

# YMCA CCRR Newsletter

## February 2023

Thank you for checking out our newsletter! Within these next few pages, you'll find information about our program updates, child care news, articles of interest, and information about programs and events for families. We hope you find this information helpful to your early learning practices!

### YMCA CCRR PROGRAM UPDATES

We are busily getting ready for our annual YMCA CCRR Early Learning & Child Care Conference! This sold out event is near and dear to our hearts, and we excitedly await seeing those of you who will be joining us! If you'd like to learn more about our conference or need a reminder about the details of the day, please see our conference brochure [here](#).



Guess what? On January 24th, the YMCA Child Care Resource and Referral started hosting a Family Drop-in Program at the brand-new Bettie Allard YMCA! This will be a regularly scheduled family drop-in, and families are invited to join us for mornings of play and learning experiences in a warm and welcoming environment. To learn more about the hours and location of the drop-in program, please visit [here](#). We hope you join us!

If you haven't yet filled out our annual [program evaluation survey](#), please do so. It should only take you about five minutes to complete and if you do, you'll be entered for a chance to win two, FREE workshops! Please let us know your feedback and thoughts about our YMCA Child Care Resource and Referral program. It matters to us greatly and helps guide our planning and decision making going forth. We value your feedback!

In need of workshops for your ECE license renewal? If so, check out our [Winter 2023 Training Schedule](#)! We offer a variety of training that is both online and in-person, and we have start times ranging from evenings to Saturday mornings. Head on over to register at [myymca.ca](http://myymca.ca) to register and join us!

Do you know about our [YMCA CCRR Self-paced Online Workshops](#)? These are free workshops (training certificates provided) for professional development hours to use towards your training needs. Some of the workshops you can find on our online portal vary from Respectful Caregiving – Seeing Children as Capable and Competent, Literacy Beyond Worksheets, and The Impact of the Environment in Child Care. [Go check out the rest!](#)

If you haven't yet check out our, [Winter Seasonal Resource](#) sheet, give it a look! It's full of activities, artwork, and songs to help harness in your program planning for the months ahead. In need of further ideas? Our libraries are bursting with resources that are aimed at every season and holiday. Come visit us!

Just in case you missed it last year, ECE students, our lending library has had some changes to better fit your needs! If you are living in our child care provider areas of the Burnaby, New Westminster, Tri-Cities, Anmore and/or Belcarra you can now borrow from our Early Learning Lending Library regardless of where your ECE program is located. Please see our updated [Toy and Resource Library User Guide](#) to find out more information about this change.

# CHILD CARE NEWS

## Tri-Cities

1130 C Austin Ave.  
Coquitlam, B.C.  
T: 604-931-3400  
E: [ygy.ccr@bc.ymca.ca](mailto:ygy.ccr@bc.ymca.ca)

## Burnaby/New Westminster

4460 Beresford St.  
Burnaby, B.C.  
T: 604-294-1109  
E: [ygy.ccr@bc.ymca.ca](mailto:ygy.ccr@bc.ymca.ca)

## New West. Satellite

10 -620 Royal Ave.  
New Westminster, B.C.  
T: 604-931-3400  
E: [ygy.ccr@bc.ymca.ca](mailto:ygy.ccr@bc.ymca.ca)

Visit us!

The latest [ChildCareBC Bulletin](#) brings our attention to:

- 2022 Intake for \$10 a Day ChildCareBC
- Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative expansion to preschool and school-age care
- 2023 ChildCareBC Awards of Excellence – Call for nominations open
- Child Care Provider Appreciation Day – open survey

Past Editions of the ChildCareBC Bulletin can be found [here](#).

NEW! [September 2023 Preschool and School-Age expansion of CCFRI](#):

- the Child Care Fee Reduction will be expanded to include children enrolled in licensed preschools and children in Grade 1 to age 12.
- beginning September 1, 2023, families at participating licensed preschools and school-age child care facilities will receive fee reductions of up to \$145 per month per child.
- child care providers can apply to the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative starting on January 31, 2023. Facilities offering licensed preschool and child care for children in Grade 1 and up are encouraged to apply early so that by September 2023, even more families will see meaningful reductions in their child care fees.

NEW! [My ChildCareBC Services](#): Starting January 31, providers can use the new My ChildCareBC Services platform to apply for funding starting April 1 for Child Care Operating Funding, the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative, and the ECE Wage Enhancement.

NEW! Updated guidelines have been released on ChildCareBC's website:

- [2023/24 ECE-WE Funding Guidelines](#)
- [2023/24 CCFRI Funding Guidelines](#)

Updates to the [2023/2024 ECE-CFI Funding Guidelines](#) Include:

- *Provide the parents of any newly enrolled child in writing, details around your approved participation in CCFRI.*
- *You must advise parents of enrolled children of any relevant information to this Agreement in the form and frequency directed by us in writing.*
- *The status of, or results of any investigation by the Ministry into your compliance decreasing Parent Fees and/or distributing ECE Wage Enhancement Funding in accordance with this Agreement can be released to the public.*

[ChildCareBC Awards of Excellence](#): Do you know a child care provider who is going above and beyond to help children achieve their best? Nominations for the 2023 ChildCareBC Awards of Excellence are now open.

[Child Care Provider Appreciation Day – open survey](#): ChildCareBC invites child care professionals, providers, staff, parents, and the greater child care community to vote for their preferred day for this year's Child Care Provider Appreciation Day.

NEW! [Autism and Neurodiversity in Early Childcare](#): Free Self-Paced Online Program. This program is designed to assist childcare providers, early childhood educators, preschool teachers, parents and anyone interested in inclusive childcare to learn practical strategies on how to support young children with developmental disabilities, including autism (diagnosed or undiagnosed) in the early childcare setting. In fact, the strategies presented in these modules can help any child thrive in their early years!



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# Early Learning Library Corner

Exciting resources in our Early Learning Lending Library!

## Discover Loose Parts #36183



Loose parts play encourages children to be creative, and helps them develop skills such as critical thinking and problem-solving. Loose parts also allow children to understand cause and effect as they build and play, discovering what works and what doesn't. This helps grow children's confidence, as they can choose how to play – there is no right or wrong way. Loose parts give children the chance to explore, experiment, learn, and have fun!

## Lighthouse #33164



Build a sturdy, cheerful tower with this colorful lighthouse! Stacking is important in fostering motor skills and hand-eye coordination. The wood waves can be used as part of the open-ended play, and your little ones can count and explore the stars. Whisk us away to the seaside!

## Gears and Puzzles #19957



This enchanting puzzle encourages creative play and problem solving. Children will learn cause and effect as they observe what happens when they turn the gear-shaped puzzle pieces. Made from ecofriendly, safe and sustainable PlanWood

## Pastel Steps #50028



Create magical, little worlds with fantastic architecture using this next resource (pictured: two stair elements to make the roof line)! Anything can be climbed now with these colourful stepping stairs. Build your own cities with imaginative engineering, combining stairs, blocks and figures. Create worlds of your own imagination!

Our [Early Learning Resource Library webpage](#) hosts many helpful resources, such as the YMCA CCRR online library portal, digital lending library agreement form, and a photo catalogue of resources. [Go see!](#)

## ARTICLES OF INTEREST



Policy Options - Building an anti-racist child-care system in Canada: "In 2021, a Montreal daycare flagged a three-year-old Black child for "troubling behaviour," deciding to call Quebec's youth protection services before having a meeting with the child's parents. The parents – both of whom had previously received only positive feedback about their son from daycare staff – were shocked."

ECEBC - Media Release: Findings from the recent report "Evaluation of Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy" in British Columbia are now available: The Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC) is pleased to share the Evaluation of the Early Care and Learning Recruitment and Retention Strategy in British Columbia, Evaluation Report. Funding for this report was provided through the Canada-British Columbia Labour Market Development Agreement.

Vancouver Sun - Some B.C. daycares limiting hours, turning away kids because of staff shortages: "In the past two years, we've had to close programs temporarily, whether it's for a day or two, or shorten hours for the week ... in order to meet the licensing regulations for ratios and also the qualifications that are required for those specific programs, especially in infant and toddler care. In some cases, after-school care was suspended because staff was sick. We have significant wait lists for certain age groups, and we would like to expand but we can't consider that right now with ... the recruitment and retention issues," Merton said."

*The mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be kindled.*

*- Plutarch*

## FAMILY RESOURCES

Are you looking for drop-in programs to attend during the day with children that are aged 0-5? If so, we've got you covered with up-to-date program lists that span our provider communities!

- [New Westminster Drop-In Programs](#)
- [Tri-Cities Drop-In Programs](#)

Burnaby's drop-in sheet is due to be released soon by Burnaby's Early Childhood Development table, Kids in Burnaby. Check [here](#) for updates!



Did you know that our YMCA CCRR has a family resource program and a family drop-in program? Both our [Circle of Friends](#) family resource program and [Bettie Allard](#) family drop-In program provide children with opportunities to socialize, learn new skills, explore art activities, sing songs, enjoy stories, and more! Resources are additionally made available to learn more about child development, parenting issues and the supports available to you in your community. Join us!



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# EVENTS

## Burnaby

- Stride Burnaby Arts Festival: Proudly hosted by North Burnaby Neighbourhood House, Stride continues to build community through the arts from February 3-12. With the 2023 theme of CONNECTIONS Stride offers online and onstage performances, community art displays, artist talks, discussion panels, workshops, demos and more! Don't miss the Stride Art at the Shadbolt extended exhibition running from February 3 – March 3.
- Cupid Toonie Skate: On February 11th, bring your sweetheart to enjoy ice skating, face painting and valentine crafts. Admission is \$2 per person, free for children three years and under. Skates and helmet are included in the admission fee.



## New Westminster

- Seedy Saturday NWPL: Join us at the New West Public Library to launch our Seed Library at a festive Seedy Saturday! Mini-lectures, seed sharing, kids' activities, garden gear swap, ask-a-gardener, food trucks, door prizes and don't forget to check out the new Seed Library!
- Family Day Weekend: Piece together an adventure with your family Feb. 18 - 20! Suggested activities will provide a fun opportunity for families to create, discover, get active, and try something new. There will be activities for families of all shapes and sizes, and everything is free! Registration opens Feb. 2 at 8:30 am for New Westminster Residents.

## Tri-Cities

- Spread Love - Valentine's Card Making: Join us on February 11th at Mackin House to make a card for a senior resident at Foyer Maillard! Help us to spread love to our community seniors by making a Valentine's Day card that will be hand delivered by our staff. Learn about a resident at Foyer Maillard, create a special card just for them and fill out a sheet about you so they can learn about you too.
- Black History Month Family Day: Celebrate the dynamic and varied cultures of the African diaspora in Coquitlam and the Lower Mainland during our 4th annual Black History Month Family Day! On February 18th come dance, craft, visit with neighbours, and enjoy amazing foods together in community. Listen to bands representing a variety of African musical traditions and styles, visit booths from community partners, enjoy African inspired treats, face painting, balloon animals, and even take selfies with a princess! This free family event welcomes everyone to uplift Black histories and culture in our city.

*Additional events for the lower mainland can be found at: [Vancouver Mom](#) & [FamilyFunVancouver](#).*

## The YMCA Child Care Resource and Referral is here to help!

- Child Care and Community Referrals
- Affordable Child Care Benefit information and support with the application process
- Information on becoming a Licensed or Registered Child Care Provider
- Available start-up funding for Child Care Providers
- Curbside pick-up and drop-off of Early Learning Resources

*Contact us!*



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