



GROW



Continuous Professional Learning in Durham



Welcome to the fall 2023 edition of GROW!

Dates to remember

- September 23 - Fall Equinox
- September 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
- October 17- Child Care and Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Appreciation Day
- November 8 - Indigenous Veterans Day
- November 11 - Remembrance Day
- November 12 - Diwali
- November 16 - Louis Riel Day
- November 20 - National Child Day
- December 7 to 15 - Hanukah
- December 25 - Christmas

Email updates

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To be notified when a new edition of GROW is available, please select the "Receive email updates" button at the bottom of the Resources for Child Care Professionals page on the Durham [webpage](#). You will receive an email notification to let you know a new GROW is available.





Welcome to fall 2023 GROW!

Welcome to the fall 2023 edition of the GROW newsletter. We hope you had an enjoyable summer!

Saturday, September 30 is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. We encourage educators and operators to consider ways that they can commemorate the history and legacy of Residential Schools. For program suggestions, guidance, or to share pictures of what this looks like in your program, please reach out to our Indigenous Training Specialist, Debbie Ellis, at Debbie.Ellis@durham.ca. More information can be found on page three which discusses Strengthening our bonds.

We are thrilled bring back the Early Learning Conference as an in-person event! The structure has changed as the Professional Education Training Committee has decided to try a new format. There will be two fabulous presentations along with vendors, swag, prizes, a delicious lunch, and networking opportunities. There are limited seats as the venue is smaller than what we have used in the past. You can find more information and the link to register for this event on page six.

Tuesday, October 17 is Child Care and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day. The intention of this day is to celebrate and appreciate the passion, hard work, and dedication that educators commit to their work with children and families everyday. This is a great opportunity for families, organizations, and the community to recognize the valuable contributions of early learning staff and demonstrate their appreciation.

Pre-recorded workshop opportunities created by the Early Learning team have been moved to our website (link to location on website). There are several sessions on a variety of topics including, How Does Learning Happen?, Lets Get Creative, which focuses on process-oriented art experiences, and Reflecting on Programming for all age groups. These workshops offer great opportunities to access and complete training on your own time and at your own pace. They can be used to support your professional development or continuous professional learning (CPL) goals as outlined in your CPL Portfolio. Children's Developmental and Behavioural Supports continue to offer some amazing, pre-recorded sessions on various subjects. Details can be found on page 13.

Moving back to offering in-person workshops has been very well received. We continue to offer various sessions this season. The Region of Durham Headquarters is undergoing renovations and will be under construction the next few years. We will have limited in-person sessions offered in the Region building, but we are happy to take the show on the road. Make sure you check the locations of the workshops you register for as this will vary across Durham Region.

The Resource Library will remain open during this time of construction, and we will continue to bring educators in, providing it is safe to do so. You can contact Meagan Burke at Meagan.Burke@durham.ca to arrange a visit or curbside pick up/delivery. More information on the [Resource Library](#) can be found on page 11.

Lastly, the Early Learning Team has been able to secure funding from the Ministry to support mental health initiatives and training. In response to feedback from the community, we are excited to be offering Mental Health First Aid at an upcoming Supervisors Network meeting again and a workshop around Anxiety in School-Age Children. More information about these opportunities can be found on pages 8 and 17. For any inquiries about organization training or resources, please contact Shannon Soul, Training Specialist, at Shannon.Soul@durham.ca.





Strengthening our bonds - Indigenous early years learning

This fall season brings us very important Indigenous traditional practices. The Fall Equinox is a meaningful event that honours the harvest season. This year it takes place on September 23. This might include the “real” harvest of your garden, or the harvest of the efforts and intentions for your life path that you had set at the beginning of the year.

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, also known as Orange Shirt Day, is observed on September 30. This day is intended to commemorate and educate Canadians about the history of Residential Schools, honour the victims, and celebrate the survivors.



Image sourced from [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - Canada.ca](https://www.nationaldayfortruthandreconciliation.ca)

Here are some general questions and answers to start your journey and use as first steps to inspire a deeper dive into Indigenous practice, knowledge, and understanding.

Why is it essential to educate myself about Indigenous cultures?

- To learn about Canada’s true history in our commitment to honouring Indigenous Peoples request for Truth and Reconciliation.
- To honour Canada’s first inhabitants as the original stewards of the land and waters.
- To recognize Canada’s colonial past and the effects that it had on the traditional Peoples already living in harmony on these lands.

What is the significance of nature/land to Indigenous Peoples?

- Indigenous peoples believe in a give and take relationship with the land, and the land having its own spirit.
- They believe that land is an educator and nature offers gifts for us to learn, guide, and teach ourselves and especially our children to form the foundation for lifelong learning.

Why is it important to support the cultural identity of Indigenous children?

- To support the reclamation of family values, cultural traditions, beliefs, and ceremonies which were prohibited in the past. Elders and families will gain the ability to pass them down again.
- Cultural identity is an important aspect of social well-being. Incorporating Indigenous elements into programming can foster pride and belonging.

How can I build trust with Indigenous People?

- Connect with Indigenous communities, show your presence and support, be an open learner, and speak from the heart.
- Advocate for positive perspectives on cultural issues whenever an opportunity arises and create a sense of belonging by having visual representations of cultures that you can explain in your programs.
- Commit to continue participating in cultural awareness trainings and be able to speak to what you have learned.





Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives in Children's Services

What is diversity?

The concept of diversity encompasses acceptance and respect. It means understanding that each individual is unique and recognizes our individual differences. These can be along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs, or other ideologies. It is the exploration of these differences in a safe, positive, and nurturing environment. It is about understanding each other and moving beyond simple tolerance to embracing and celebrating the rich dimensions of diversity contained within each individual. Diversity can also be considered in terms of organizational, professional, and societal differences.

What is equity?

Equity is a principle and process that promotes fair conditions for all persons to fully participate in society. It recognizes that while all people have the right to be treated equally, not all experience equal access to resources, opportunities or benefits. Achieving equity does not necessarily mean treating individuals or groups in the same way, but may require the use of specific measures to ensure fairness.

What is inclusion?

Acknowledging and valuing people's uniqueness to enrich social planning, decision-making, and quality of life for everyone. In an inclusive municipality, we each have a sense of belonging, acceptance, and are recognized as valued and contributing members of society. Real inclusion takes place when those already included in the "mainstream" learn from those who are excluded and initiate change.

Equality: Everyone gets the same-regardless if it is needed or right for them.



Equity: Everyone gets what they need-understanding the barriers, circumstances, and conditions.



Definitions cited from: [Glossary of Terms \(durham.ca\)](#). Image sourced from: [We Used Your Insights to Update Our Graphic on Equity \(rwjf.org\)](#)

Views about people who identify as 2SLGBTQI+ are learned at an early age. Engage in collaborative discussions with the children and perhaps start the conversation by naturally embedding books in your program. You can then extend the conversation by incorporating materials such as rainbow loose parts, play people, or even the pride flag. Celebrate the 2SLGBTQI+ community year-round and demonstrate that visibility to create a welcoming environment.



Whether a child has two moms, two dads, one parent, or one of each, this book demonstrates that what is most important in each family's life is the love the family members share.

Our Rainbow can teach children all about the meaning of each colour of the pride flag. Told in engaging text and paired with bright illustrations.



Upcoming events

Virtual teaching:

Presented by: Debbie Ellis, Indigenous Training Specialist

To register for this virtual teaching, please select the box below:

Every Child Matters

Wednesday, September 27, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

This information session will provide general information on the purpose, establishment, and history of the Residential School system in Canada. We will discuss the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and their 94 Calls to Action. We will listen to stories from survivors and journey forward together to learn more about how we can be allies and improve all our relations towards healing within Indigenous Communities. In conclusion, we will discuss how we can share Indigenous culture and stories in our Early Years programs.



Image sourced from [Cultural Survivor website](#).

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation: September 30, 2023

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30 opens the door to a global conversation about Residential Schools. It is an opportunity to create meaningful discussion about the effects of Residential Schools and the legacy they left behind. This is a discussion that all Canadians can engage in and begin to create bridges with each other for reconciliation. It is a day to honour and affirm Residential School survivors, their families, and everyone affected by these institutions. Every Child Matters. This includes all the children forced to attend Residential Schools and the adults who are still healing from the trauma they endured there. For more information and additional resources, please visit the [Orange Shirt Society website](#).



Images sourced from [Orange Shirt Society website](#).

In-person teachings:

Presented by: Debbie Ellis, Indigenous Training Specialist

To register for an in-person teaching, please select a box below:



Who Are the Métis? Cultural Awareness Training

Location:
Region of Durham Headquarters-
Meeting room 1-B
Thursday, October 19, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

On the Journey - Session Two: Connecting with Community

Location:
Scugog Community Recreation
Centre
Thursday, November 9, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

The Seven Grandfather Teachings

Location:
Iroquois Park Arena - Whitney hall
Tuesday, December 12, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Participants will be introduced to the history of the Métis people, have a chance to learn and investigate traditional items used by the Métis, participate in Métis jigging, and learn the importance of Métis song. Participants will learn about the value of traditional Métis activities and make an item to take home with them.

This "On The Journey" Session Two-Connecting with Community, will highlight the Community Connections Indigenous sharing kit and contents. We will begin by connecting with our spirit with the help of the Métis wellness wheel. We will then have a discussion on food as medicine, traditional foods and their uses in Indigenous culture.

The Seven Grandfather Teachings will be a sharing of the first traditional teachings taught to children by their elders in many Indigenous cultures. You will be introduced to the seven guiding principles and the significant animals that carry these gifts. Indigenous Peoples use this teaching to "live a good life" and apply this throughout their lives in all aspects.



Upcoming events

Early Learning Conference 2023

To register for this event, please select the date below:



Date: Saturday, October 14, 2023
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Location: Ajax Convention Centre
550 Beck Crescent
Ajax, ON L1Z 1C9



The Professional Education and Training Committee is excited to announce that the Early Learning Conference is returning in October, and to an in-person format! This year's event will include two incredible interactive workshops from Coaches Corner and Rainbow Plate that will both engage educators and ignite new conversations and experiences within your programs. This event will focus on networking with other local child care and early learning professionals while also providing an opportunity to explore a wide variety of inclusive materials and supplies from local vendors! Participants will enjoy a delicious catered lunch, giveaways, and chances to win some amazing prizes! This is an event you don't want to miss!



This interactive workshop explores how early childhood educators can create simple, engaging, inclusive, and positive food experiences for children and families. It explores food literacy and Rainbow Plate's evidence-based approach, providing core principles, program ideas, and practical tips for implementing this sensory approach in early years settings.



Explore the learning cycle using authentic classroom experiences, evaluate learners' strengths, needs, and interests, and understand invitation components for diverse learning.

Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day October 17, 2023

This day is celebrated to show appreciation for the important role child care workers and Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) have in the lives and well-being of all children and their families.

This day is a day of recognition and is a great opportunity for organizations, families, and individuals to recognize the valuable contributions of early learning staff.

The passion, hard work, patience, and dedication child care workers and ECEs have should not go unnoticed. Please show your appreciation, support, and gratitude to all the educators who have contributed to children's growth and curiosity for learning.





Upcoming events



Diwali, Festival of Lights: November 12, 2023

Diwali is a five-day festival celebrated by millions of Hindus, Sikhs and Jains across the world. The word Diwali comes from the Sanskrit word deepavali, meaning "rows of lighted lamps."

Diwali, which for some also coincides with harvest and new year celebrations, is a festival of new beginnings and the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness.

National Child Day: November 20, 2023

Canada made a commitment to ensure that all children are treated with dignity and respect and have every opportunity to reach their full potential. This commitment includes:

- Providing children opportunities to have a voice (speak out and be heard).
- Protecting children from harm.
- Ensuring children's basic needs are met.

All children (ages 0 to 18) in Canada have rights. Select [The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) to view a poster that includes examples. Visit [National Child Day](#) for more information.

NATIONAL
CHILD DAY



EarlyON programs in Durham Region



Child and Family Centre

EarlyON Child and Family Centres provide opportunities for children from birth to six years of age to participate in play and inquiry-based programs, and support parents and caregivers in their roles.

These centres offer safe and welcoming environments open to all families across Durham Region, with qualified professionals and quality programs. Families and caregivers will be able to find support, make personal connections, and access a network of resources. Please visit the Durham Region [website](#) for locations and schedules.



Family Fun Day

Mark your calendar! On Friday, September 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., EarlyON will be hosting Family Fun Day at Lakeview Park in Oshawa. Join the group for engaging activities and opportunities to connect with one another. Indigenous Knowledge Keeper, Dr. Hopi Martin will also be offering land-based learning and guide children and families in outdoor cultural practice. Additional details will be posted on the EarlyOn Child and Family Centres [web page](#).



Ready Set Grow Check-Ups

Ready Set Grow Check-Ups are returning! This program invites parents and caregivers to meet with child-related service professionals from across Durham Region to ask questions and receive resources. Dates and locations will be posted on the EarlyOn Child and Family Centres [web page](#).



KEYON

EarlyON is excited to introduce a new registration/attendance system. Families/caregivers can register at [KEYON | Sign in](#) and select the "become a member". Complete the registration form and pick up your key tag with your personal QR code at your next visit. Your key tag can be used at any EarlyON program that is using KEYON in Ontario. This new system will provide a faster check-in process, is paperless, and will allow EarlyON to collect more accurate data.



Supervisors' network

Mental Health First Aid

To register for this event, please select the workshop date:

Date: Thursday, October 5, 2023

Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location: Port Whitby Marina
301 Watson Street
Whitby, ON L1N 9G3

Presented by: Mental Health Commission of Canada

This certificate course is a program by the Mental Health Commission of Canada aimed at improving mental health literacy, and providing the skills and knowledge to help people better manage potential or developing mental health problems in themselves, a family member, a friend or a colleague. This certificate course does not train you to be a counsellor. Mental Health First Aid gives you the knowledge and the skills to assist someone in a crisis/emergency. You will learn how to tell the difference between a mental health problem versus a disorder, early signs of mental health decline, how to respond to someone effectively, and encourage them to pursue getting help.



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Representation in Programs Community of Practice



To register for this event, please select the workshop date:

Date: Thursday, November 30

Time: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Region of Durham Headquarters
605 Rossland Rd East
Whitby, Ontario L1N 6A3

This Community of Practice will provide supervisors with an opportunity to engage in facilitated conversation, reflective practice, and pedagogical leadership as we explore diversity, equity, and inclusion. Together, we will discuss ways in which supervisors can support educators in understanding what these terms mean individually and collectively; the social identities individuals carry; and what embracing and valuing representation can look like in early learning programs through practices we currently use, those we may consider implementing, as well as those we may reconsider.



New leadership opportunities



Mentoring Pairs for Child Care is aimed at helping supervisors in licensed child care settings enhance their leadership skills and become reflective practitioners, while increasing their professional knowledge and developing strategies for building strong relationships.

The following concepts are explored through the program: ethical and reflective practice, inclusion and equity, communication and connection, wellbeing, leadership, pedagogical practices, mentoring and facilitation practices, holistic view of the child, building family and community connections and relationships, early learning and child care administration, and issues and trends in Early Learning and Child Care.

This project will require an eight-hour monthly commitment and will begin October 2023 to October 2024. All Supervisors will need approval from their direct report.

Attend one the following virtual Mentoring Pairs Information Session to learn more:

To register for the information session, please select the date below, Zoom link to follow:

Tuesday, September 12, 2023 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 13, 2023 from 10 to 11 a.m.



If you have any questions, please email Janine Keith at Janine.Keith@durham.ca

Jobs First Durham Training for Operators



To register for this event, please select the workshop date:

Date: Thursday, November 9, 2023
Time: 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Location: Schoolhouse Playcare Headquarters
1602 Tricont Avenue, Suite 6
Whitby, Ontario L1N 7C3



The Durham Workforce Authority will provide an overview of the tools available to operators through their Jobs First Durham (JFD) platform. This will include guidance on account creation and set-up, details on ensuring employment opportunities are included on JFD with no extra effort, an introduction to the new Child Care Hub and instruction on using JFD tools to support data-driven decision-making in their organization. These tools are available to everyone without cost and provide important insights into the current conditions of the labour market in Durham Region. This training session will support operators' ability to quickly and easily navigate the JFD platform to leverage available data and tools in support of their workforce development goals.



Durham Region Early Learning Home Child Care Initiative

The importance of invitations to play in a home child care program

As a provider offering care to children within your home, you will want to consider what, where, when, and why you could set up invitations to play for the children in your care.

What is an invitation to play?

This is an opportunity to set up specific play materials to encourage exploration and curiosity. Play materials are open-ended and easily adapted by the children to meet their own interests and cues.

Where can invitations to play be set up?

Any location, whether it be indoor or outdoor, can support invitations for children to engage with play materials. All learning areas can be used to support the use of invitations. This can support building on current interests and incorporating them into a variety of other learning environments within the home. For example, if children are interested in cars, cars can be set up in the art area as a provocation to explore.

When can invitations be used within a provider home?

Invitations are a great opportunity to support transitions, busy times of the day, as well as free play. They can be embedded throughout the entire day and when it makes sense to your own space and children in care. There are no limits as to when an invitation can be created and implemented.

Why set up invitations to play?

Invitations to play:

- Encourage providers to welcome children into their programs.
- Build and expand on current interests and engage with the children as they interact with the invitations.
- Help children to navigate through the day in a positive and seamless manner.

As your children come into your home, consider how you could create invitations to play that would be of interest to the children currently in care and what they may look like!



Virtual Training:

To register for a session, please select the workshop below:

Duty to Report for Home Child Care Providers
Presented by: Durham Children's Aid Society
Tuesday, September 26, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Role of an Early Learning Inclusion Consultant in Home Child Care

Offered by: Resources for Exceptional Children and Youth
Thursday, October 19, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

In-person training:

Community of Practice for Home Child Care, Come Play with Me

Location: St. Marguerite d'Youville Catholic School, Whitby
Tuesday, October 24, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.



The Professional Resource Library for Durham's early learning and child care community

September to December 2023

The Resource Library has the following free resources available to the early learning community: large and small button maker, large and small heated laminator, cold laminators, die-cutter, binding machine, reading materials and resources, training materials, DVDs, etc. We also have a variety of inquiry kits available for loan to support programming. For more information about the kits we have available, please visit the [Resource Library flyer](#).

The Resource Library is open to the public by appointment between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. Appointments are to be made with a minimum of one business day's notice.

Please contact Meagan Burke by email at Meagan.Burke@durham.ca to make an appointment.

Please be advised that Durham Regional Headquarters is currently undergoing a modernization project so that we can better serve the public. The Resource Library will remain open throughout this time, however; there may be some shifts to our operations. We will continue to have the community access the library space as long as it is safe to do so. In the event of changes, curbside pick-up or delivery of materials can be arranged.



Additional resources

Professional learning resources

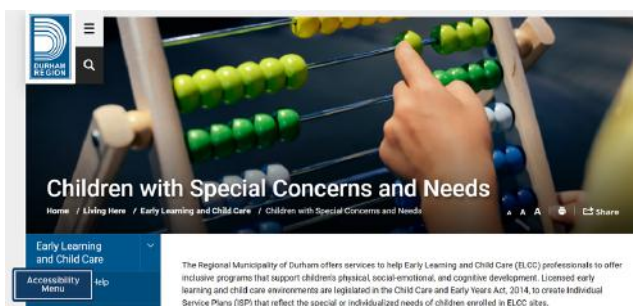
Educators can find additional professional learning resources under the "Other Resources" dropdown on our website by selecting the link below.

[Resources for Child Care Professionals - Region of Durham](#)

Special needs resourcing

Please select the link below to find more information about the Special Needs Resourcing services and agency partners that are available.

[Children with Special Concerns and Needs - Region of Durham](#)





Formation en français

Stratégies pratiques pour une meilleure inclusion à l'école

Pour inscrire à cet événement, veuillez cliquer sur la date de l'atelier:

Date: mardi 7 novembre 2023
Temps: 19 h à 20 h 30

Présentateur: Ressources Pour les Enfants et les Jeunes Exceptionnels



Diverses stratégies ont fait leurs preuves pour améliorer les comportements des élèves en milieu scolaire, renforcer leurs relations interpersonnelles et assurer leur bien-être et leur sentiment d'appartenance. Dans cet atelier, nous discuterons de stratégies concrètes à appliquer dans les domaines du langage, des habiletés sociales, de la motricité fine, de la motricité globale, de la régulation émotionnelle et sensorielle, ainsi que de la cognition, pour favoriser la réussite et la pleine inclusion des élèves.

Opportunités de formation autoguidée

Réflexion sur la programmation - critères préscolaires (préenregistrés)

Réflexion sur la programmation - critères poupon (préenregistrés)

Soyons créatifs – le processus de création artistique (préenregistré)

Formation autoguidée sur « Comment apprend-on ? »

L'implémentation de Comment apprend-on? appartenance et bien-être (préenregistrés)

L'implémentation de Comment apprend-on? engagement et expression (préenregistrés)

Formation autoguidée sur la qualité et les critères d'exploitation de la région de Durham

Quelles sont les possibilités ? : Réfléchir sur les programmes de poupons (préenregistrés)

Quelles sont les possibilités ? : Réfléchir sur les programmes de bambins (préenregistrés)

Quelles sont les possibilités ? : Réfléchir sur les programmes préscolaires (préenregistrés)

Quelles sont les possibilités ? : Réfléchir sur les programmes avant et après l'école (préenregistrés)



Pre-recorded workshops - fall 2023

For more details on these pre-recorded workshops and to register, select the workshop below to be redirected to Visme or an Eventbrite registration page.

**Introduction to Behaviour Management
Prerequisite Learning Certificate**
Offered by: Children's
Developmental and Behavioural Supports

Standing Up to Bullying (Pre-recorded)
Offered by: Children's
Developmental and Behavioural Supports

Respect in the Early Learning Workplace (Self-guided)
Offered by: The Early Learning Training Specialist Team,
Region of Durham

Frequent Flyers - Elopement Behaviour in Child Care
Offered by: Children's
Developmental and Behavioural Supports

Stay Calm and Make a Plan (Pre-recorded)
Offered by: Children's
Developmental and Behavioural Supports

Preventing the Storm - Online Learning
Offered by: Children's
Developmental and Behavioural Supports

**Don't Bite Me - Understanding Biting in
Child Care**
Offered by: Children's
Developmental and Behavioural Supports

The Power of Reinforcement
Offered by: Children's
Developmental and Behavioural Supports

**They are my size.... what now?
School-age Engagement**
Offered by: Children's
Developmental and Behavioural Supports

Sleep
Offered by: Children's
Developmental and Behavioural Supports

To access additional pre-recorded workshops please select the link to the Region of Durham [website](#).

Virtual Simulations

Do you like video games? Do you like prizes? Do you want to engage in some exciting new learning? If you answered **yes** to any of the above, register for one of our two virtual simulation learning opportunities. Virtual simulations allows participants to practice and role play challenging scenarios in a video game-like experience from the safety of your own screen. Complete one or both simulations on your own time, in your own space.

Once you complete the simulations, you will receive a certificate. Want to try the simulations again? You have unlimited access to the simulations to try out different responses and interactions that can strengthen your new skills until March 2024.

Once you have completed one or both of the simulations, fill out the survey that will be sent to you through your Eventbrite confirmation email to be entered into a monthly draw for a prize pack. Be sure to add your contact information so we can contact the winners.

Calm Parents, Healthy Kids - Relationships
Offered by: Children's
Developmental and Behavioural Supports

At-Risk for the Early Childhood Educator - Relationships
Offered by: Children's
Developmental and Behavioural Supports

In Calm Parents, Healthy Kids, participants will get to engage in five simulations that focus on positive parenting techniques during some common but challenging times. The simulations have you practicing managing a transition by ending play and leaving the environment, handling a tantrum in the community, what to do when you are on the phone and your child is trying to get your attention, and two simulations about hitting on the playground.

In the At-Risk for Early Childhood Educator virtual simulation, you will get to engage in four scenarios that focus on understanding challenging behaviour in a preschool room, addressing the challenging behaviour and connecting with a child, having a difficult conversation about behaviours, and building relationships with caregivers.



Virtual workshops - fall 2023

How to register for a workshop?

Select the workshop title to be redirected to the Eventbrite registration link. A link to join the event will be emailed to you at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting's start time.

For more details on these workshops and to register, select the workshop title to be redirected to the Eventbrite registration page.

Social Communication

Offered by: Grandview Kids
Tuesday, September 12, 2023
6 to 7:30 p.m.

Social-Emotional Learning

Offered by: Early Learning Training Specialists, Durham Region
Tuesday, September 19, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) 101

Offered by: Resources for Exceptional Children and Youth
Thursday, September 28, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Duty to Report for Child Care Educators

Offered by: Durham Children's Aid Society
Tuesday, October 3, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Introduction to Durham Region Operating Criteria (DROC): Infant

Offered by: Early Learning Quality Assurance Advisors, Durham Region
Wednesday, October 11, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Making Sense of Sensory Processing

Offered by: Grandview Kids
Monday, October 16, 2023
6:30 to 8 p.m.

Learning Language for Littles

Offered by: Grandview Kids
Tuesday, October 17, 2023
6:30 to 8 p.m.

Generalized Anxiety Disorder

Offered by: Resources for Exceptional Children and Youth
Monday, October 23, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Cancellations

If you are unable to attend a session you registered for, it is important you cancel your ticket. You may cancel the session by selecting the "My Tickets" link located in the upper right corner in your confirmation email.





Virtual workshops - fall 2023

For more details on these workshops and to register, select the workshop title to be redirected to the Eventbrite registration page.

Introduction to Durham Region Operating Criteria (DROC): Preschool

Offered by: Early Learning Quality Assurance Advisors, Durham Region
Thursday, October 26, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Introduction to Durham Region Operating Criteria (DROC): Before and After

Offered by: Early Learning Quality Assurance Advisors, Durham Region
Thursday, November 2, 2023
10 to 11:30 a.m.

Introduction to Durham Region Operating Criteria (DROC): Toddler

Offered by: Early Learning Quality Assurance Advisors
Wednesday, November 8, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Inclusion Community of Practice

Offered by: Resources for Exceptional Children and Youth
Tuesday, November 14, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Inclusive Physical Literacy

Offered by: Resources for Exceptional Children and Youth
Thursday, November 16, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Using Visuals in Child Care Settings

Offered by: Grandview Kids
Tuesday, November 21, 2023
6:30 to 8 p.m.

Other virtual events

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- Role of an Early Learning Inclusion Consultant in Home Child Care

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- Stratégies pratiques pour une meilleure inclusion à l'école

Surveys and certificates

The Children's Services Division is piloting the use of a QR code for professional development feedback surveys and certificates. A QR code with a direct link to the feedback survey and event certificate will be shared with all participants at the end of training events, allowing attendees to print or save certificates directly to their personal devices. For any difficulties accessing the survey or certificate, please contact Nazish Kramat at nazish.kramat@durham.ca within one week following the event to request an electronic certificate.





In-person workshops - fall 2023

For more details on these workshops and to register, select the workshop title to be redirected to the Eventbrite registration page.

Continuous Professional Learning (CPL) CoP

Offered by: Early Learning Training Specialists, Durham Region
Location: Schoolhouse Playcare Headquarters, Whitby
Wednesday, October 18, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Music and Movement

Offered by: YMCA GTA
Location: Delpark Homes Centre, Oshawa (Leisure room)
Wednesday, November 1, 2023
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

School Age Anxiety

Offered by: Early Learning Training Specialists, Durham Region
Location: Edukids Child Care Centre, Ajax
Wednesday, November 8, 2023
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Durham Region Operating Criteria-Aha Moments!

Offered by: Early Learning Quality Assurance Advisors, Durham Region
Location: Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex - O'Brien Room, Pickering
Wednesday, November 15, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

S is for Sensory Make and Take

Offered by: Early Learning Training Specialists, Durham Region
Location: Ajax Community Centre - Admiral Room
Tuesday, November 28, 2023
7 to 8:30 p.m.

How Does Learning Happen?

Offered by: Early Learning Training Specialists, Durham Region
Location: Garnet B. Rickard Recreation Complex, Bowmanville
Tuesday, December 5, 2023
7 to 9 p.m.

Other in-person events

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- Who Are the Métis? Cultural Awareness Training
- On the Journey - Session 2: Connecting with Community
- The Seven Grandfather Teachings

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- Early Learning Conference

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- Supervisors' Network: Mental Health First Aid
- Supervisors' Network: DEI Representation in Programs Community of Practice

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- Mentoring with Pairs
- Jobs First Durham Training for Operators

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- Community of Practice for Home Child Care, Come Play with Me

Facilitators Wanted



We are looking for educators who are interested in participating in the Pedagogical Facilitators Training and supporting the facilitation of Communities of Practice sessions and other training opportunities for the early learning community.

If you think you would be a great fit for this role and want to learn more about this opportunity, please contact Training Specialist, Shannon Soul, by email at Shannon.Soul@durham.ca



News and information



cece
college of
early childhood
educators

Mental Health Resource Centre now available for RECEs

To nurture and care for others, RECEs need the opportunity to nurture and care for themselves. The College of Early Childhood Educators is proud to offer our members an innovative program, addressing some of the challenges we've heard from them, and prioritizing the mental health and wellness needs of all RECEs.

Supporting the mental health of our members is critical to enabling high quality practice and ensuring the sustainability of the profession, and that is why the College has partnered with People Connect to provide convenient access to wellness resources, at no cost to RECEs.

People Connect is an online service that provides members with access to the following confidential services:

- An online mental health self-assessment tool, to understand symptoms of mental health conditions;
- Virtual mental health therapy, to connect RECEs with a therapist of their choice; and
- Information and a resource library, for credible mental health information, tips and tools.

How can RECEs access the service?

RECEs can simply create an account, log-in and get started.

Our partnership with People Connect offers convenient access to wellness resources, making it easier for everyone to access self-care and mental health support.

Who can access the service?

ALL RECEs have access to the service and are encouraged to take advantage of the resources People Connect has to offer.

**No personal information such as who accesses the service, is shared with the College or employers.*



oepe
ordre des éducatrices
et des éducateurs
de la petite enfance

Centre de ressources en santé mentale maintenant accessible aux EPEI

Pour pouvoir prendre soin des autres, les EPEI doivent pouvoir prendre soin d'eux-mêmes. L'Ordre des éducatrices et des éducateurs de la petite enfance est heureux d'offrir à ses membres ce programme novateur, qui répond à certains des défis signalés et qui accorde la priorité aux besoins de tous les EPEI en matière de santé mentale et de bien-être.

Pour favoriser une pratique de haute qualité et pérenniser la profession, soutenir la santé mentale de nos membres est essentiel. C'est pourquoi l'Ordre s'est associé à People vous connecte pour offrir aux EPEI un accès pratique et sans frais à des ressources sur le bien-être.

People vous connecte est un service en ligne qui offre aux membres un accès aux services confidentiels suivants :

- Un outil d'évaluation en ligne de la santé mentale pour comprendre les symptômes et troubles de santé mentale;
- Une thérapie mentale virtuelle, pour que les EPEI puissent communiquer avec un thérapeute de leur choix;
- Un ensemble d'informations, de ressources fiables et de conseils sur la santé mentale.

Comment les EPEI peuvent-ils accéder à ce service?

Il suffit aux EPEI de créer un compte, de s'y connecter et de démarrer.

Notre partenariat avec People vous connecte offre un accès pratique à des ressources sur le bien-être, à des autosoins et à un soutien en santé mentale.

Qui peut accéder à ce service?

TOUS LES EPEI ont accès à ce service et sont encouragés à profiter des ressources offertes par People vous connecte.

** Aucune information personnelle, telle que l'identité des personnes recourant à ce service, n'est communiquée à l'Ordre ou aux employeurs.*



News and information

Early Childhood Education and leadership grant programs

Do you qualify for the Ontario Early Childhood Educator Qualification Upgrade Program?



Educators with six months of past or current experience working within a formal early learning program, licensed child care and unlicensed home child care environment may qualify for **financial support** for tuition, travel, and associated costs to complete an Early Childhood Educator diploma (full-time or part-time) at an approved Ontario College for Applied Arts and Technology.

Individuals who identify as Francophone, First Nations, Métis, or Inuit are exempt from the required six months work experience if they have a minimum of one day of employment within an eligible agency.

Did you know Ontario offers employed Registered Early Childhood Educators leadership education grants in eligible fields of study?

Currently employed Registered Early Childhood Educators with at least two years of experience may qualify for leadership education grants to cover part-time tuition costs in an eligible field of study at a recognized Ontario College for Applied Arts and Technology. Individuals who identify as Francophone, First Nations, Métis or Inuit are exempt from the required two years of experience if currently employed with an eligible agency. Eligible fields of study include:

- Pedagogical leadership in Early Childhood Education.
- Early Childhood Education administration and management.
- Facilities management.
- Financial management, responsibility, and child care governance.
- Human resources, employment standards, and labour relations.

Additional Details

It has arrived! Ontario ECE Grants is thrilled to announce the launch of the new online application portal. This platform simplifies the application process for applicants. Below is a quick tutorial that will help get you started.

What's new?

- Create an account to save your personal profile information.
- Real-time updates about the status of your application.
- Receive, sign and submit funding agreements through our secure portal.

View the [Ontario ECE Grants tutorial](#) or attend the [Submitting Your Application](#) webinar, where your questions can be answered.

Are you interested in getting an Early Childhood Education (ECE) diploma?



Visit our page at durham.ca/BecomeAnRECE to learn more about pathways to education, available financial assistance, and academic programs.



For more information, please contact:

Children's Services Division: durham.ca/ChildrensServices

Janine Keith: Janine.Keith@durham.ca or 905-668-4113 ext. 2755

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-387-0642