

COMMUNITY OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

CALENDAR
JAN | APR 2020



PREPARED BY:



Leading Inspired
Learning

*child*REACH



ABOUT US

Strive is a collaborative group of Child Care and Early Years professionals 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 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 professionals and enhance the quality of the services they provide.

Objectives:

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

Get Involved! Strive is made up of several committees and working groups. We invite and encourage all professionals to join the conversation. 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
JANUARY 10, 2020 AT 9:00 A.M.**

To register, visit us online at striveswo.ca/our-events or universe.com/striveswo

CONTACT STRIVE

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Follow us:

@striveswo





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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

Well-Being

Focuses on nurturing a sense of self, health, and wellness for children, families, and professionals.

Belonging

Focuses on cultivating authentic, responsive relationships, positive interactions, and valuing each individual's unique spirit and contributions.

Engagement

Focuses on meaningful play, inquiry, and exploration, as well as the role of the environment in the co-learning process.

Expression

Focuses on fostering communication and expression in all forms.

Leadership

Focuses on organizational culture and engagement, as well as personal leadership skills.

APPROACHES TO LEARNING

Single Sessions

Single Sessions are one-time experiences that offer participants an opportunity to explore new ideas, consider multiple perspectives, and reflect on how learning can transform practice.

Series

A Series takes place over two or three sessions and encourages participants to dig in to a particular topic or idea and build on their learning over time.

Community of Practice

A Community of Practice is a dynamic, reoccurring opportunity where participants join in meaningful conversation, build collaborative relationships, and share their ideas and experiences.

Special Event

These learning events typically take place over a full or half-day and offer participants unique opportunities to network and exchange ideas.

Strive is committed to making professional learning as accessible as possible by passing on minimal or no cost to participants. Registration fees, when applicable, are based on the facilitator(s), venue, and other expenses.

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



BLOCKS BUILD BODIES AND MINDS

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: ENGAGEMENT, EXPRESSION

**ONLINE
LEARNING
OPPORTUNITY**

Facilitated by Diane Kashin, Ed.D, RECE and Cindy Green, BSc, RECE.

This unique opportunity invites a new way of engaging in professional learning, online! Diane Kashin and Cindy Green have created an introductory 5-part online series exploring block play.

In your child care environment, it is likely that you already engage in block play daily; these modules will explore the theory and the practice of this ubiquitous play experience. Revisiting this staple learning material in a reflective way will help you engage differently with both the blocks and the children participating with them.

Spaces are limited for this first module release. Strive members will receive a discounted rate – please visit your Members Area on the Strive website for your unique registration link. Once you are registered, you will have 6 months to complete this 5-part learning opportunity at your own pace.

SCAN ME →

Fee: \$50 (discounted rate for Strive members)



Course made possible with the generous support of:





COMMUNAUTÉ D'ÉCHANGE

ORIENTATION PÉDAGOGIQUE : BIEN-ÊTRE, APPARTENANCE, LEADERSHIP



Facilitée par **Anne Eriksson** et **Gabriela Neculman**.

Tous sont les bienvenues à se joindre à nous pour une série de sessions de ce programme de mentorat. Lors de nos rencontres, nous discuterons divers sujets pour enrichir votre rôle comme accompagnateur/andragogique/pédagogique.

Une collation sera servie en début de séance.

Au plaisir de vous y retrouver!



LONDON FRENCH DAY CARE CENTRE
GARDERIE FRANCOPHONE

COMMUNAUTÉ DE PRATIQUE

15 Mercredi 15 janvier
🕒 18h30 à 20h30
📍 Childreach,
265 Maitland St,
London, ON N6B 2Y3

26 Mercredi 26 février
Mercredi 18 mars
Mercredi 15 avril
🕒 18h30 à 20h30
📍 Family Centre Westmount
1019 Viscount Rd,
London, ON N6K 1H5

💰 Sans Frais



APPRENTICESHIP PANEL

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: LEADERSHIP



Join us for an informative evening about the apprenticeship pathway to becoming an Early Childhood Educator. If you are a leader supporting professionals through the process, or if you are interested in obtaining your ECE diploma while working in a child care setting, this evening is for you.

Panelistes to include:

Taylor Frost, Employment and Training Consultant from the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development. Taylor is responsible for approving which employers may provide apprenticeship training and assessing applicant eligibility to participate in apprenticeship training.

Sheryl Third, Coordinator of the Child Development Practitioner (ECE Apprenticeship) program at Fanshawe College.

Diane Gordon, RECE and Executive Director at Whitehills Childcare Association.

Shellee Skinner, RECE at Grand Ave. Children's Centre and graduate of the Apprenticeship program.

SINGLE SESSION

 **Thursday January 23**

 **6:30 pm to 8:30 pm**

 **Fanshawe College
1001 Fanshawe College
Blvd, London, ON
N5Y 5R6 Room: H2006**

 **No Fee**





COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE: INFANT EDUCATORS

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: BELONGING, WELL-BEING, EXPRESSION, ENGAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP



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, 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.

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

 **Tuesday January 28**
Tuesday March 31

 **6:30 pm to 8:00 pm**

 **Childreach,**
265 Maitland St,
London, ON N6B 2Y3

 **\$10 per session**

*child***REACH**



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!

COMMUNAUTÉ DE PRATIQUE

 **Mercredi 29 janvier**
Mercredi 25 mars

 **13h à 15h**

 **Childreach,
265 Maitland St,
London, ON N6B 2Y3**

 **Sans Frais**



COMMUNITY CONNECTOR TRAINING FOR LICENSED CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: LEADERSHIP, EXPRESSION, BELONGING



SERIES

 **Thursday January 30 & Thursday February 20**

*Must attend both sessions

 **5:30 pm to 8:30 pm**

 **Family Centre White Oaks,
565 Bradley Ave,
London, ON N6E 3Z8**

 **\$20***

Facilitated by Community Connectors representing the partner agencies of the Family-Centred Service System.

The opportunity to participate in this impactful training has been extended! These sessions are founded on the Community Connector training developed for our Family-Centred Service System.

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; and,
- further their ability to consistently deliver high quality service information and sensitive, informed referrals to families.

What participants are saying:

“This workshop changed my life. I don’t want to say it only changed my work life, because it really changed how I think on a day-to-day basis. I cannot express how much I needed this training without knowing I needed it. This training is something at LEAST one person in each child care centre should have. Just knowing there is a library of resources all in one area makes me feel so confident to take on any challenge that may arise.”

- Shelby Bilyea, RECE



* At no cost to London and Middlesex Professionals
Made possible by the City of London, County of Middlesex, Province of Ontario and Government of Canada



FORMATION EN LEADERSHIP

ORIENTATION PÉDAGOGIQUE : LEADERSHIP



Facilitée par Mélanie Chevrier, Innovatrice communautaire, Consultante et Formatrice.

Opportunité exceptionnelle de valider vos compétences personnelles en leadership, grâce à des exemples concrets, des réflexions, des discussions et une présentation par une formatrice chevronnée comptant plus de 20 ans d'expérience dans le domaine.

Cette formation s'adresse à tous ceux qui ont un rôle de leadership dans la petite enfance, incluant : superviseur de centre, direction générale, gestionnaire en RH, coordination des projets, intervenante en éducation, etc.

SÉANCE UNIQUE

 **Samedi 1 février**

 **9h à 15h**

 **Childreach,
265 Maitland St,
London, ON N6B 2Y3**

 **Sans Frais**





RENEGADE RULES: THE LANGUAGE OF LEARNING

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: EXPRESSION, ENGAGEMENT, WELL-BEING



Facilitated by Charity Born, BA, MEd, SSW.

These sessions will challenge the status quo and explore how to support confident and compassionate children. Participants will be encouraged to remove their adult lenses and redefine many of their long held “norms”.

Do I Have To Say Sorry?

This session explores the implications of niceness. We will discuss the underlying messaging that a forced apology sends and explore what making amends and supporting apologies looks like.

When “Good Job!” Goes Bad

This session will explore the language of encouragement and motivation. We will discuss the benefits and negative impacts that our encouraging language can have.

Say No To “No, Thank You”

This session will explore the phrase commonly said to children. When is “no, thank you” appropriate and when does it send mixed messages.

While commitment to attending all three sessions is not required, it is strongly encouraged.

SINGLE SESSION

 **Tuesday February 4**
Tuesday March 3
Tuesday April 7

 **6:30 pm to 8:30 pm**

 **Childreach,**
265 Maitland St,
London, ON N6B 2Y3

 **\$10 per session**

*child*REACH



UNDERSTANDING TRAUMA

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: WELL-BEING



Facilitated by Allison Preyde, Anova Public Education Coordinator.

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?”.

*** This is the same event as was offered on November 5, 2019. Please see page 19 if you are interested in delving deeper into this topic.*



MULTIPLE SINGLE SESSIONS

5 **Wednesday February 5**
🕒 **6:30 pm to 8:00 pm**
📍 **Komoka Wellness Centre,
Library Program Room,
1 Tunks Ln,
Komoka, ON N0L 1R0**
💰 **\$10***

11 **Wednesday March 11**
🕒 **6:30 pm to 8:00 pm**
📍 **Fanshawe College,
St. Thomas – Elgin Regional
Campus, 120 Bill Martyn
Pkwy, St. Thomas, ON N5R
6A7**
💰 **\$10**
Registration Access Code
Provided for Elgin Professionals

8 **Wednesday April 8**
🕒 **6:30 pm to 8:00 pm**
📍 **Goodwill Industries, Town
Hall (3rd floor), 255 Horton
St E, London ON N6B 1L1**
💰 **\$10***

* At no cost to London and Middlesex Professionals
Made possible by the City of London, County of Middlesex,
Province of Ontario and Government of Canada



COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE: CHILD CARE COOKS AND DIETARY PLANNERS

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: PEDAGOGICAL LEADERSHIP



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.



COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

 **Monday February 24**
 **2:00 pm to 3:30 pm**
 **Childreach,
265 Maitland St,
London, ON N6B 2Y3**
 **No Fee**

 **Wednesday March 11**
 **1:30 pm to 3:00 pm**
 **Southwestern Public
Health (St. Thomas site)
1230 Talbot St, St. Thomas
ON N5P 1G9**
 **No Fee**



WINTER RETHINK 2020

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: BELONGING

* At no cost to London and Middlesex Professionals
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“A deep sense of love and belonging is an irreducible need of all people. We are biologically, cognitively, physically, and spiritually wired to love, to be loved, and to belong.”

- Brené Brown

What does it mean to belong? How do you know when you do? What does that feel like?

This year, we will RETHINK how we nurture authentic connections with children and families and how our own sense of belonging impacts our professional practice.

Representatives from LUSO Community Services will share a presentation on the effective settlement of newcomer children in child care settings. We will consider how to cultivate belonging through our interactions and the environment. Lisa Clarke, from laLa Wellness will engage us in reflecting on the power of self-talk. How do the stories we tell ourselves and the things we allow to occupy our minds impact our perception of how we fit into the world?

The day will also incorporate inspiring stories from educators within our own community.

You belong at Winter Rethink 2020!



SPECIAL EVENT

 **Saturday March 7**

 **9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

 **Western Fair District,
Carousel Room,
316 Rectory St,
London, ON N5W 3V9**

 **\$25***

**Registration Deadline
February 28**



CHANGEMENT EXTRÊME

ORIENTATION PÉDAGOGIQUE : ENGAGEMENT, BIEN-ÊTRE



Facilitée par **Gabriela Neculman et Anne Eriksson.**

Imaginez l'endroit où vous vous sentez le plus à l'aise. Visualisez l'espace où vous vous sentez prêt à apprendre. Visualisez où vous êtes quand vous vous sentez heureux. Est-ce dans votre salle de classe? Si non, joignez-vous à nous pour explorer l'importance de l'environnement et comment ça affecte l'apprentissage. Allons enquêter la définition de la salle de classe comme 3e enseignant. Explorons les aspects de l'environnement physique qui vous inspireront à regarder de façon plus approfondi les aspects suivants :

- La première impression que votre salle de classe donne
- Comment votre salle répond aux besoins des enfants sous vos soins
- Les intentions du matériel que vous utilisez
- Comment l'extérieur y est intégré

SÉANCE UNIQUE

 **Mercredi 11 mars**

 **18h30 à 20h30**

 **Académie de la Tamise,
1260 Dundas St,
London, ON N5W 5P2**

 **\$10**





LET'S DE-MYSTIFY SUCCESSION PLANNING

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: LEADERSHIP, ENGAGEMENT



Facilitated by Jen Denys, CHRL, CPC, CNTC.

In this workshop, we will identify concepts and explore practical tools you can implement to create a culture of development. You will also be invited to design a learning map to onboard new members and encourage success in prospective leaders on your teams.

Jen Denys is Principal of Blue Core Coaching and has over 15 years of experience in Human Resources, Project Management, mediation, impact coaching, and mentoring. She is an expert facilitator who engages in courageous conversations to enable professionals to achieve their goals.

Stay tuned for a Spring/Summer 2020 offering of this session in London!



MULTIPLE SINGLE SESSIONS

 **Tuesday March 24**
 **9:30 am to 12:30 pm**
 **St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services Building, Community Room**
230 Talbot St, St. Thomas, ON N5P 1B5
 **\$15**
Registration Access Code Provided for Elgin Professionals

 **Tuesday April 14**
 **12:30 pm to 3:30 pm**
 **Strathroy & Area Seniors' Centre, Lunchroom**
137 Frank St, Strathroy, ON N7G 2R8
 **\$15**



THE PEDAGOGY OF LOOSE PARTS

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: ENGAGEMENT, EXPRESSION



Facilitated by Meaghan MacDonell, RECE, Hons. BA.

Loose parts are the flexible edge of an inviting and engaging play environment.

This session is for anyone curious about loose parts play, whether it is something you currently engage with regularly or not at all.

Through interactive, hands-on exploration and reflective dialogue, participants will:

- consider the many benefits of loose parts play;
- assess the possibilities of their current environments;
- evaluate what makes an appropriate loose part;
- explore implementation from infancy onwards; and,
- examine strategies to support a commitment to sustainability.

SINGLE SESSION

 **Wednesday March 25**

 **6:30 pm to 8:30 pm**

 **Komoka Wellness Centre,
Library Program Room,
1 Tunks Ln,
Komoka, ON N0L 1R0**

 **\$10**



RESILIENCE-INFORMED CAREGIVING

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: WELL-BEING



Facilitated by Karen Bax, Ph.D., C. Psych. Director, Western’s Mary J. Wright Research and Education Centre at Merrymount. Assistant Professor, Western University.

SERIES

 **Wednesday March 25 & Wednesday April 1**

*Must attend both sessions

 **6:30 pm to 8:30 pm**

 **Childreach,
265 Maitland St,
London, ON N6B 2Y3**

 **\$20**

*All proceeds from this event will be donated to the Mary J. Wright Research and Education Centre at Merrymount

Part I

Children today seem to be struggling with stress and self-regulation. Many children and youth report feeling unprecedented levels of stress and anxiety, and educators in classrooms report a growing number of children who appear to struggle with subsequent emotional and behavioural self-management. This session will explore the “why” of seeing this change in child resilience, the “what” in terms of how the brain works under stress, and introduce the “how” of helping children learn social, emotional, and behavioural skills to bounce back from stressful situations.

Part II

Did you know that resilience can be learned! This workshop will be entirely centred on the “how” of helping children learn to manage strong emotions. By understanding how our brains work under stress, children can learn how to pay better attention to their feelings, thoughts, and behavior, which will help them make better decisions about how they respond. Concrete skills will be demonstrated and practiced with participants throughout this session, including incorporating mindful awareness and breathing strategies to manage emotions and social and emotional skills to respond in a more positive way.



SELF-REGULATION: LOOKING AT CHILDREN WITH KIND EYES

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: BELONGING, WELL-BEING, EXPRESSION, ENGAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP



Facilitated by Nancy Liabotis, RECE, RC and Carolyn Little, RECE, RC.

“Self-Reg is an approach to understanding people, building relationships, and helping people and communities be their best selves in various circumstances. And by calling Self-Reg a platform, rather than a program or intervention, we mean that it is the foundation underlying everything we do – communicating, working with people, remediation, discipline, supporting mental health, addressing special needs, and building community.”
(Stuart Shanker, 2018).

Self-regulation refers to how well we manage stress, how much energy we expend, and how well we recover. It is about understanding, not managing behaviour, and how we can improve the conditions that result in challenging behaviours.

In this three-part series, we will learn about the essentials of self-regulation and the Shanker Method of Self-Reg through reflection, interaction, and small group work.

SERIES

 **Thursday April 9, Thursday April 23 & Thursday May 7**
*Must attend all three sessions

 **6:30 pm to 8:30 pm**

 **St. Thomas Public Library, Carnegie Room, 153 Curtis St, St. Thomas, ON N5P 3Z7**

 **\$30**
Registration Access Code Provided for Elgin Professionals

In session one, we will explore self-regulation and what it is. We will look at the brain, stress, and how self-regulation is about how we manage and recover from stress.

In session two, we will illuminate the five domains of self-regulation – biological, emotion, cognitive, social, and prosocial – and note sources of stress that can occur in each domain.

In session three, we will delve into the Shanker Method of Self-Reg and how to practice all five steps to support children’s (and our) self-regulation and get back to calm.





COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE: SITE TOURS

PEDAGOGICAL FOCUS: PEDAGOGICAL LEADERSHIP



Dutton Child Care Centre.

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.



COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

 **Tuesday April 21**

 **6:30 pm to 8:00 pm**

 **Dutton Child Care Centre,
3 Lions Rd,
Dutton, ON N0L 1J0**

 **\$10**

Professional learning is a journey, an ongoing process of reflection that inspires educators to reach their potential. 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.

COMMUNITY OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

CALENDAR JANUARY TO APRIL 2020



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.

Strive

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