ABOUT US

Strive is a collaborative group of Child Care and Early Years Practitioners who support learning and development in order to enhance quality practice. Our community is interested in a process that values reflection and sustainable evolution rather than a prescribed method to measure.

Strive is a responsive, community driven organization with an Advisory Committee that is tasked with ensuring the strategies and tactics are put into action. Members of the Advisory Committee represent the diversity and complexity of the Child Care and Early Years sector. Strive leverages administrative support from a backbone organization; Childreach, and takes all organizational initiatives to the membership for endorsement.

Vision:
We are a community that works collaboratively to promote and build our professional capacity to provide high quality early years, school age, and family support programs and services.

Purpose:
Our purpose is to identify and establish linkages within the Child Care and Early Years community that support and build upon the expertise of Early Years Practitioners and enhance the quality of the services they provide.

Objectives:
Our objectives are to provide continuous professional learning opportunities and resources for early years practitioners, accessible opportunities and resources for practitioners to share as a means to learn through collaborative inquiry, and a mechanism for practitioners to reflect on and deepen their understanding of professional practice.

Get Involved! Strive is made up of several committees and working groups. In order to encompass the voice of all professionals in the community, we invite practitioners to join the conversations. Visit our website for details on how YOU can make an impact. striveswo.ca/services/community-engagement

Strive Committee:
The Strive Committee meets on the second Friday of every month at Childreach. All are welcome to join! More information can be found on our website.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING REGISTRATION BEGINS SEPTEMBER 6, 2019 AT 9:00 A.M.
To register, visit us online at striveswo.ca/our-events or universe.com/striveswo

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London, ON N6B 2Y3
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info@striveswo.ca

Follow us:
@striveswo

Community of Professional Learning Calendar
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ABOUT THIS CALENDAR

The Professional Learning Committee is pleased to offer a variety of learning experiences that align with *How Does Learning Happen? Ontario’s Pedagogy for the Early Years* and that support the growing needs of our community. In this calendar, you will find Approaches to Learning and Pedagogical Focuses that consider and incorporate the foundations of learning: Engagement, Expression, Belonging, and Well-Being.

Strive is committed to delivering workshops in multiple locations throughout the City of London and in the neighbouring counties of Middlesex and Elgin/St. Thomas. We provide an array of learning opportunities to support professional and personal growth, including practical, hands-on workshops/presentations, networking opportunities, and an online learning platform.

We want to empower every educator to take ownership and pride in their ongoing professional learning journey.

*Continuous professional learning is the systematic and intentional maintenance, enhancement, and expansion of the knowledge, skills, and ethical values and behaviours necessary to ensure ongoing quality professional practice throughout a member’s career.*

CPL Portfolio Handbook, CECE.
PEDAGOGICAL FOCUSES

Relationships
Focuses on the importance of relationships in learning, nurturing a strong image of others, and exploring the role of the educator/teacher.

Pedagogical Leadership
Focuses on leading and guiding the study of teaching and learning processes while growing a mentoring culture.

Pedagogical Documentation
Focuses on using documentation to grow practice and make learning visible.

Environments
Focuses on the physical, social, and emotional environment and its role as the third educator in the co-learning process.

Well-Being
Focuses on nurturing a sense of self, health, and wellness for children, families, and practitioners.

APPROACHES TO LEARNING

Single Sessions
Single sessions are one-time experiences that offer participants the opportunity to consider new ideas, contribute perspectives, and reflect on how learning can transform practice. Minimum fee per session: $10.

Professional Learning and Reflection
Professional Learning and Reflection takes place over two or three sessions and encourages participants to build on their own learning over time. Participants form small learning communities where they have opportunities to listen to multiple perspectives and connect ideas to their own practice. Minimum fee per series: $20.

Half Day or Full Day Event
Fees based on speaker, venue, and other expenses.

Community of Practice
Communities of Practice are reoccurring opportunities to join in meaningful conversation. No fee for these sessions.

LOCATION LEGEND

While all early years professionals are welcome at Strive events, we have indicated events hosted in each county by colour. Our hope is that this assists with accessibility and makes the location easily identifiable.

- Events located in London
- Events located in Middlesex County
- Events located in Elgin County
Lionel Laroche est un consultant et auteur qui a donné des ateliers dans plus de 18 pays depuis près de 20 ans. Durant cet atelier, nous apprendrons à communiquer effectivement avec des parents ou des collègues de cultures différentes. L’accent sera principalement dans le domaine de la petite enfance.
Site Tours take place in diverse early childhood settings across the community and will demonstrate various ways in which this sector observes, studies, reflects, plans, collaborates, and documents our lives with children. We hope for participants to step outside of their centre and organization for a tour and meaningful dialogue with early years colleagues.

**Little Lambs Daycare**

**London Waldorf School**

**St. Thomas Early Learning Centre - Dalewood**
Cooks and Dietary Planners are invited to meet, share ideas, and engage in conversations with fellow professionals. These conversations will be facilitated by each county’s respective Health Unit Registered Dietitian to discuss healthy eating and menu planning from the perspective of the Child Care and Early Years Act and current nutritional recommendations for children in child care settings.

**COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>Monday September 23</td>
<td>2:00 pm to 3:30 pm</td>
<td>London Training Centre, 317 Adelaide St South (Adelaide &amp; Commissioners) Unit 110, London, ON N5Z 3L3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday October 23</td>
<td>1:30 pm to 3:00 pm</td>
<td>Southwestern Public Health (St. Thomas site) 1230 Talbot St, St. Thomas, ON N5P 1G9</td>
<td>No Fee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday November 25</td>
<td>2:00 pm to 3:30 pm</td>
<td>Childreach, 265 Maitland St, London, ON N6B 2Y3</td>
<td>No Fee</td>
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* A food demonstration featuring plant-based protein and fish with Chef Chandany Chen
L’objectif du réseau est de réunir les professionnels francophones en petite enfance pour collaborer, discuter et échanger sur leurs idées, succès, questions et inquiétudes. C’est aussi l’occasion d’identifier les besoins en développement professionnel et soutenir les meilleures pratiques pour des services en petite enfance francophone de qualité.

Tout le monde est bienvenu!

COMMUNAUTÉS DE PRATIQUE

 мереди 25 septembre  
 мереди 30 octobre  
 мереди 27 novembre

13h à 15h
Childreach,  
265 Maitland St,  
London, ON N6B 2Y3
Sans Frais
Imagine the place where you feel the most relaxed and comfortable. Envision the space where you feel the most ready to learn. Visualize where you are when you feel the happiest. Is it your classroom? If not, join us to explore the importance of the environment and how it affects learning. Let’s investigate the meaning of the classroom as the third educator. Exploring aspects of the physical environment will inspire you to look more deeply at:

- the first impression your classroom makes;
- how your classroom meets the needs of the children in your care;
- the intentionality of the materials you use; and,
- how it relates to the outdoors.

**EXTREME MAKEOVER: CLASSROOM EDITION**

**PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: ENVIRONMENTS, WELL-BEING**

**Facilitated by Ally Scott, RECE.**

**SINGLE SESSION**

📅 **Monday September 23**

⏱ 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

📍 **St. Thomas EarlyON Child and Family Centre, 7 Morrison Dr, St. Thomas, ON N5R 4S5**

💰 $10

Registration Access Code Provided for Elgin Professionals
THE TOOLS OF MENTORING: RELATIONSHIP, REFLECTION, AND DISPOSITION

Facilitated by Sheryl Third, RECE, M.A. and Kim Woods, RECE / Sheri Spriggs, RECE and Sheila Bedford, RECE.

Do you mentor students? Do you want to explore the tools of mentoring? Have you identified a goal of being a mentor as part of your CPL process? Come and explore your role as a Centre Mentor and share with other mentors and faculty.

Through interactive exercises, discussions, and dialogue, participants will examine the process of mentoring students while discovering strategies for success.

“RECEs build positive relationships with colleagues by demonstrating respect, trust, and integrity. They support, mentor, and collaborate with colleagues, including students aspiring to the profession.” (Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice, College of Early Childhood Educators, 2017, pg. 7)

MULTIPLE SINGLE SESSIONS

Tuesday October 1
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Fanshawe College,
1001 Fanshawe College Blvd., London, ON N5Y 5R6 - Room: TBD
$10

Wednesday October 16
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Fanshawe College,
St. Thomas - Elgin Regional Campus, 120 Bill Martyn Parkway, St. Thomas, ON N5R 6A7 - Room: 121
$10

Registration Access Code Provided for Elgin Professionals
Facilitated by Early Childhood Community Development Centre.

Educators who support school-age programs face many unique challenges when it comes to programming, engagement, building relationships, and their environments. This two-day opportunity will explore all of these topics and more!

Day One:

9:30 am – 11:30 am Embedding Participation and Consultation Within Your School-Age Pedagogy
This session will explore ways to empower children to develop a greater sense of programming ownership. Participants will engage in reflective discussions and gain practical strategies for planning WITH children instead of FOR them.

12:30 pm – 2:30 pm Physical Literacy in School-Age Programs
Educators have an important role to play in supporting physical literacy. In this hands-on, interactive session, participants will learn how to better engage and encourage young people to develop the disposition to become more physically active.
Day Two:

9:30 am – 11:30 am Utilizing Shared Spaces in School-Age Programs
School-age programs often share spaces and facilities that are used by other people and for other purposes throughout the day. Learning to navigate this in a positive way is essential for effective programming. This session will address the many challenges that come along with “living out of a cart” and engage participants in overcoming them.

12:30 pm – 2:30 pm Projects for Schoolagers
Come explore strategies for successfully integrating projects into any school-age program to support children to feel motivated, actively involved in their own learning, and valued, heard, and seen within their space.

Participants can choose to register for one session or up to all four.

Some refreshments will be provided each day; however, participants are encouraged to bring their own brown-bag lunch.
The opportunity to participate in a free workshop for licensed child care educators in London and Middlesex has been extended! The workshops are founded on the Community Connector training developed for our Family-Centred Service System, and are provided through the City of London’s 2018 Licensed Child Care Affordability Pilot - Capacity Building/Special Projects.

Participants will:
• attend a tailored workshop, responsive to the child care sector, that will incorporate situational examples from child care settings;
• increase their knowledge and awareness of Family Centres, EarlyON Child and Family Centres, relevant referral processes, and other local community supports available to the families they work with;
• help strengthen communities of practice through the sharing of information; and,
• further their ability to consistently deliver high quality service information and referrals to families.

Dinner will be provided. Please be sure to share any dietary restrictions on your registration.
Facilitated by Paula Dibbits, RECE.

“Although it is possible to be a reflective teacher on your own, reflecting with a group of coworkers offers a richer experience of camaraderie, multiple perspectives, deeper learning, and shared enjoyment of your work together.” (Curtis, Lebo, Cividanes, & Carter, 2013)

This opportunity invites Educators who work in and/or support infant programs to come together and collaboratively reflect on the unique joys and the challenges that come with caring for our youngest children. Participants will share experiences, ideas, and resources, and offer one another support, listen, and ask thoughtful questions. Topics may include programming ideas, communication, the environment, and much more.

Conversations emerging from this group will be ongoing, so we encourage participants to plan on joining us monthly.
Facilitée par Anne Eriksson, Coordonnatrice de Régions, Marie-Laurence Cyr, REPE, et Gabriela Neculman.

Lors de cette première rencontre, nous aimerions vous présenter la vision de notre programme ainsi que définir vos attentes. Ensemble nous allons déterminer le concept de mentorat et apprendre à se connaître en tant que communauté d’apprentissage.

SÉANCE UNIQUE

📅 Mercredi 23 octobre
⏰ 18h30 à 20h30
📍 Westmount Family Centre, 1019 Viscount Rd, London, ON N6K 1H5
💰 Sans Frais
FAMILY LITERACY CONFERENCE FOR PROFESSIONALS

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: RELATIONSHIPS, PEDAGOGICAL LEADERSHIP, WELL-BEING

“Because Ontario’s pedagogy for early years (How Does Learning Happen?, Ontario Ministry of Education, 2014) is based on an articulated view of the child as competent and capable of complex thinking, there should be congruency for educators to respect and advocate for children’s rights and to continue the dialogue about children’s rights.” (Callaghan, Long-Wincza, & Velenosi, 2017)

Join us for the 9th Annual Family Literacy Conference for Professionals where Karyn Callaghan and colleagues Victoria Long-Wincza and Cheryl Velenosi will engage us in a conversation about children’s rights. These distinguished women spearheaded the development of Hamilton’s Charter of Rights of Children and Youth and will share that experience with us, as well as their insights and lessons learned along the way.

Participants will then partake in inter-professional perspectives, reflective dialogue, and collaborative inquiry as we consider children’s rights and the London context.

Lunch will be provided. Please be sure to share any dietary restrictions on your registration.

FULL DAY EVENT

📅 Saturday October 26
⏰ 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
📍 Sir Arthur Currie Public School,
2435 Buroak Drive,
London, ON N6G 0L5
💰 No Fee

Registration Deadline October 18
Facilitated by Michelle Valladares, HBECL, RECE.

An interactive event filled with tips, testimonials, and thoughtful reflection to help shape our self-care practices. This workshop is intended to refresh our way of thinking and viewing ourselves as people and professionals. In addition, these tools may be adaptable to inspire self-care tools that are relevant for children and their families.

SINGLE SESSION

📅 Monday October 28
⏰ 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
📍 North Meadows Public School, 82 Middlesex Dr, Strathroy, ON N7G 4G5
💰 $10
Come join us to gain a better understanding of Trauma Informed Practice. The trauma-informed approach is relevant for anyone who works with children and families, as we never know who has experienced trauma in their lives.

Trauma, a normal reaction to an abnormal situation, is unique to the individual, and trauma-informed care shifts the approach from “what is wrong with you?” to “what happened to you?”

Dinner will be provided. Please be sure to share any dietary restrictions on your registration.
BIEN-ÊTRE HAUTE EN COULEURS: APPLICATIONS POUR TRAVAILLER AVEC LES ENFANTS

ORIENTATION PÉDAGOGIQUE: RELATIONS, BIEN-ÊTRE

Facilitée par Arielle Bush, BFA, DTATI, Professional Art Therapist.

Explorez les avantages de la création artistique pour aider à améliorer le bien-être émotionnel et la santé mentale des enfants. Les participants découvriront la relation entre le cerveau et les émotions, ainsi que des outils pratiques pour travailler avec les enfants.

SÉANCE UNIQUE

📅 Jeudi 7 novembre
🕒 18h30 à 20h30
📍 Childreach, 265 Maitland St, London, ON N6B 2Y3
💰 $10
Facilitated by Ferguson Plain and Members of the Aboriginal Babies and Beyond Coalition.

Join local Indigenous author Ferguson Plain, as he shares a reading of one of his many children’s books. Participants will then break off into small groups to take an in-depth look at how to incorporate this book through the lens of *How Does Learning Happen?* How do we engage children’s curiosity about the book, and then follow their lead as co-learners? How do we continue to foster culturally safe and responsive learning environments?

Books will be available for purchase and signing!

Please be sure to share any dietary restrictions on your registration.

**Saturday Session -** Registration Deadline November 1

**Tuesday Session -** Registration Deadline November 12

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**MUTLIPLE SINGLE SESSIONS**

- **Saturday November 9**
  - 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
  - *Lunch will be provided
  - **N’Amerind Friendship Centre, 260 Colborne St, London, ON N6B 25S**
  - **No Fee**

- **Tuesday November 19**
  - 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm
  - *Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm, session will begin at 6:30 pm
  - **Chippewas Community Centre, 326 Chippewa Rd, Muncey, ON N0L 1Y0**
  - **No Fee**
Facilitated by The Journey Together Culturally Safe Spaces working group representing Indigenous educators, Indigenous-led organizations, and allies.

Through Ontario’s Journey Together Initiative, the Culturally Safe Spaces Working Group, in collaboration with City of London and SOAHAC, is providing free workshops for licensed child care and EarlyON providers in London and Middlesex.

These workshops offer an exciting opportunity for educators to come together and discuss responsibilities to create culturally safe spaces in classrooms and communities. We hope to plant seeds of knowledge for ongoing dialogue in honour of our ancestors, residential school survivors, and mother earth.

Participants will:
- be provided with an opportunity to explore new conversation topics from previous sessions’ feedback;
- further reflect on the resources provided in the seed planting workshops;
- participate in deeper small group reflection related to your daily practice; and,
- network and develop relationships.

These workshops are a continuation of the conversations held with the seed planting workshops offered in Spring/Summer of 2019. It is not necessary to have participated in one of the previous workshop to join these conversations.
LET’S TELL STORIES (WITHOUT BOOKS!)

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: RELATIONSHIPS, ENVIRONMENTS, WELL-BEING

Learn the many benefits of incorporating storytelling activities in early childhood (and beyond!). Facilitators will highlight what makes storytelling so important and will also discuss their experiences facilitating children’s storytelling programs. Then, through a series of hands-on, group exercises, participants in this session will learn a variety of methods to encourage children’s storytelling.

Facilitated by Shauna Dereniowski, Children and Youth Librarian, Middlesex County Library.

SINGLE SESSION

📅 Wednesday November 13
🕒 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
📍 Glencoe Library, 123 McKellar St, Glencoe, ON N0L 1M0
💵 $10
What do a Researcher, Chief Play Officer, and your Peers have in common? Come for the morning to discover and be inspired on ways to build an environment where policy, creativity, and social-emotional learning are fueled by the joy of movement.

Dr. Trish Tucker from Western University will share the results of the Physical Activity (PLAY) policy study that shows how child care settings have created a supportive environment for physical activity through policy.

Peers will share how policy supports their practice for creating environments that encourage children to learn through play.

Lynn Campanella from Playocracy will help us look at ways to intentionally develop Fundamental Movement Skills that support social-emotional learning. We will do this while we play! Play is natural practice for Physical Literacy.

Come in comfortable attire and running shoes to Play and Learn!

Refreshments will be provided.
The world needs more of Mr. Rogers in our neighbourhoods!

Pedagogical focus: Relationships, Pedagogical Leadership, Well-being

Are you looking for inspiration? Do you want to build lasting conversations and relationships? Do you sometimes feel undervalued or worried about the future? Then this might be for you!

This session will explore the main messages from the Mr. Rogers documentary, Won’t You Be My Neighbor? Together, participants will identify how we can lean into the values Mr. Rogers lived and modelled every day and practical ways to promote these values and practices within our programs.

The hope is that those who attend have viewed the movie, but it is not absolutely necessary. (Note: You can borrow the video from the ECE Resource Library at Childreach or view it on Netflix)

If there is interest, the plan is to create an ongoing dialogue around this topic. Come and be part of the conversation!

Facilitated by Sheryl Third, RECE, M.A.
How Does Learning Happen in Storytime? will be a fun and interactive exploration of the pedagogy in storytime programming.

This opportunity is for you, if you’d like to:

- ensure that the environment of your program provides high-quality experiences for children and families;
- foster the kinds of relationships within your program that best promote children’s learning, development, health, and well-being; and,
- support program staff in their work with children and families.

Facilitated by Jill Javelosa-Alvarez, RECE, Early Literacy Specialist.

SINGLE SESSION

📅 Wednesday November 20
⏰ 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm
📍 St. Thomas Public Library, Carnegie Room, 153 Curtis St, St. Thomas, ON N5P 3Z7
💰 $10

Registration Access Code Provided for Elgin Professionals
Professional learning is a journey, an ongoing process of reflection that inspires practitioners to reach their potential as pedagogical leaders. The process should allow people the opportunity to build their skills and capacity, enhance their competency and confidence, provide a safe place to debate and discuss, and ultimately contribute to the growth of the field.
Strive would like to recognize the City of London's Children's Services division for its ongoing investment and support of professional learning opportunities for our child care and early learning community.