

## YMCA CCRR Events

### Networking: Celebrating Family Day

Feb 7th, 6:30-8:00PM, Tri-Cities office, \$5.

Come join us for an evening to celebrate the uniqueness of families. Join us for a discussion on how you include and celebrate the families in your programs.

Come prepared and curious to learn about what others are doing. We will be creating a family story basket for you to take back to the children and families in your program.



### Networking: Lunar New Year Celebration

Feb 8th, 6:30-8:00PM, Burnaby Office, \$5.

Join in on the fun as we celebrate the Lunar New Year with an evening of activities. Let's create New Year prints and couplets together – bring your ideas and wear your traditional, festive attire to make it even more special!



### Networking: A Resourceful Approach to Inclusion

- Feb 14th, 6:30-8:00PM, Tri-Cities office, \$5.

Join us for an enriching discussion where we can collectively work towards a more inclusive and supportive environment. We will refer to the Inclusive Child Care Toolkit. The toolkit is designed for all child care staff to guide, reflect, and expand their understanding of inclusion in child care programs.

**20 Hour Responsible Adult for Child Care Training Course** - Feb 20th to March 4th, 10AM to 12PM, Online Via Teams, \$50.

Visit [myymca.ca](http://myymca.ca) to register. Get in quick!



## YMCA CCRR Program News

On January 2nd, 2024, our Tri-Cities YMCA CCRR office marked it's 32nd year of being open! We couldn't have done this without your support. Thank you all!

We are busily getting ready for this month's 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](#).

In case you missed it in our last newsletter, the YMCA CCRR has some upcoming changes coming to our program in April of 2024:

- Starting with the release of our Spring 2024 Professional Development schedule, workshops will no longer have member and non-member pricing. Families, child care providers, and child care workforce will all now access the same, low-cost workshop fees. Hurray!
- Additionally, in April of 2024, all users of our early learning library will be asked to have and use their own library agreement. This means that child care program based lending library agreements are being phased out, and families, child care providers, and child care workforce will now all borrow under their own name and agreement. If you currently borrow under a child care program's lending library agreement and would like to get a head's start on this change, please fill out our [Lending Library Agreement Form](#) with your personal details.

Have any questions about these changes?  
Let us know!

## YMCA CCRR Program Updates

Our self-paced online workshops will be moving to [YMCA Ignite](#) this month! Please take a few quick minutes to [create an account](#) on YMCA Ignite so you'll have continued access to our workshops in the future when you need them. If you haven't yet ensured all your [completed workshop certificates](#) have been received/downloaded from our YMCA CCRR Learning Portal prior to its migration to YMCA Ignite, please do so.

Did you know that our CCRR program tracks vacancies in child care programs? By using the information submitted monthly to the [BC Child Care Map](#) during Child Care Operating Funding renewals, we now advertise program vacancies to parents who reach out to our program for help with finding child care. If you additionally have open spaces in your program that you'd like us to advertise in our child care referrals, please let us know by emailing [ygv.ccr@bc.yymca.ca](mailto:ygv.ccr@bc.yymca.ca).

Do you have a profile at our online workshop registration site, [myymca.ca](http://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!

## Community Events

Family Sky Lantern Workshop (All Ages) - Feb 4th, 1:00-5:00pm, Anvil Centre.

Vintage Valentines - Feb 8th, 5:00-7:00pm, Coquitlam Heritage at Mackin House.



Cupid Toonie Skate - Feb 10th, 12:15-2:00pm, Bill Copeland Sports Centre.

River Basin Day: Lunar New Year - Feb 10th, 2:00-3:00pm, Queen's Park.



Flea Market - Feb 17th, 9:30am - 1:30pm, Confederation Seniors' Centre.

Family Day Toonie Skate - Feb 19th, 9am - 1:30pm, Bill Copeland Sports Centre.

## Family Resources

YMCA CCRR's Winter 2024 drop-in program sheets are ready! Please see the below for drop-in programs to attend during the day with children that are aged 0-5.

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

The YMCA CCRR hosts drop-in programs, too! 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 at these programs are additionally made available to learn more about child development, parenting issues and the supports available to you in your community. Join us!

## Child Care News

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

- 2023-24 New Spaces Fund intake is closing soon
- Reminder: Specialized Certification Grant now available
- Science of Early Child Development subscription notice
- Reminder: Volunteers needed to test digital registry

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

[The Science of Early Childhood Development](#) - The Science of Early Childhood Development (SECD) is a knowledge translation and mobilization initiative, allowing access to current research on the impact of early experience on lifelong health and well-being. The SECD website provides access to resources that help ensure those working with children can engage in ongoing learning that supports quality program and service delivery. This includes a suite of media resources, including readings, videos, links, questions for reflection and interactive activities.

StatsCan - [Early Learning and Child Care Information Hub](#): This interactive tool provides information on early learning and child care in Canada related to high quality care, accessibility, affordability, flexibility, and inclusivity. Indicators, data and research from a variety of sources are available to present information for stakeholders and the Canadian public in general.



## YMCA CCRR Services ... We are here to help!

Parents:

- Child Care Information and Referrals, including community referrals.
- Knowledge of ChildCareBC initiatives to help lessen the cost of child care (Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative) and support with the application process (Affordable Child Care Benefit).
- Workshops, drop-in programs and family programming to help assist you in your parenting journey.
- Early learning library resources for borrowing to help foster your child's development through play.

Child Care Workforce:

- Information on becoming a Licensed or Registered Child Care Provider.
- Application assistance for ChildCareBC initiatives, i.e., Start Up Grant Funding, Wage Enhancement, Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative, etc.
- Workshops and courses to help nourish your early learning practices.
- Community referrals to help strengthen your child care programs.
- Professional networking opportunities to help widen your child care community.
- Early learning library resources for borrowing to help supplement your curricula and early learning provocations.

## Articles of Interest

The Globe and Mail - [Ottawa and the provinces need to address a growing child care gap](#): The federal and provincial governments have spent billions of dollars in the last few years on a laudable goal: to greatly expand access to child care. The promise has two parts. The first is to make daycare much less expensive for parents. The second is to create far more spaces. Both parts are needed, for what use is a cheap seat if there's nowhere to sit? New data show Ottawa and the provinces have made remarkable progress on pricing - but are falling behind on availability.

UBC - [The Impact of \\$10-a-Day Child Care on the Health and Socioeconomic Well-being of Low-Income Lone Mothers in BC](#): [The] data illustrates that the \$10 a Day ChildCareBC network of spaces is a very successful model with enormous potential, establishing child care as a core community service that positively impacts BC's most vulnerable families. However, to achieve the full positive impact, we need a complete system that is built to remove barriers to access. We need a system with adequate spaces to meet existing need and which is defined by fairness, transparency, and equitable access that truly levels the playing field and ensures all families thrive in BC.

CBC Listen - [Childcare spots getting harder to find, research shows](#): New research shows that childcare in Canada is on average becoming more affordable, but it's becoming harder to find a spot. Matt Galloway talks to parents struggling to find care, and checks in on the federal government's pledge to provide \$10-a-day childcare by 2026.

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

Burnaby/New Westminster  
4460 Beresford St.  
Burnaby, B.C.  
T: 604-294-1109  
E: [ygv.crr@bc.ymca.ca](mailto:ygv.crr@bc.ymca.ca)

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

**Early Learning Library Corner**

February brings many special days and celebrations. Here are a few resources from our lending library that celebrate them. Whether you borrow before, during or after the event they provide children with opportunities to learn, explore and relive experiences and events that are happening in their lives.

**Lunar New Year**



Celebrate Lunar New Year with these colourful felt Dragons! This resource includes 2 dragon poems to share and sing. The "Lunar New Year" Book shares the history and tradition of this holiday. A great addition to your circle time to learn more about this celebration.

Here's a resource with books that explore the culture and traditions of the Chinese New Year, as well as photos that show how people celebrate. These items bring to life what Chinese New Year looks like for some families. Use these props to start a discussion with families in your program about their celebrations and traditions.

**Valentine's Day**



This Valentine's Felt focuses on spreading kindness. Use this poem to talk about celebrating kindness this Valentine's Day. Extend these resources by creating a Kindness Jar Invite each child to fill out a kindness note by completing the sentence, "I am kind when I..." At the end of the day/week reach in and read the notes out loud and share the different ways of being kind.

These beautiful open-ended materials can be used to set up an inviting provocation for the children to explore, imagine and pretend. These can be added to your dramatic play area or as a tabletop exploration. Extend these items with small doll houses, blocks and other loose parts.

**Family Day**



Foster learning and sharing about families and all the different varieties they come in. Explore with your children how every family is special in its own unique way through the books and materials in these resources.

These both include manipulative people and toys to foster imagination, creativity and fine motor skills. A great addition to facilitate talking with children about what makes their family special to them. Invite families in your program to share a special activity that they enjoy doing together.



**Library Resources**

Have you ever been to our Early Learning Resource Library? If not, go see our library video tour on YouTube, found [here!](#)

Interested in borrowing? Or need to renew your account? See our [Lending Library Agreement Form!](#)

Would you like to place holds on particular resources of our's that catch your eye? If so, use our [Early Learning Library Portal](#).

Pictures more your style? View images of all the early learning resources we have available to borrow by viewing our [DropBox Catalogue!](#)

