

# MAY

## WORKSHOPS

- Saturday, May 5th, 2018
- Delta Hotel—1919 Saskatchewan Drive
- Regina, Saskatchewan
- Registration fee— \$125.00 (members)  
\$150.00 (non-members)

The Saskatchewan Early Childhood Association is hosting a one day workshop with break out sessions held at the Delta Hotel in Regina, Saskatchewan on May 5th, 2018. The day will start with Kevin MacKenzie followed by an afternoon of breakout sessions.

### Morning Session:



**Kevin MacKenzie** is an Early Childhood Educator and Storyteller. His DVD's of fingerplays are used across the world. As an adult (who was once a child) living with ADHD, Kevin understands self regulation from a very real, day to day perspective. He practices yoga, meditation, visualization, arts and gratitude in order to keep his feet on planet earth – and to be the best father he can be to his three preschool aged children.

**Children Making Choices** teaches caregivers about the basics of neurobiology involved in self regulation, co-regulation, and environmental regulation, then gives practical strategies for creating a calming, empowering experience for children. Children make great choices - under the right conditions. When children become dis-regulated (emotionally and physically over or under stimulated) their choices become reactive.

Their decisions are made from a state of reduced effectiveness – of fight or flight. The more stressed a child (or an adult for that matter) is, the less capable they are of making pro-social decisions. Research shows us how emotional arousal and dis-regulation can decrease and shut down our impulse control and ability to listen, learn and choose. This session will be 3 hours in length.

### Afternoon Sessions:



**Monique Wahl**  
**Early Learning with Block Play**

This workshop is for early learning educators from prekindergarten, kindergarten and Grade 1 to work collaboratively to discover and deepen their understandings around the many foundational skills that children develop during block play. Through concrete, hands-on activities, participants will experience and examine the many connections between block play and curricular outcomes, and the current research on the topic. Participants will have opportunity for reflection on their current practice, planning for block play and for creating a network of support. This session will be 3 hours in length.

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**Jennie Bryant** comes with a wealth of knowledge about the Early Childhood Intervention Program, having experience: being a parent receiving the service for her own child, as an Early Childhood Interventionist providing the service, as the Supervisor leading the staff and now the Executive Director leading the program.

**Early Childhood Intervention Program & ECEs** This breakout session will provide information about working with Early Childhood Intervention Programs (ECIP's). There are 14 programs across the province that provide therapeutic home visits to children from birth to school age who have disability, developmental delay or are at risk for developing a delay in their development. It will cover a range of topics, including: information on the importance of early intervention, when to make a referral to ECIP, the referral process, and how ECIP might work

with you directly as the care provider. It will be followed by a question and answer period. This session will be 1.5 hours in length.



**Melanie Bacon** has 20 years of experience and has had the opportunity to work in a variety of settings in the field of Early Childhood Education; including child care centres, facilitating workshops, mentoring other centres as they incorporate Play & Exploration and as a the Executive Director of her current centre, Play & Discover Early Learning Centre. With great passion for the ECE field and ensuring children have safe, caring and fun environments to learn and grow Melanie is always working towards best practices and staying current within the ever transforming field of ECE.

**Parent Engagement...Working with Families to Improve Children's Learning**

If you have ever struggled trying to find ways to get families involved in your centre, this breakout session may be just what you are looking for. We know parents are busy and usually run in and out when dropping off or picking up their child but how can we invite them in to be a participant in our learning program and centre? During this breakout session we will cover a variety of creative ways that you can engage parents and build quality relationships with them. Through small and large group discussions, and hands on experiences participants will gain insight into what facilities can do to develop these relationships. This session will be 1.5 hours in length.



**Laurie Hudyma** is a Senior Policy and Program Analyst with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, Early Years Branch. She has long been a passionate advocate for young children—for their amazing perceptions, competencies and learning capacities. Laurie has engaged, explored and played with young children throughout her career in the rolls of preschool and Kindergarten educator, conference and workshop presenter, Hanen *Learning Language and Loving It*® facilitator, writer and post-secondary instructor. Complete retirement doesn't seem to be an option although increasing her availability to spend more time with her four young grandchildren is a powerful motivation.

**Essential Learning Experiences: The "How To" for Play and Exploration** The workshop is important for both educators and directors. It will offer learning opportunities to support your implementation of *Essential Learning Experiences For Three-, Four-, and Five-*

*Year-Olds*. Attending will enable your facility to further enhance children's holistic development in all four domains – Social Emotional, Physical, Intellectual and Spiritual. Workshop activities are designed to familiarize participants with a wide range of learning experiences essential for the optimal development of preschool-aged children.

Educators will explore ideas for strengthening their abilities in listening, observing, reflecting and planning effective responses to children's interactions and explorations. Participants will utilize the *Essential Learning Experiences* document throughout the workshop and will receive a personal copy to take back to their centers. This session will be 1.5 hours in length.

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**Patricia Clark and Colleagues** of the SCEP CENTRE Early Intervention and Training Services offers a specialized preschool program for young children with complex needs in the areas of communication and socialization, guidance and support to parents, and training for others.

**Helping Young Children Deal with Stress: SCEP CENTRE Approaches**  
Many children in child care face stress in their lives from the everyday experiences of separating from parents or caregivers, being away from home long hours, learning social skills such as waiting, sharing, taking turns, or something as simple as a new baby in the home. Very young children with little language or older children who have difficulty communicating may also experience stress. Some children may face additional complications in their lives due to extended

separation from their family, an older sibling who bullies, illness or trauma. Some parents struggle with racism, isolation, health problems, separation and loss, poverty and domestic abuse the impacts of which are often felt by the whole family including the children.

Often adults are unaware of the stresses children face in their lives. They see only the results, the misbehavior, defiance and refusal to cooperate, the rigidity, power struggles and anger. Although adults may not always know why a child is “difficult”, adults can act in ways that help or heal, supporting children and helping them cope rather than burdening them further. How adults respond to a child’s behavior and the kind of interpersonal environment adults create can make a significant difference in the lives of children.

SCEP CENTRE uses simple methods, drawing on the children’s strengths, to engage and communicate with them. At SCEP adults recognize emotions, put these into words, provide empathy and support while setting limits on behavior and thereby build relationships and help children cope. These methods can be learned by others and applied in other settings. They can be helpful for all children. Based on many years of experience the Executive Director and representatives of SCEP CENTRE’s Senior Professional Staff Team will discuss SCEP approaches and their application to mainstream early childhood settings. This session will be 1.5 hours in length



**Kevin MacKenzie**

**Storytelling Towards Literacy** is a hands on boots off party of a workshop. Electrify yourself by digging around and finding what kind of talent you already use every day. Learn what words are before they are print. What sounds are before they are words. What images are while they are still a felt sensation. Literacy starts in the body, and builds through the senses. It builds through play. It builds through dreaming. And it builds through connection. You have oral literacy in you. You use it every day. Let’s learn to share it.

In this workshop, we will learn fascinating facts, such as “grade twos who listened to oral stories as preschoolers scored better at math.” Hmm. Cool, eh? But more importantly, we will find out what happens when you gorge yourself on your neighbours, why hairy, fanged monsters make poor babysitters but delightful playmates, and in the meantime become more competent at sharing our own “dreamer” with our children.

We want our children to develop listening skills, to understand and be able to manipulate the patterns in language, to develop a mad desire to find out what happens next, to see themselves as audacious, not just competent, readers. We need them leap past simply owning a story, to *owning* that story. Children lay the very foundations of formal abstract thought - the kind they will use through school and life - through storytelling. Does storytelling increase scholastic success? Well, yes - but more importantly it creates meaning and joy.

Yes. The mechanics of reading printed letters are a big part of literacy. But for lighting the fire to motivate children to crave the treasure that hides within those printed words - you can’t beat a good story. This session will be 1.5 hours in length.



**Contact SECA for registration information:**

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