

East Kootenay ECE Roundtable

Tuesday 10 September, 10:00 – 10:45am MT



Attendees

Robyn Peel (facilitator, CFEK), Cheryl Anderson (Summit Community Services), Crystal MacLeod (School District 6), Frankie Seitz (South East Kootenay CCRR), Jill McIntosh (Columbia Basin Trust), Londa Morris (Kootenay Employment Services), Tessa Bendig (Columbia Basin Trust),

Roundtable Updates

- The new facility in Marysville is nearing building completion. There is still much more to do once the building is handed over to the school district, including licensing, applying for operational subsidies, confirming staff and then registering families. It is important to share that the building is one step, and not the end of the process!
 - Summit Community Services have ECEs interested in working in the new facility, but without a clear start date to give them, this is a challenge. But they are looking to have an “expression of interest” promotion starting soon to promote the lifestyle and opportunities in Kimberley.
 - **ACTION:** Cheryl / Crystal to share the expression of interest posting with Robyn when it is live, so she can share out and allow other communities to see this example of a recruitment campaign focused on lifestyle as well as the job.
- The new spaces building in Invermere has broken ground and is using the same construction company as the building in Marysville.
- School District 6 has five third-party providers delivering after school programs across the region, and three of these also offered full daycare through the summer (5-6 weeks of programming through the summer).
 - After school care at Alexander Park Elementary in Golden will start in October 2024 (through a third-party provider) and currently looking to see if after school care in the Nicholson area is wanted and if so hope to have licensing sorted for January 2025.
- The dual credit program in high schools is looking to go ahead next year. There are already five students interested in the dual credit program in SD6 and promotion hasn’t started yet. Crystal will continue with the learning lunches with participants during the program (February – May) to support them with their learning. The College of the Rockies does offer virtual meetings with instructors during the dual credit program which is great for connection to COTR and students in other communities.
- There was a brief discussion about ways to improve connection between those students doing the ECE training at COTR and the childcare facilities across the region as well as resources such as the CCRRs.
 - Could there be a meet-and-greet to highlight providers and opportunities in communities to current students? Could this be in combination with the COTR Job Fair in March each year?
 - It isn’t just about jobs, but about connection of childcare students with facilities and the greater sector. It could also promote the sector to potential new students, highlighting COTR training opportunities. It could also allow dual credit students to see the wider sector opportunities too.
 - Each year the job fair has a theme, and perhaps for 2025 that is childcare? **ACTION:** Robyn and Londa to discuss with COTR about what this could look like and if this could be in conjunction with the annual Job Fair COTR and KES partner on.
 - Is there a way to invite COTR alumni to these events too, to reconnect them with the sector and potential new opportunities?

- Robyn shared the new spaces spreadsheet she has been working on, and which has been sent around to all roundtable members previously. It shows we are looking at about 850 new spaces coming to the region in the next 3-5 years which will need 120 ECEs to support those spaces. [You can view it here.](#)
 - This workforce challenge needs a collaborative not competitive approach. If anyone has ideas on ways to support this improvement in workforce development for ECEs please let Robyn know.
 - **ACTION:** Robyn to work with CBT and COTR to get updated statistics on those receiving training in the East Kootenays to continue to understand the training needs to deliver on the workforce needs.
- There was a brief discussion around immigration and the COTR international cohort. Cheryl shared a positive experience with a student, and there was mention of how to share her story to help people understand the benefits of the international program.
 - Robyn and Londa are having discussions about immigration pilot programs for another project, and childcare could be a good sector to include. Robyn and Londa will keep the roundtable informed as that project progresses.
- The Town of Creston has put in an application for new spaces, for 110 spaces. They are wanting to include 27 units of housing with the project too. Housing is ready to move forward but haven't heard about if the childcare new spaces funding is approved or not.
 - There was a brief discussion around the complications of linking housing with childcare in terms of applications and timelines.
- The Mitacs research project has finished. The recording of the webinar can be found [here](#) and the key findings document [here](#). A full resource page of key findings, policy briefings and documents from this research will be put onto the Community Futures East Kootenay website. Once this is complete, Robyn will send the link around to all roundtable members.
- The South East Kootenay CCRR is hosting an event that is open to everyone on the 19th of October at St Eugenes. The cost is \$40 for the day. You can view and share the poster [here](#).

Presents:
Deborah MacNamara's
Eat, Sleep, Play:
What Kids Need from Caretakers

Food has become fuel losing its nourishing properties that come from feeding with connection in mind. The prescription to eat family dinners misses the mark in understanding what food needs from us so that our loved ones feel nurtured while eating.

What about sleep and the challenges we face to bring our kids to rest at the end of a long day? How can we lead our kids to bed and avoid the pitfalls and plethora of advice offered to adults such a "train them to sleep" or "let them cry it out"?

Instead of asking how we can get our kids to eat or to sleep, we will turn our focus towards understanding how to bring them to rest so that eating and sleeping are possible.

Finally, the presentation will end with an examination of the power of play not only to build brains and forward learning but it's essential role in emotional development. Probably our most significant failing is our lack of collective understanding concerning the pivotal role of play making is an endangered activity in among those who need to engage in it most. We have never known more about the value of play and at the same time, we have never been so in need of this knowledge.

The importance of attachment, and how it serves human development will be the backdrop against which Dr. Deborah MacNamara examines eating, sleeping and the critical role of play.

Community Connections
ChildCareBC

Presented by: Deborah MacNamara
Date: Saturday, October 19, 2024
Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (MDT)
Location: St. Eugene Golf Resort & Casino
 7777 Mission Road, Cranbrook
Conference registration fee: \$40.00 per person
Payable to Community Connections Society by: cash, cheque, credit, debit, e-transfer. Includes: lunch & snacks - SKCCRR & EKSD & EK Early Years will be covering the remainder of the costs. *See conference cancellation policy*
Register via email: skccrr@ccssecb.com or
 phone: 250-426-5677 / 1-800-661-2445

Required for registration:

- Legal name for certificate
- Email address
- Phone number
- Notable allergies (lunch and snacks provided)

Deadline to register: Friday, October 4, 2024.

Hotel information: Attendees are offered a group rate for a hotel room booking at St. Eugene Golf Resort & Casino for the night of October 18 - 19th. Reservations can be made by clicking the link below.
<https://www.reservations.com/Hotels/Details/128154/skccrr?page=true&page=13&tab=0>
 Hotel rooms are only guaranteed to be available until September 20, 2024. After this date, the book will be released on a first come first serve basis.

SKCCRR conference cancellation:
 Request for conference cancellation must be received by 4:00 PM on Thursday, October 10, 2024. Cancellation requests received by this deadline will receive a credit voucher (no refund) to be used towards future conferences/workshops at SKCCRR. Cancellations after this date will receive no credit voucher; however, you can send a substitute in your place. Please call the office to inform us of the substitution.

Next Sharing Roundtables:

- **Tuesday 26 November 2024, 11:00 – 11:45am MT**
- **Tuesday 11 February 2025, 10:00 – 10:45am MT**