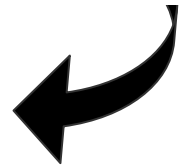


# The Connector



Volume 21, Issue 4

Winter 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

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## Coordinator's Message

Our to-do lists are almost done. We have decorated the office, produced our holiday resource packages, held our funders' tea, and we're sneaking around getting ready to be Secret Santas. Isn't the Christmas season just too much fun?

Enjoy our winter newsletter. We have included a fun and reflective page called, "7 Wishes and a Prayer". We decided to ask family for their input with this piece. Some of the responses were humorous and some will simply warm your heart.

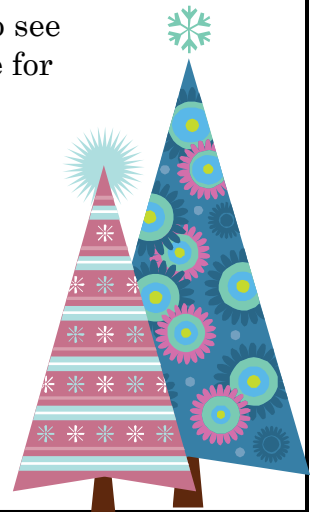
We have plenty of articles about safety. Mark your calendars for January 26 and be prepared to Shake Out with other British Columbians. This exercise may cause some worry and anxiety, but knowing what to do and knowing that your surrounding community is participating too, can alleviate some of those concerns.

Many congratulations are in order for our recent graduating class of Family Child Care Training. They were the first class of students to all successfully complete the course and to do it in record time! Raise a glass of eggnog to them!

Happy Holidays, Everyone! It was so wonderful to see everyone recently when they dropped by the office for a resource package. I appreciate the important work you do! Never underestimate how far reaching your influence will be for your children and their parents.

*Most Sincerely,*

*Belinda Macey, Program Coordinator*



# Winter

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Holiday Office Closure

Noon, Friday, December 24, 2010

To

Tuesday, January 4, 2011

January 6—Ephiphany

February 3— Chinese New Year

February 14— St. Valentine's Day

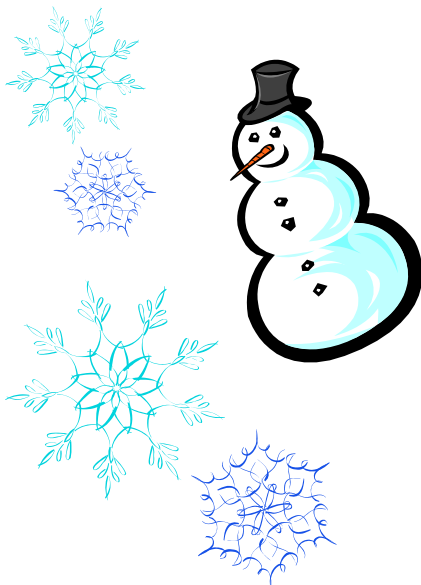
March 7—Orthodox Lent Begins

March 9— Ash Wednesday

March 13 Daylight Savings Time

March 17— St. Patrick's Day

March 20— Spring begins/ Purim



## 7 WISHES AND A PRAYER

### *From our respective family members!*

*When I asked my mother what would be her 3 wishes and a prayer, she immediately said "world peace". I told her she could not wish for world peace. She asked, "Why not?"*

*I told her because everybody says that. Her response was, "Wouldn't it be great if everybody paid attention to that?" Moms are always right.—Shauna Fraser*

*My Prayer would be that people would come to understand the TRUE meaning of Christmas.*

*My wish would be that everyone has a wonderful, relaxing and Safe Christmas holiday.*

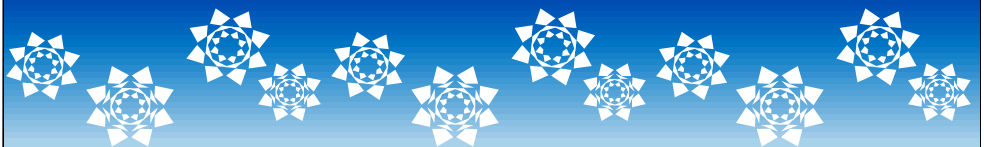
*My wish would be for Health and Happiness and many Blessings in 2011.—Shirley Hughes, Lisa Yate's mom*

*One wish would be to see my family healthy and happy for the upcoming year.*

*Another wish would be for someone in the family to win the lottery! —Ann Macey, Belinda Macey's mom*

*My wish is for continued good health for myself and all of my family—Shirley Klassen, Patsy Dutton's sister.*

*My wish is for everyone to enjoy the comfort and warmth of family this holiday season— Patty Dzioba, Danielle Dzioba's mom.*



## EMERGING PLAN FOR AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF EARLY CARE AND LEARNING IN BC

On Saturday, November 27 the Victoria Early Years community had the wonderful opportunity to attend a Briefing Session planned for the south Vancouver Island region. Child care providers and educators came together to welcome, hear, and dialogue with three advocates from Vancouver. Emily Mliczko and Charlene Gray, from the Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC), and Rita Chudnovsky, from the Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC (CCCABC), brought their collective wisdom and understanding to engage in an informative and provocative morning.

We began the morning with a continental breakfast and networking time. Participants expressed their gratitude for the delicious food and beverages, the opportunities to see old colleagues, the chance to make new connections, and the graciousness shown by our hosts, the local chapter of ECEBC. Participants had the opportunity to learn about ECEBC and become a member with the local chapter.

At ten o'clock we were ushered into the sanctuary. Michelle Gilmour welcomed our guests and gave a nod to the Success By 6 funding that paid for the breakfast and the beautiful facility. Our three advocates each presented highlights of the Plan, using Powerpoint and voice. Each participant had received a copy of the Briefing Note upon entry in the morning. A show of hands indicated that 50% of people had received a copy of the Plan and read it in advance of the session.

The presentation was informative, thoughtful, concise, and provocative. There was plenty of content, although some details that pertained to specific child care situations, education, and funding would still need community input and dialogue. The advocates reinforced their openness for feedback and input. The Plan wants to be inclusive and respectful of all those working with children in the early years. There are many pieces to still fit into the puzzle.

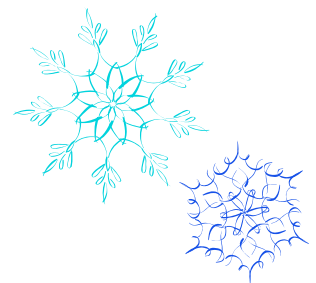
There was a lot of appreciation expressed to the advocates for beginning the process to have an integrated system of care and learning for our children. There were also anxieties and concerns expressed too. Hopefully some of these concerns were alleviated by the advocates' knowledge of the Plan.

There were 120 participants on that glorious day. I was pleased to see so many educators invested and interested in where they could fit and how they could support this new Plan. I heard many women of my age state that they probably would not be working when a Plan such as this becomes part of our Early Years scene in BC. My wish is for all of the younger educators to be a part of the conversation and implementation of the Plan, however it morphs and changes.

Rest assured that with great change comes great challenges. We have a long way to go to reach a final Plan that will satisfy as many ideas as are generated. Please be part of the solution for an Integrated Early Care and Learning Plan for our province.

Sincerely,

Belinda Macey, Coordinator



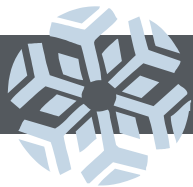
# FCCT GRADUATES OF 2010



Congratulations to all of our Family Child Care Training graduates! This class gets special distinction as it is the first class of Family Child Care Training where **all** participants completed the course requirements and graduated!

<i>Boom Caverhill</i>	<i>Cara Hilditch</i>	<i>Risara Piyo</i>	<i>Kristy Falconer</i>	<i>Andrea Zacharak</i>
<i>Sarah Bains</i>	<i>Renee Sabai-Vallie</i>	<i>Meaghan Playle</i>	<i>Dianne Hudson</i>	
<i>Mary Charbonneau</i>	<i>Leslie Jeal</i>	<i>Naomi Ridout</i>	<i>Nicole Michaud</i>	

# ECEBC NEWS



The **Victoria Branch of ECEBC** is proud to report we have a new brochure to compliment our upcoming Membership Drive. Join us at our next General Meeting, Wednesday, January 26, at 7:00 p.m. at the Victoria CCRR to renew your membership or to become a new member. We have increased our numbers over the year thanks in part to the concept of the *Associate Membership*, where anyone working front line with children can belong to our local chapter for only \$10.00. Please feel free to contact us at [ecebc.victoria@gmail.com](mailto:ecebc.victoria@gmail.com) for more information.

We will be hosting our **Annual Winter Conference** on Saturday, March 5, 2011. Watch for registration in the New Year. This is always a great day to meet, hear new concepts & share great ideas. We look forward to connecting with you in the New Year & until then, Happy Holidays everyone!



**ECEBC** | early childhood  
educators of BC

# SVIFCCA WORKSHOPS

**January 27th, 2011**

*Telling it How It Is!- Supporting Young Children's Movement Skillfulness with Language*

Presented by Dr. Vivienne Temple & Dr. Alison Preece

**February 24th, 2011**

*Epilepsy and Seizures*

Presented by Lissa Zala



SVIFCCA hosts workshops every fourth Thursday of the month at North Douglas Pentecostal Church (675 Jolly Pl). Doors open at 6:45pm. See their website at [www.svifcca.com](http://www.svifcca.com) for more information.

## RIP TRIPLE STROLLERS

It is with some trepidation that we announce our triple strollers have reached their life expectancy. Since the early 1990's our "triples" have been a special part of the CCRR infant and toddler equipment items to borrow. We know that they have taxied more children to our glorious parks and green spaces. I wonder how many collective miles they have made over the almost 20 years in service? However, this does not mean that we are no longer offering *any* strollers for use. We still have our side-by-side double jogger strollers, as well as our new and immaculate Pack 'n Play cribs. Please contact us if you would like to borrow one. (250) 382-7000.



## SHAKEOUT BC

On January 26, 2011, CCRR will "Drop, Cover and Hold on!" along with thousands of other British Columbians as part of BC's largest ever earthquake drill. This drill is designed to bring awareness to the fact that British Columbia is very seismically active. All British Columbians should be prepared as the threat of an earthquake, major or minor, is very real. You too can get your centre involved! Introducing children to methods of keeping themselves safe during an earthquake is highly beneficial. For more information on how to register your child care facility please go to: [http://www.shakeoutbc.ca/downloads/ShakeOutChildrensCentres\\_3.pdf](http://www.shakeoutbc.ca/downloads/ShakeOutChildrensCentres_3.pdf)



## SUBSIDY

The Child Care Subsidy Program has grown from 50, 116 children receiving child care subsidy in 2008/09 to 52, 782 in 2009/10.

This figure represents children who received subsidy at any time during the fiscal year.

Program expenditures also grew from \$144 million in 2008/09 to over \$148 million in 2009/10.

## HELMET SAFETY

With the winter season in full swing it's a good idea to remember that, as with summer activities (biking, skateboarding etc.), winter activities such as snowboarding, sledding and skiing also require protective helmets. Children are constantly growing, so you may also need to purchase a new helmet when buying new sports or recreation equipment.

Tips on finding a well fitting helmet for your child:

- Only 1 finger should fit between their chin and the fastened straps
- The straps should be snug and feel tight when their mouth is open
- Have them shake their head up and down, side to side to ensure it is snug fitting.
- Ensure the helmet has a safety sticker (CSA, ASTM, CPSC, NOSCAE etc.)
- Check often for dents, frayed straps, or cracks
- Wear a helmet and enjoy the ride!



# Community Statistics



<u>September 2010</u>		<u>October 2010</u>		<u>November 2010</u>	
Age at which care is required		Age at which care is required		Age which care is required	
Infant	81	Infant	64	Infant	76
Toddler	44	Toddler	34	Toddler	48
3-5	38	3-5	18	3-5	29
School aged	10	School aged	6	School aged	5
Type of care preferred:		Type of care preferred		Type of care preferred	
LNR	9	LNR	9	LNR	14
FCC	20	FCC	14	FCC	23
GDC	18	GDC	16	GDC	28
Preschool	3	Preschool	2	Preschool	6
Out of School	10	Out of School	2	Out of School	5
All types	111	All types	84	All types	99
Municipality care was requested		Municipality care was requested		Municipality care was requested	
Victoria	78	Victoria	58	Victoria	67
Oak Bay	16	Oak Bay	16	Oak Bay	19
Saanich E	52	Saanich E.	40	Saanich E.	58
Saanich W	47	Saanich W.	33	Saanich W.	49
Esquimalt/Vic West	35	Esquimalt/Vic West	19	Esquimalt/Vic West	27
View Royal	22	View Royal	14	View Royal	11
Central Sa.	8	Central Sa.	12	Central Sa.	14
North Sa.	6	North Sa.	8	North Sa.	8
Sidney	6	Sidney	8	Sidney	9
Gulf Islands	1	Gulf Islands	0	Gulf Islands	1

# CAR SEAT WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS

In the November 25 issue of the Globe and Mail, an article entitled “Parents: Turn those kids around” detailed the new maximum weight restrictions for car seats, as issued by Transport Canada. **Are you aware that the weight restrictions have gone from 22kg to 30kg for child car seats, and from 9kg to 10kg for infant seats?** If not, Transport Canada’s website provides excellent information regarding the proper weight and height for car seats, as well as the proper way children should be strapped into them. According to ICBC’s website, an average of 1,400 children under the age of 9 are injured, and 4 are killed in motor vehicle crashes each year. Their research shows that a child safety seat that is used correctly greatly reduces the risk of fatality by 70% and risk of serious injury by 67%. It is up to you as a care provider or parent to determine whether you have the correct type of car seat for a child. Any car seat or booster should not be used past their expiry date; especially if it is previously owned. Sunlight can fade important labels, and weaken plastic, the history of a car seat that has expired is hard to check, which, much like buying a used car, is detrimental as you can never be too sure how the person has stored it or if it has been in an accident. BCAA offers workshops on how to install car seats properly. Please go to <http://www.tsfbcaa.com/11.aspx> or [www.tc.gc.ca](http://www.tc.gc.ca) for more information.



## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Welcome to all of those who have registered with us in the past 3 months!

*Bettina Johnson (RLNR)*

*Stacey Hunniford (RLNR-Supported Child Development)*

*Labonde Multi-age Care Centre*

*Jennifer Mucciolo (RLNR)*

*Katherine Ritchie (RLNR-Supported Child Development)*

*Little Acorn Child Care Centre*

*Natrishka Pather (RLNR)*

*Lesley Weisgerber (RLNR-Supported Child Development)*

*Whale Spirit Early Enrichment Centre*

*Samara Zotzman (RLNR)*



### 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](http://www.childcarevictoria.ca)

[www.islandfamilyinfo.ca](http://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

