



YMCA CCRR Newsletter

October 2023



Welcome to our October 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

This November 8th, 2023, from 4-7PM, we're offering a FREE online webinar with Dr. Ross Greene. Come join us to learn about Collaborative and Proactive Solutions to Challenging Behaviour. Greene's methods of problem solving with children are innovative, evidence based, and trauma informed. All participants will receive a three-hour professional development certificate and we'd love to see you there. Head on over to myymca.ca and register to join us!



Guess what? We are now serving light meals to our attendees prior to our in-person workshops! So, if you need any workshops or training, go check out our [Fall 2023 Professional Development!](#) We've got fantastic, low-cost professional development and learning opportunities for both childcare providers and families alike. Need online or in-person? Evenings or Saturday mornings? We've got both! Head on over to myymca.ca and register today.

In need of program planning support for the Fall months ahead? If so, give our [Fall Seasonal Resource Sheet](#) a peek! If you need ideas about activities to try and resources you can borrow from our program to help supplement your curricula, it's got you covered.

Do you have a profile at our online workshop registration site, myymca.ca? If so, we kindly ask that you please ensure your profile is up to date. Having your correct phone number and email on hand means we can always reach you with any workshop or networking updates, and it additionally lets us guarantee your professional certificates will always make their way to you. Here's the direct link to the [profile edit page](#) (it'll ask you to log-in). We appreciate your help in this regard

Did you know that we have an [online catalog](#) dedicated to the pictures of all our early learning resources throughout our office locations? It's sorted by type and age category, and it's a great way for you to get a quick idea about the early learning resources our library has available. If you're interested in borrowing any, let us know!

Our self-paced online workshops will soon be migrating to a new platform, [YMCA Ignite](#). To help ease the transition on your end, please take a few quick minutes to [create an account](#) on YMCA Ignite so you'll have easy access to these workshops in the future when you need them. Please additionally ensure all your [completed workshop certificates](#) have been received/downloaded from our YMCA CCRR Learning Portal prior to its migration to YMCA Ignite.

CHILD CARE NEWS

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

- Updated child care guidance is available from the B.C. Centre for Disease Control
- Now Available: Appetite to Play online workshops
- New Resource: Cannabis Poisoning Stakeholder Toolkit
- ChildCareBC Awards of Excellence spotlight: Julie Hutchinson
- Reminder: Grants are available to help international and francophone ECEs join B.C.'s child care sector
- Reminder: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is on September 30
- Update: Severe wildfire and drought conditions throughout British Columbia

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

BC Gov News - [Child care savings make returning to school more affordable for more B.C. families](#): "Starting Sept. 1, 2023, families with children in eligible half-day preschool and before- and after-school programs will save as much as an additional \$145 per child, per month. The Province is providing the funding directly to participating child care centres so families do not need to apply to receive the savings."

Child Care BC: Additional resource sheets about these changes:

- [Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative - Key Messages for CCRRs](#)
- [CCFRI Rates for Preschool and School-Age Care](#)

BC Centre for Disease Control - [Public Health Guidance for Communicable Disease Management in Child Care Settings](#): The BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) has updated its public health guidance for communicable diseases in child care settings

BC Gov News - [Grants will help international, francophone educators join child care sector](#): Early childhood professionals educated in languages other than English will have reduced costs and more support to become certified to work in British Columbia's child care sector, as a result of financial support to translate educational documents into English.

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Visit us!





Early Learning Library Corner



The Early Learning Resource Library acknowledges the importance of building stronger and respectful relationships with Indigenous Peoples. Our collection of resources encourage conversations that address cultural sensitivity while fostering a sense of empathy with Indigenous communities.



15005 Bald Eagle

This wooden life-size replica of an eagle's egg promotes visual and tactile exploration for children. It sparks children and educator's curiosity and interest. Have a conversation with children about what they represent and how they can be used as a tool to promote peace, empathy, and understanding.



08729 Sharing Our world

Discover animals of the Northwest Coast through books and puppets! Share with young children a little ancestral wisdom about wild animals and how we can respect their habitats. It may instill respect and inspire children to think critically about the wildlife we share our land with.

31192 Phyllis's Orange Shirt

Present the story in a sensitive and age-appropriate manner to discuss the importance of kindness and empathy. Engage children with questions such as: "How do you think Phyllis felt when she had to change her shirt?", "Why do you think Phyllis loved her orange shirt?"



23603 Lub Drum! Lub Drum!

Have you heard the heartbeat of Mother Earth? If not, it is time to strike the drum. Incorporate rhythmic sounds into your program. Allow every beat to be heard and felt by children. (Additional resource: [Early Years Indigenous Cultural Safety Resource Guide](#))



ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Comox Valley Record - [LETTER - Early childhood educators are not paid what they are worth](#): "...Early childhood educators are so poorly paid for the work they do. The average salary in BC is about \$22 an hour, much closer to the wage of a fast-food worker than that of a public school teacher. The work of an ECE is complex and difficult, both intellectually and emotionally. We will never attract enough people to the field until we address this disconnect between responsibility and compensation."



Children First Canada - [Kids in Canada Face a Polycrisis](#): "Raising Canada 2023 is the sixth in an annual series of reports that track the top 10 threats to childhood. This year, the report highlights how children and youth have compounded, complex, and urgent needs in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and the recent "triple-demic". The data also reveals that equity-deserving children and youth are disproportionately impacted by the top 10 threats – including young First Nations, Métis and Inuit children, people from racialized communities, 2SLGBTQIA+ youth and young people with disabilities."

Vancouver Sun - [\\$4.3M spike in Vancouver child-care centre's construction costs a sign of the times](#): "The current economic climate means the City of Vancouver, and many municipal councils, will face tough decisions during this year's budget deliberations... the war in Ukraine, COVID-19, labour shortages, high interest rates and even regional flooding are being cited as reasons why [construction costs are increasing]."



"Play is the highest form of research."

Albert Einstein

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 Westminister Drop-In Programs](#)
- [Tri-Cities Drop-In Programs](#)
- Burnaby's drop-in sheet is due to be released soon, please see [here](#).



The 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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Ministry of
Education and
Child Care

EVENTS

Burnaby

Bonsor's Big Boo: All ages welcome! Activities geared towards children 10 years and under. \$2 per person. Imagination Playground, creepy crafts and ghostly games, cookies for kids, facepainting, colouring and more. Fri, Oct 27 2023, 6 - 8:30pm.

Halloween Howler: Bring your family and have fun at this free Halloween event! Preschool and children's crafts, preschool ball pit and ride'em toys, children's gymnastic circuit, face painting, costume prize draws, photo booth and mini golf! Sat, Oct 28 2023, 10am - 12pm.

New Westminster

Fire Hall Open House: Free admission! This is an exciting opportunity for the residents of New Westminster to join us for an interactive, behind the scenes look at the services we provide for the community, the agencies that we work side by side with, and information on home safety. There will be live demonstrations, equipment displays, fire & community safety booths, Sparky the Fire Dog and the New West Firefighters' Charitable BBQ by donation (all proceeds to New Westminster Firefighters' Charitable Society). Walk, bike or transit, as no parking available on site.

New West Cultural Crawl: The 20th Annual New West Cultural Crawl will take place on October 14 + 15, 2023, from 11 am to 5 pm at venues across New Westminster. This family-friendly event invites audiences of young and old to explore the city at their own pace, and check out artworks by professional and emerging artists who reside in the city. The New West Cultural Crawl is an annual arts & culture festival that celebrates and exhibits the vast creative talents across New Westminster.



Tri-Cities

Haunted Train Station is Open!: Our Studio Ghibli inspired haunted train station is open! Start your weekend with a spooky visit to Heritage Square. Donations Appreciated. No registration required. (All Ages). Visit our community partners in Heritage Square Coquitlam Public Library & Place des Arts for more Halloween fun!

Heritage Halloween: It's time to get spooky! Visit our Studio Ghibli inspired haunted train station, listen to Vancouver's favourite the Carnival Band, make crafts, get your face painted, enjoy a juggling show, make crafts and have some treats! Visit our community partners in Heritage Square Coquitlam Public Library & Place des Arts for more Halloween fun! This event is held outdoors rain or shine. Dress up or come as you are for Coquitlam Heritage's Spooky Carnival!

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!