
CHILD CARE CONNECTOR

Nov—Dec 2005

~ working in partnership for quality child care ~

Vol. 15/No. 5

What's happening in your Child Care Community

We have reason to celebrate this season as our provincial government signed the five year Early Learning and Child Care Agreement with the Federal Government on September 29, 2005. Effective October 1st 2005 the child care subsidy program increased the subsidy rates, increased the income threshold for families from \$21,000 to 38,000, and agreed to children under age six to attend group preschools. Effective October 1st licensed child care providers will see a 36.6 per cent rate increase in the child care operating fund for services to children under age six. As an incentive to create more child care spaces we will see capital dollars becoming available for the early childhood community to maintain, upgrade, or create new facilities. Over the course of the year the province will be in consultation with all stakeholders to determine an action plan for the five-year funding.

The CCRR in Your Community

At Victoria Child Care Resource & Referral we have been working in partnership with the community to raise the awareness of the early childhood professional. As a team of individuals who work in different areas within the discipline we have identified the challenges of working within the field of child care and brought forth recommendations to government officials and the local early childhood coalition. We as your local CCRR converse with licensing and convey the challenges that you the child care professional are dealing with on a daily basis. Yes, the professional. You are professionals working within the community supporting our most valuable resource, the children. We encourage you to share with your families the importance of your role and the evidence of quality care that you deliver on a daily basis. We encourage you to educate the community about quality child care and education. We will continue to support you through the process by lending an ear, providing resources that support your position, and offering training or workshops to enhance your learning.

National Child Day

Saturday, November 20, 2005 marks National Child Day, which celebrates the gift of children in our lives. It is a time to reflect on our greatest resource, our children. It also reminds us that it takes a whole village to raise a child.

Sherry-Lynn Lidemark

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VICTORIA CHILD CARE
RESOURCE & REFERRAL SINCE 1990

~ serving child care providers and parents in Greater Victoria and the Southern Gulf Islands ~

VCCRR WORKSHOPS

Please note that workshops and late night opening will now be held on **Wednesday evenings**. The evening workshops will be held at the Centennial United Church right across the street from our office. Access to the Church will be off David Street. Parking will be available at our office and on David Street.

Wednesday, Nov. 16/05

Self-Esteem & Building Friendships

Facilitator: Beverly Brookman

Come join us as we look at raising the self-esteem and promote friendship building. Leave with the skills to effectively support your children.

Location: Centennial United Church, 612 David Street

Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Please pre-register by using the **VCCRR Workshop**

Registration Form from our last newsletter or phone the office @ **382-7000**.

VCCRR PLAYGROUPS

Esquimalt Park and Recreation

527 Fraser Street

Free Drop In Playgroup for Parents and Caregiver

Friday Mornings: 10:30 am - 12:00 am

Victoria West Community Y

531 Craigflower Road

Drop In Fee: \$3.00 per Family Child Care group

Tuesdays Mornings: 9:30 am - 11:00 am

Are you having trouble coming into our office to drop off or pick up activity boxes and other resources? Why not use the playgroups. Just phone our office the day before the play group and we will bring the resources you request to the play group.

Networking and Late Night Openings @ VCCRR 7–9 pm

Networking Evenings and our late nights will both be held on the **first Wednesday of each month**. Please come by and check out our new additions to the library, look at our new felt stories and book bags or pick-up and drop-off activity boxes. If you wish to **borrow infant or toddler equipment please phone ahead** as this equipment is stored off sight.

Networking with Frances

Wednesday November 2, 2005

Exploring and Creating series

Join us for an evening of videos & popcorn

(Please pre-register)

Wednesday December 7, 2005

Frances will be hosting a recipe and cookies exchange which will be held at the centre. Come out and share your favorite recipe exchange. Bring three dozen cookies for three another dozen cookies.

(Please pre-register)

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

Pre-Parenting Workshop

Experience a nurturing and gently experiential approach to preparing for the emotional challenges of parenting. Please bring large sitting cushion, blanket, plan to bring or go for lunch.

Date: November 12th

Time: 10:00—6 pm

Location: 9924 3rd Street, Sidney

Cost: \$110.00pp/\$125.00 per couple

Early Childhood Educators of B.C.

Victoria Branch Meeting

Enjoy speakers with a variety of topics!

Contact Rhonda Kool for a membership requests 652-0815.

Date: November 28th

Time: 7:00—9:00 pm

Location: Fireside Grill

SVIFCCA

Hosting a **'daycare tours'** day. Come by for coffee and pick up a map at Rena Laberge's place 677 Kent (access it off Ralph) between 9:30 and 10:30 am on November 19th.

Everyone welcome.

SVIFCCA

Sidestepping The Power Struggle

with Allison Rees

Date: November 24th

Time: 7:15-9:30pm

Location: Salvation Army Citadel

Please pre-register with Bree McIntye at 658-5320

Healthy Options for Preschoolers

Join us for the Sooke HOPshop. This interactive workshop teaches parents and care providers how to encourage children in physical play which encourages important early fine and gross motor skills for future physical activities and sports.

Location: Sooke Child Youth and Family Centre
2145 Townsend Road South

Date: Sunday November 27th.

Time: 10:00 am – 230 pm.

Cost: \$10 including lunch.

Please pre-register. 642-5152

Provider Page

Job Posting

A new day care centre opening in Colwood. Licenced Infant and Toddler and Early Childhood Education staff are needed. One IT position is needed as a supervisor/team leader and will be paid accordingly. Staff must be passionate about children and love their role as educators. Wages will depend on experience but IT's will be paid at least \$12.50/hour to start. If you are looking for a fun and supportive work environment, please call Jennifer at 391-0098.

Moms and Mentors Program

The Single Parent Resource Centre is pleased to offer a **Moms and Mentors program**. Volunteer mentors are matched with single parent moms who would like a new friend for support and information. This is a resource for parents to share good times while building strength and support for challenging times. Potential mentors who are able to offer a one year commitment of up to four hours per week, or single parent Moms who would like extra support, are encouraged to call Ann Tasko at 721-5995.

Volunteers Needed

The Single Parent Resource Centre needs **Reception and Referral Volunteers**. If you can offer a half-day per week to provide a warm welcome, supportive listening, and referral information to single parents, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Mary Stocks, about this opportunity at 385-1114.

Christmas Bureau of Greater Victoria

The Christmas Bureau of Greater Victoria is a volunteer-driven non-profit umbrella organization of agencies, groups and individuals providing assistance at Christmas to families who request help to make the season bright. If you know anyone who could use this help from Port Renfrew to Sidney, plus the southern Gulf Islands, please encourage them to apply. Christmas Bureau applications can be picked up and dropped off at food banks and non-profit organizations such as the Salvation Army or the Single Parent Resource Centre. Applications must be signed by the applicant and cannot be submitted on behalf of someone else. If you have questions about this process, or wish to sponsor a family for Christmas, please do not hesitate to contact **Mary Stocks** at the **Single Parent Resource Centre (385-1114)**.

Story Time

at
Esquimalt Branch Library
1231 Esquimalt Rd.
Family drop-in

Saturdays, 10:30 – 11:00 am
Sept. 24th – Dec. 3rd
No registration needed



Five Little Snowmen Rhyme

5 little snowmen sitting on the ground, (pat hands on floor)
the first one said; "oh my aren't we round." (make circle with arms)
The second one said; "there are snowflakes in the air." (wiggle fingers above head)
The third one said; "but we don't care." (shrug shoulders)
The fourth one said; "lets run and run and run. (pat hands quickly on the floor)
The fifth one said; "I'm ready for some fun." (smile)
Whew went the wind (blow)
and out came the sun (make circle with arms over head)
and the five little snowmen knew their fun was done. (pretend your melting)



Dear Day Care Providers,

We will be updating the stats for average fees charge by day cares during the months of November and December. If you have not updated your information recently please do so now. You can contact our office at 382-7000 and ask for Lisa (ext 234) or Shauna (ext 237). You can also email our office info@childcarevictoria.ca. We need to know what you charge for infants, toddlers, 3-5 year olds, kindergarten age children and school-aged children by the hour, by the day and by the months. This would also be a good opportunity to update your vacancies. Once collocated, this information will be posted on our web sited and in our January/February new-letter. Thank you for your co-operation.

**License Not Required
Orientation Evening**

Do you have friends that are thinking of opening up a day care? Have them join Frances for an evening of information regarding what it takes to become a licensed or licensed not required child care provider.

When: **Wednesday November 23, 2005**

Where: **602 Gorge Road East**

Time: **6:00 – 8:00 pm**

Are you interested in the child care business?

We are here to help!

Please RSVP Frances (250) 382 – 7000 Ex 223

Welcome New Members:

Sandra Betts, Camosun College, Carousel Child Care, Seaira Courtemande, Cridge Centre for the Family, Kristine Coleman, Fernwood Community, Krystal Fyall, Heidi Graham, Christina Hamill, Tanya Kendal, Little Friends, Cindy MacKay, Adele Morton, Nena Mullin, Donna Montgomery, Thoonakai Narendrabalan, Judy Pigeon, Louise O'Brien, Sally Rideout, Leslie Sochowski, Elaine Schofield, Gillian Schwartz, Brenda Sole, Rhonda Sylven, Deborah Turner, Sheila Woods, Secret Garden, Tsartlip Brighter Future

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Shauna Fraser
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GULF ISLAND

C/O/N/N/C/T/O/R

My new 2006 Visit Dates Poster will be available when I visit in November as I will not be making a trip to the Islands in December.

Here is a thought to share over the holiday season.

Our entire society is product oriented. If it is a tough assignment for us to stand steady on humanitarian value over the material, how much more difficult is it for the young.

Sue Spayth Riley

Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah from all of us, to all of you!

Frances

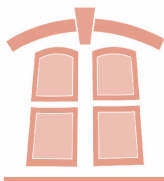
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**CHILD CARE
RESOURCE
& REFERRAL**

**SINGLE PARENT
RESOURCE CENTRE
— OF VICTORIA —**

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Lisa Yates, Shauna Fraser
The **CHILD CARE CONNECTER**
is written and published by

Victoria Child Care Resource & Referral.

We gratefully acknowledge the funding support of the provincial government.

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