

A NEW YEAR OF LEARNING AND CONNECTION

As we move into the new year, it's a valuable time to reflect on how we continue to learn and connect with our partners to better support children, families, and the professionals who work alongside them. This new year brings a range of opportunities to build knowledge and strengthen practice across early years and family-support settings. From professional development and training opportunities to supporting families to share their voices and experiences through advocacy efforts, the updates below highlight meaningful ways to learn, collaborate, and grow in the months ahead.

Whether you're looking to explore new evidence-informed strategies, connect with peers who are navigating similar challenges, or engage in reflective conversations that spark fresh ideas, we hope these opportunities support your professional journey and strengthen the networks that make our work possible. Together, we can continue building environments where children and families feel supported, understood, and empowered, now and throughout the year of 2026.

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

[Parent Child Mother
Goose Program](#)

[Caregiver Advisory
Group](#)

[Trauma and
Neurodivergence in ECE](#)

[Let's Talk About
Touching](#)

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 SEED@UNBC.CA

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LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Parent Child Mother Goose Program

The BC Council for Families (BCCF) is supporting 18 agencies to deliver community [Parent-Child Mother Goose programs](#) across British Columbia during the 2025–2026 fiscal year. Organizations interested in future funding opportunities are encouraged to watch for details in the BCCF Spring Newsletter, when applications for the 2026–2027 year are expected to open. BCCF is also offering several upcoming training opportunities.

An in-person Parent-Child Mother Goose Teacher Training will be held this March in Vancouver. In addition, a virtual Parent-Child Mother Goose training will take place on March 3, 5, 10, and 12, from 6:00–9:00 PM.

To register for the virtual training, or for more information, please contact **Crystal Murgatroyd** by email at crystal.murgatroyd@bc.ymca.ca.

General inquiries about Parent-Child Mother Goose programming can also be directed to mgoosebc@bccf.ca.



Calling Caregivers: Join the CARE Advisory Group

The CARE Collaboration is recruiting **caregivers of children aged 0–8 years** from across Canada to join a [virtual Caregiver Advisory Group](#). Participants will help shape research and family resources by sharing their experiences, providing feedback on parenting materials (such as videos and webinars), and offering ideas on how to better reach caregivers across the country.

The commitment includes **3–4 virtual meetings per year** (approximately 90 minutes each), with occasional input by email. An honoraria of \$50/hour is provided. Interested in applying? [Complete this short survey.](#)

For questions or more information, contact carecollaboration@ucalgary.ca.



Foundations of Care: Trauma, Neurodivergence, and Wellness in Early Childhood Education (Online Workshop)

The University of British Columbia's Early Childhood Education Program is offering a 2-hour online workshop designed for Early Childhood Educators and professionals working with young children.

This foundations of care workshop is focused on supporting participants to better understand how trauma and neurodivergence impact children's development, behaviour, and learning.

The session also explores practical strategies for emotional regulation, de-escalation, collaboration with families, and educator wellness.

[For more information or to REGISTER click here.](#)



Early Childhood Educator's of BC Let's Talk About Touching Program

Let's Talk About Touching is a personal safety, body awareness, and abuse-prevention program developed in British Columbia by Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC) for children aged 0–8 years. The program is designed for use in early learning and child care settings and primary classrooms (up to Grade 3). The program supports children to:

- Understand that their bodies belong to them
- Learn the difference between safe and not-safe touches
- Develop language and skills to set boundaries, such as saying “no” or “stop”
- Know how to get away and seek help from a trusted adult

Interested in receiving training? More information about the program and upcoming trainings is available on the ECEBC website: [Let's Talk About Touching – ECEBC](#) or by contacting Program Coordinator Cari Rawling, crawling@ecebc.ca.

