted in a concussion or intracranial injury.
- A properly fitted helmet decreases the risk of a serious head injury by as much as 85 percent.

(Source: BC CHIRPP/BC Coroners Service)

BC Healthy Kids Program



Recently, we have had many parents inquiring as to where they can get assistance with costs for dental care and eyewear for their children. **The BC Healthy Kids program** helps middle and low income families

with the costs of basic dental care and prescription eyewear for their children. Eligible clients include dependent children under 19 years of age who receive Medical Services Plan premium assistance through the Ministry of Health Services.

If you have parents who are curious about this program, please direct them to:

www.eia.gov.bc.ca/publicat/bcea/Healthykids.htm

Here, they will find all the information they need!

Liability Insurance Update

A transition between PacificCARE and Coastal Community Insurance Services has taken place regarding access to liability insurance. Child care providers are now required to provide Coastal Community Insurance with proof of membership in good standing with the Pacific Child and Family Enrichment Society (a \$15 fee) along with a Proof of Registration with their local Child Care Resource and Referral Program.

You can access the Society Membership and Proof of Registration forms on PacificCARE's website at www.pacific-care.bc.ca by clicking "Insurance for Caregivers" on the menu on the left hand side of the home page. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Coastal Community Insurance Services Ltd. 1-877-705-4232 or email Melanie Davies - melanie.davies@cccu.ca

Whillis-Harding, based in Kelowna, also offers liability insurance for childcare providers. They can be reached at 1-800-667-2217.

Victoria Foundation LNR Child Care Project update

Our special LNR Project, **Every Child Counts**, funded by the Victoria Foundation, is progressing nicely! Over the summertime Patsy Dutton, our child care consultant who is directly responsible for the recruitment of all LNRs, developed 12 Literacy Kits. These kits were part of the funding from the Victoria Foundation and include such things as puppets, Canadian children's story books, puzzles, sequencing sets, and felt stories. The titles of the kits range from African Animals to Undersea. The photos below show Patsy Dutton and Boom Caverhill exploring the Undersea kit with Boom's children. Boom was our first recruit for the project and you can see that she is a quick study for quality care!

Our project is a contender for an upcoming article in The Globe & Mail.

We will reprint the article in our Winter Newsletter if we are chosen!



Subsidy Reminder

If you have a name change (due to marriage or otherwise) or an address change, please remember to have parents resubmit the Child Care Subsidy Child Care Arrangement form with these new details. You or the parent should also follow up with a phone call to the Subsidy Office with these details (1-888-338-6622).

Also, if you know of any changes to the information on a parent's application (name, address, income, etc.), please have the parent contact the Subsidy Office at the number above.

It is important to keep your information and the parent's information up-to-date in order to avoid delays in payment!

Certificates

Are you already a member with VCCRR and interested in receiving a new membership certificate? If you feel that your current certificate is looking a little worse for wear, please contact Danielle at the reception desk and she will email you a new one!

Reception Desk (250) 382-7000

E-mail:
danielle@childcarevictoria.ca



Vancouver Island Baby Fair



This year's Baby Fair will be held on **September 25 & 26 at Pearkes Rec Centre** (3100 Tillicum Road). There will be fun activities and vendors galore! Think your baby is la crème de la crème? Enter him or her in the baby photo contest! Is your baby speedy on all fours? The baby races will put his or her skills to the test! This is sure to be an entertaining two days, and an excellent source of information for all new parents.

Be sure to visit us at booth 23!

National Child Day

National Child Day takes place on November 20, 2010. The Canadian Child Care Federation has selected *Article 13, the Right to Freedom of Expression*, as the theme for National Child Day this year.

Article 13 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child states:

"The child shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through other media of the child's choice."

Wear a blue ribbon this November 20, and show your support for National Child Day!

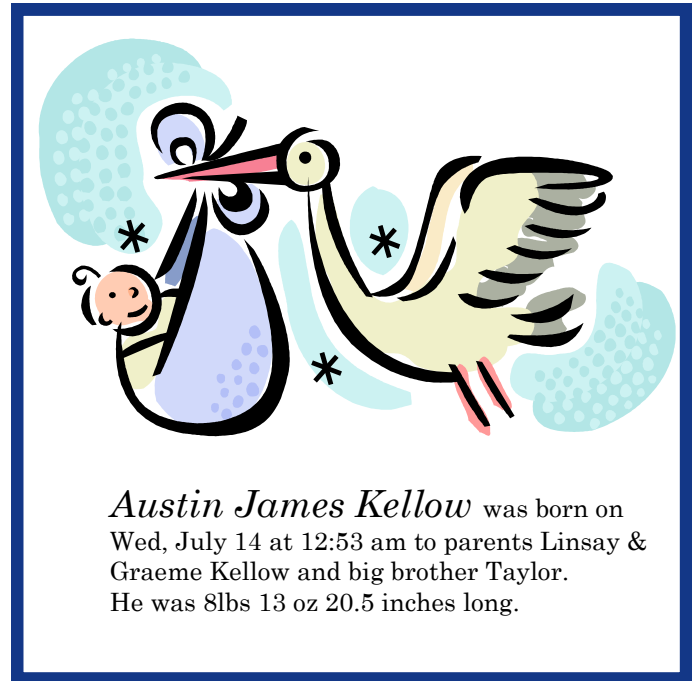


New Members

Welcome to all the new members who have joined CCRR in the past few months!

Nasima Jahan (RLNR-Victoria Foundation)
 Renee-Sahai-Vallie (RLNR-Victoria Foundation)
 Angie Griffith (RLNR-Supported Child Development)
 Katie Konkin (RLNR-Supported Child Development)
 Sarah Bains (RLNR)
 Tammy Nanos (LFCC)
 Robyn Niessen (LFCC)
 Lisa Thomas (LFCC)
 Lisa Dodd (LGC)
 Sara Maxwell (LGC)
 Anya Neilson (LGC)
 Diane Beier (OOSC)
 Candace Negm (Preschool)

New Arrivals!



Victoria Child Care Resource and Referral

2001 A Douglas Street,
 Victoria BC V8T 4K9

Ph: (250) 382-7000

1-800-750-1868

www.childcarevictoria.ca

www.islandfamilyinfo.ca

Coordinator

Belinda Macey belinda@childcarevictoria.ca
 (250) 382-7000 Ext. 232

Consultants

Lisa Yates, *Referral & Subsidy* lisa@childcarevictoria.ca
 (250) 382-7000 Ext. 234
 Shauna Fraser, *Referral & Subsidy* shauna@childcarevictoria.ca
 (250) 382-7000 Ext. 237
 Patsy Dutton, *Child Care Consultant* patsy@childcarevictoria.ca
 (250) 382-7000 Ext. 230

Receptionist

Danielle Dzioba danielle@childcarevictoria.ca
 (250) 382-7000 Ext. 221



Victoria Child Care Resource and Referral, in partnership with the community, strives to enhance the availability and accessibility of a range of quality child care options and services to meet the needs of children, families, and child care providers.

Victoria Child Care Resource and Referral is funded by the Province of British Columbia and sponsored by the Single Parent Resource Centre

