

Practice with Babies & Toddlers

An Intensive and a Conference for ECE
Professionals

June 22 & 23, 2023: *Responsive Practice with Babies and Toddlers: A Two-Day Intensive* with Zsuzsa Libertiny of the Pikler Institute, at Royal Roads University

June 24, 2023: *Reflecting on Practice with Babies and Toddlers: Thinking with Emmi Pikler's Ideas: A Conference*, at Camosun College, Lansdowne Campus



In partnership with Victoria Childcare Resource & Referral, Camosun
College & Royal Roads University

Two invitations to think care-fully about our work with babies....

We are presenting two events that offer an opportunity to gather and think deeply about how we care for babies and toddlers. Providing responsive, thoughtful care for our youngest citizens is complex. We need to continually reflect on the work we do as Infant-Toddler educators.

The first event is a two-day intensive with Zsuzsa Libertiny, Executive Pedagogue at the Pikler Day Care Centre in Budapest, Hungary on June 22-23—*Responsive Practice with Babies and Toddlers*.

The second is a conference on Saturday June 24, when we have a variety of workshops and a keynote by Zsuzsa—*Reflecting on Our Practice with Babies and Toddlers*. You are welcome to sign up for one or both of these events.

We have been grateful for the support of the ECE Professional Development Bursary Fund. Because of their generous support we can bring Zsuzsa here from Hungary and keep the cost for the intensive and conference reasonable. We are also able to offer help for attendance from all corners of our province through a travel subsidy. Details are included in this brochure.

We are so happy to welcome Zsuzsa Libertiny here. She is from the Pikler Institute which has worked with Emmi Pikler's ideas about responsive, respectful and reciprocal care for babies and toddlers for many years. Through video, discussion, and reflection she will help us re-imagine our practice. For this workshop we will be in Hatley Castle at Royal Roads University overlooking the Esquimalt Lagoon. Lunches will be provided, along with muffins, fruit and beverages to begin the day.

On Saturday, Zsuzsa will give the keynote and there will be four workshops to choose from. Each one will be offered once in the morning and once in the afternoon. Participants will be able to choose two of the workshops. This event will be held at Camosun College, Lansdowne Campus and lunch will be provided, along with morning coffee and muffins.

We have been generously supported by our ECE community in organizing these events. Camosun College, Royal Roads University and Victoria Child Care Resource and Referral offered support and services for which we are grateful: it does take a community to raise a child.

We look forward to welcoming you to Victoria at a beautiful time of year!

On behalf of the organizing committee,

Enid Elliot, PhD, Instructor in Early Learning and Care, Camosun College

We acknowledge with respect and gratitude that we will be gathering on the traditional territories of the Esquimalt, Songhees, and WSANEC Nations.



Registration

June 22 & 23, 2023: *Responsive Practice with Babies and Toddlers: An Intensive* with Zsuzsa Libertiny of the Pikler Institute, at Royal Roads University

General admission \$100

Discounted admission* \$50

Register at: <https://www.childcarevictoria.org/june-22-23-registration-form/>

June 24, 2023: *Reflecting on Practice with Babies and Toddlers: Thinking with Emmi Pikler's Ideas: A conference*, at Camosun College Lansdowne Campus

General admission \$100

Discounted admission* \$50

Register at: <https://www.childcarevictoria.org/june-24th-registration-form/>

Travel bursaries are available

Those with a VO or V1 postal code, or who identify as First Nation, Metis or Inuit living anywhere in BC, are eligible for travel & accommodation bursaries. Please reach out to infanttoddlervictoria@gmail.com to find out more about how we can assist you in joining us!

Refund Policy

Refunds are available until Friday, June 2nd, minus a \$25 administrative fee. After this date, fees are non refundable.

You may have someone else attend in your place if you are unable to attend the conference. Email infanttoddlervictoria@gmail.com by June 20th at 4:30 PM with the name and email address of the new participant and the workshops you have registered for.

For more information, please email infanttoddlervictoria@gmail.com

** Discounted admission is available to those who are currently working directly on the floor with infants and toddlers. Not applicable to those primarily in administrative roles. Please provide a letter in pdf form (detailing your place of employment and your role) from the program manager during the registration process.*

Intensive Location

Hatley Castle at Royal Roads University
Drawing Room
2005 Sooke Road
Victoria BC V9B 5Y2

Pay parking is in effect in all Royal Roads parking lots. A valid pass must be displayed in your vehicle. Day passes cost \$8

hatleypark.ca

Conference Location

Camosun College Lansdowne Campus
Wilna Thomas Building
3100 Foul Bay Rd
Victoria BC V8P 5J2

Pay parking is in effect at the Lansdowne campus. A valid pass must be displayed in your vehicle, parked in the north Visitor parking lot. Day passes cost \$6.50

camosun.ca

Responsive Practice with Babies & Toddlers: A Two-Day Intensive

Hosted by Royal Roads University

During our Thursday and Friday Two-Day Intensive Event, Zsuzsa will share with us Piklerian ideas of the role of free movement, free play and care in a child's social growth and well-being. She will use videos from the Pikler Day Care for participants to analyze and discuss. We will consider together what responsive and thoughtful care for infants and toddlers might mean.

Zsuzsa Libertiny - Pikler pedagogue

Executive pedagogue of the Pikler Day-Care Center, President of the Pikler-Lóczy Association Hungary, Zsuzsa Libertiny became closely acquainted with the Piklerian ideas with the birth of her first child in 1994. Libertiny became an employee of the Pikler Institute in 2002, responsible for programs for the families and Parent-Child groups. She left Lóczy for a few years to work in Canada supporting newly-immigrated parents with young children. After her return to the Lóczy team, she resumed her previous role, as well as joining the Pikler Day-Care Center as part of the direction and the methodological team. Since 2009 Zsuzsa regularly gives workshops and presents at conferences.

Time & Location

This two-day intensive will be located on the grounds of Royal Roads University, in Hatley Castle, which is part of the National Historic Site that the University is situated on.

The intensive will run from 9:30 am - 3:30 pm on both Thursday and Friday.

Lunch

Lunch will be provided and you'll have a chance to explore the beautiful gardens around the historic Hatley Castle.



Reflecting on our Practice with Babies & Toddlers: One-Day Conference

Hosted by Camosun College, Lansdowne Campus

Keynote

Zsuzsa will share how free movement and free play are intertwined as children grow and make meaning of the world. Based on observations done at the Pikler Institute she will discuss some overlooked aspects of self-initiated activity and how they contribute to the complexity of the child's development.

Workshops

There will be four different workshops, each offered twice: before and after lunch. When you register, you must list the workshops you wish to attend.

Time & Location

This conference will be located in Wilna Thomas Building at the Lansdowne Campus of Camosun College, and will run from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Lunch

Lunch will be provided and you'll have a chance to network with other infant/toddler caregivers.



Workshop A

In Conversation with Sheila and Danielle

In this session, a conversation of inquiry and sharing of two educator perspectives in respectful Aboriginal ways of knowing in supporting babies, families and community in practice. We will share some Cowichan (Coast Salish) and Nehiyawak (Cree) traditions to start the discussion and invite everyone to consider the influences of their own culture, specifically in thinking about land, plants, language and family relationships.

Through meaningful conversations, we will uncover ethics, protocols and a compassionate understanding of the resurgence of Indigenous teachings within early childhood from our experiences and the joy of bringing cultural teachings intertwined and rooted in baby development.

***Danielle Alphonse* ECE, BA CYC, MA Ed, Ph.D Candidate, Vanier Scholar**

My name is Danielle Alphonse ~ Qwul'stun'a'wat is my traditional name passed down from my late grandmother Philomena Alphonse. My grandparents are late Philomena Alphonse & Dennis Alphonse, on my dad's side Olwen Mc Neil and late Bill Mc Neil and late Donna Galloway and late Charles Galloway. My parents are Lucy Galloway, and my two fathers Doug Regan and David Galloway. I am the oldest of three sisters and I am the oldest grandchild in my family. I am Cowichan & Irish on my mother's side and Kahnawake, Welsh, Scottish on my father's side. I am currently in my tenth year as the BC Regional Innovation Chair for Aboriginal Early Childhood Development at Vancouver Island University. Also, I teach in the Early Childhood Education and Care program. My educational background is: Early Childhood Education, Child and Youth Care, and Education. Currently working on my Interdisciplinary doctorate (CYC & Education) at University of Victoria. My doctorate is about Indigenous spiritual development and holistic ways of assessment in the early years. Sheila Grieve, ECE, BPE, BA, MAIS

I am grateful to the Snuneymuxw people on whose unceded traditional territory I currently learn, live and work. As a member of the Metis Nation, I commit to the concept of Kaa-Wiichihitoyaahk, taking care of each other. I am a professor in the department of Early Childhood Education and Care at Vancouver Island University and am interested in land based learning with a special focus on plants and our connections to plants.

Sheila Grieve, ECE, BPE, BA, MAIS

I am grateful to the Snuneymuxw people on whose unceded traditional territory I currently learn, live and work. As a member of the Metis Nation, I commit to the concept of Kaa-Wiichihitoyaahk, taking care of each other. I am a professor in the department of Early Childhood Education and Care at Vancouver Island University and am interested in land based learning with a special focus on plants and our connections to plants

Workshop B

Baby ecology: care environments to support connection and learning in a busy, distracted world

In this workshop, let's imagine what our environments and practices, in centers and at home, look and feel like from a baby's perspective. We will draw upon recent studies on learning and bonding and Emmi Pikler's concepts of infant competence and respectful care.

Anya Dunham, PhD, ecologist and author

I am a research scientist and a mom of three young children. I have a PhD in Biology and study ecology: the ways living things relate to one another and interact with their environment. One of my strengths, in work and in life, is connecting seemingly unconnected pieces of knowledge. In my award-winning book, *Baby Ecology*, I look at child development research through the lens of my scientific field to help parents create the most nurturing environment for their babies.

Workshop C

Creating Environments to Influence Positive Behaviour with Infants and Toddlers

In this workshop we will examine and discuss the many ways environment can influence behaviors in an Early Childhood setting. Together we will explore philosophies and theories to (re)consider ideas of not only Physical, but also Temporal and Chronological spaces. We will engage in conversations of how these impact children and educators interactions. Through images, videos and lived experiences we will develop strategies and ideas to successfully enhance our spaces and curriculum.

Ward Nakata

Ward lives and works on the Musqueam lands in Richmond with his wife (also an Early Childhood Educator) and his two children. He has been actively working in the Childcare Sector for over 30 years. He had been on the Board of Directors for ECEBC for 6 years and is currently one of the managers at The Seedlings Early Childhood Development Hub

Workshop D

Security, Autonomy and Freedom, as the Cornerstones of Growth: Accompanying the Free Play Activity of Infants and Toddlers in Pikler Pedagogy

Emmi Pikler's approach to early care and learning sees the infant as competent to communicate with their environment from earlier after birth. Therefore, this pedagogy is based on a respectful and trust-filled relationship between an adult and infant through tactful care moments when all their needs are met with in-tuned attention and responsiveness. In the early years of development, it is primarily a personal and constant relationship in which they are cared for and thought of as individuals whose well-being matters to the other. This creates a safe place for the infant in which they can experience their competence to have the freedom to express themselves, develop in their rhythm, explore their environment and unfold their abilities. As an educator, the adult fosters the child's naturally paced motor development, free movement and uninterrupted play by accompanying them and setting up a thoughtfully designed environment. The workshop explores and presents for early childhood educators some of the pedagogical practices elaborated by the Pikler approach over several decades. Security, Autonomy and Freedom, as the Cornerstones of Growth: Accompanying the Free Play Activity of Infants and Toddlers in Pikler Pedagogy

Eszter Csillag is a Psychologist, Infant-Parent Relational Consultant and an Early Childhood Educator Assistant. She completed her studies (MA) in Psychology at the University of R.C. Karoli Gaspar Budapest. She was introduced to Pikler Pedagogy as she started working and completing her training with Lóczy Association for Children and Emmi Pikler Daycare Centre in Hungary (2015). Ester gained experience facilitating parent-infant groups at the Pikler House, supporting parents and ECEs at other daycare centres, and a culturally diverse international nursery and preschool in Budapest. She moved to Canada a few years ago; she is still working with the Pikler-team to conduct a descriptive study about ECEs' practices of accompanying children's free play activities.