



# **Early Childhood Development Networking Forum**

From Policy to Action: Sharing best practices  
in Early Childhood Development to achieve a  
brighter future for Aboriginal children.

Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
March 22 to 24, 2010

**Event Report**

provided by  
Raven Events

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## 1. Introduction

The Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) held the Early Childhood Development Networking Forum, "From Policy to Action: Sharing best practices in Early Childhood Development to achieve a brighter future for Aboriginal children," at the Saskatoon Inn, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, from March 22 to 24, 2011.

The vision for the event was to provide a networking opportunity for Early Childhood Educators working with Aboriginal children from across Canada.

The event featured two keynote addresses, presentations by delegates, and time for working sessions and discussion.

Raven Events was hired in December to assist with the management of the event.

The following report provides an overview of **Raven Events'** areas of responsibility, reports on successes and challenges, and provides recommendations for improvement and growth of future events.

## 2. Attendance

The ECD Networking Forum welcomed over 40 guests, including 28 delegates, as well as speakers, elders, and NWAC staff.

VIPs:

- Vice-Tribal Chief Geraldine Arcand, Saskatoon Tribal Council

Presenters:

- Dr. Margo Greenwood, Academic Leader of the National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health, UNBC
- Joan Gignac, Executive Director, Aboriginal Head Start Association of BC
- Ron George, ECD Intercultural Partnerships
- Dr. Carrie Bourassa, Infinity Consulting/First Nations University of Canada
- Coureen Roulette, Little Steps Head Start Family Program
- Marc (Tatanasci) Lalonde, Tsleil-Waututh Child and Family Development Center
- Karen Isaac, Executive Director, BC Aboriginal Child Care Society
- Cathy Graham, Director, Metis Centre, National Aboriginal Health Organization
- Sara Rose, President, Under One Sky

Delegates:

- A detailed list of delegates is included in appendix A.

### **Recommendations for Improvement and Growth**

- ✓ Continue to grow the NWAC data base to support the promotion of events, increase **NWAC's public profile**, raise awareness for NWAC initiatives and their value and increase participation.

## **3. Entertainment**

On the morning of March 23, a welcome song (the Bear Song) was sung by members of the NWAC Health Team (Erin Wolski, Melanie Wabano, Jade Harper, and Billie Allan). Violet Naytowhow, from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, sang a song to the Creator, and the St. Mary Oskayak Dance Troupe performed two jigging dance numbers.

At the banquet on the evening of March 23, Dallas Boyer, a Metis fiddler, and his father, Phil Boyer, **performed along with a children's dance group from the James Smith Cree Nation.**

## **4. Facilities**

The facilities at the Saskatoon Inn were acceptable but dated.

Hotel staff had some difficulties regulating the temperature in the room during the Forum, resulting in several complaints.

Overall, the hotel staff was friendly and able to easily accommodate the needs of the group.

## **5. Registrations and Travel**

Invitations were sent out to a list of contacts provided by NWAC. The first invitation went out on January 11, 2011, followed by several reminders. Follow up calls were made in early March to promote the event and encourage registration. The list of all invitees is attached in appendix B, and the invitation can be found in appendix C.

NWAC handled all travel arrangements. Raven Events assisted with the development of the delegate registration and information packages, and distributed information to delegates with regards to travel and other arrangements. The registration form can be found in appendix D, and the registration information package is in appendix E.

There were several cancellations the day of the event, due to harsh winter weather conditions in Saskatchewan.

### **Recommendations for Improvement and Growth**

- ✓ As March is the fiscal year end for many organizations and the resulting work load prevents some of **NWAC's target market from participation in events.** Event dates earlier in the year may result in higher registration numbers.
- ✓ In order to provide additional support to the NWAC team, all travel arrangements could be delegated to the event management company. Raven Events is familiar with NWAC's administrative and accounting processes and an effective interface can be accomplished easily.

## **6. Delegate Kits and Feedback**

The delegate kits were provided in digital format on a memory stick. The kit, not including the linked documents and resources due to volume, is in appendix F.

Delegates received a printed copy of the agenda and some blank paper in NWAC folders. NWAC provided an assortment of bags, pens, pins, whistles, and other items for delegates to choose from. During the course of the event, additional items were provided for distribution by the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society, NAHO, and Health Canada.

In their delegate packages, delegates were given a link to a Forum evaluation, conducted by Raven Events via Survey Monkey. There were 14 responses. A summary of responses is provided in appendix G.

### **Recommendations for Improvement and Growth**

- ✓ Invite all delegates to contribute materials or resources from their organizations into future digital delegate kits.
- ✓ Provide feedback forms in hard copy and give some time at the event to fill them out. This may yield a higher response rate.

## **7. Audio Visual**

Raven Events worked with PSAV, the in-house AV provider at the Saskatoon Inn. AV requirements for this event were minimal.

The final AV costs came in \$1,076.58 over budget, due to the last minute addition of two additional flip charts, and a microphone and sound system.

## 8. Budget

The ECD Networking Forum was budgeted at \$69,981.62. Actual costs were \$63,096.13, \$6,885.49 under budget.

The line items showing the most significantly reduced actuals are:

- Hotel Rooms (\$2,188.50 under budget)

The original budget was based on 90 room nights, actual occupancy was 72. NWAC was charged for two no-shows on the first night for delegates unable to arrive due to weather conditions.

- Banquet Facilities (\$1,050 under budget)

The breakout rooms included in the original budget were cancelled, as it was decided that it would be better to keep the group together.

- Travel (\$3,825.53 under budget)

NWAC handled all travel budgeting and arrangements.

There was also a shift in the budget, due to the fact that speakers were given gifts in lieu of speaker fees. Much of the \$1,000 that was budgeted for speaker fees went to cover additional costs for entertainment and honoraria for the elders in attendance.

The final event budget is included in appendix H.

## 9. Other Recommendations

### ✓ **Develop Corporate Relations Program**

NWAC has the potential to form supportive and sustaining corporate partnerships. These partnerships provide benefits to both partners. Most non-profit organizations struggle with financial sustainability. A corporate relations program provides a revenue stream independent from government sources. In addition the relationships formed can add significant capacity to your organization. Corporate partners:

- can make you more visible; expand your audience and reach;
- can enhance your expertise as board members or advisors;
- can support your success by supporting and promoting your mandate, values and goals.

***Early Childhood Development Networking Forum***  
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**Saskatoon Inn**  
**Saskatoon, SK**  
**March 22 to 24, 2011.**

Corporate partners are looking for genuine ways to refine and fulfill the social responsibility mandate that is becoming common place in business today. They are keen to learn about your social and organizational values. They are open to receiving insight into your motivations and your mandate to enhance, promote and foster the social, economic, cultural and political wellbeing of First Nations and Métis women in Aboriginal and Canadian societies.

Events such as the ECD Networking Forum provide the opportunity to fulfill the social responsibility mandates of organizations and, embedded into a broader program and communications strategy, can add value and increase the motivations for corporations to support NWAC.

## **10. Contact**

For questions or information in addition to what is contained in this report, please contact Megan Gros with Raven Events, at 604-483-3532.

A

ECD Networking Forum  
Delegate Contact List

First	Last	Email	Address	City	Prov	PC	Phone	Job Title:	Organization
Billie	Allan	<a href="mailto:BAllan@nwac.ca">BAllan@nwac.ca</a>						Health Research & Policy Officer	NWAC
Vice-Tribal Chief Geraldine	Arcand								Saskatoon Tribal Council
Dr. Carrie	Bourassa	<a href="mailto:cbourassa@firstnationsuniversity.ca">cbourassa@firstnationsuniversity.ca</a>							Infinity Consulting
Erin	Corston (Wolski)	<a href="mailto:ewolski@nwac.ca">ewolski@nwac.ca</a>						Health Director	NWAC
Rebecca	Doreen	<a href="mailto:rebecca@niwasaheadstart.com">rebecca@niwasaheadstart.com</a>	279 East 12th Street	Hamilton	ON	L9A 3X7	(905) 388-7567		Niwasa Head Start Preschool
Heidi	Doxtator	<a href="mailto:heidi.doxtator@hc-sc.gc.ca">heidi.doxtator@hc-sc.gc.ca</a>	200 Eglantine Driveway, AL 1919B	Ottawa	ON	K4A 1K9	613-952-5246	Senior Policy Analyst	Health Canada
Judy	Dunn	<a href="mailto:jdunn@sd73.bc.ca">jdunn@sd73.bc.ca</a>	903 Bebek Rd	Kamloops	BC	V2B 6P2	250-376-2266	Aboriginal and Early Learning Resource Teacher	School District #73(Kamloops/Thompson) - Make Children First
Doris	Flatfoot								Ebb and Flow First Nation
Arlene	Flatfoot-Beaulieu	<a href="mailto:arlenef@mfnerc.com">arlenef@mfnerc.com</a>	55 Brazil Street	Winnipeg	MB	R2R 0R8	204-283-3759	Roots of Empathy Specialist	Manitoba First Nation Education Resource Centre
Patty	Gauthier	<a href="mailto:bahsp@sasktel.net">bahsp@sasktel.net</a>	6-16 Smith Avenue	Beauval	SK	S0M-0G0	306-288-2274	Director	Beauval Aboriginal Headstart Program Inc.
Ron	George	<a href="mailto:tsaskiy@shaw.ca">tsaskiy@shaw.ca</a>							
Joan	Gignac	<a href="mailto:executivedirector@ahsa.bc.com">executivedirector@ahsa.bc.com</a>	1330 Duffield Drive	Cobble Hill	BC	V0R 1L6	250-858-4543	Executive Director	Aboriginal Head Start Association of BC
Irene	Goodwin	<a href="mailto:igoodwin@nwac.ca">igoodwin@nwac.ca</a>						Health Policy Analyst	NWAC
Catherine	Graham	<a href="mailto:cgraham@naho.ca">cgraham@naho.ca</a>	220 Laurier Avenue West	Ottawa	ON	k1p5z9	613-237-9462	Director, Metis Centre	National Aboriginal Health Organization
Dr. Margo	Greenwood	<a href="mailto:greenwom@unbc.ca">greenwom@unbc.ca</a>						Academic Leader	National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health, University of Northern BC
Megan	Gros	<a href="mailto:megan@ravenevents.ca">megan@ravenevents.ca</a>	C64 RR2 Sliammon Rd.	Powell River	BC	V8A 4Z3	604-483-3532	Manager, Event Admin and Corporate Relations	Raven Events
Jade	Harper	<a href="mailto:jharper@nwac.ca">jharper@nwac.ca</a>						Manitoba Liason	NWAC



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Delegate Contact List

Karen	Isaac	<a href="mailto:karen@acc-society.bc.ca">karen@acc-society.bc.ca</a>	708 - 100 Park Royal South	West Vancouver	BC	V7T 1A2	604-913-9128	Executive Director	BC Aboriginal Child Care Society
Mary Anne	Kennedy-Leibel	<a href="mailto:mcadc@sasktel.net">mcadc@sasktel.net</a>	400 Main st	Green Lake	SK	s0m 1b0	306 832-4422	Director	Aboriginal Head Start
Vivian	Keshane	<a href="mailto:firststeps@sasktel.net">firststeps@sasktel.net</a>	54A Smith St W	Yorkton	SK	S3N 0J1	306-783-1247	Lead Teacher	Yorkton First Steps Aboriginal Head Start Inc.
Marc	Lalonde	<a href="mailto:mlalonde@twnation.ca">mlalonde@twnation.ca</a>	3036 Takaya Drive	North Vancouver	BC	V7H 3A8	604-929-0693	Manager	Tsleil-Waututh Child & Family Development Centre
Michael	Maurice							Elder	
Marlene	Millar							Elder	
Sandra	Millar								SAWCC
Margaret	Mitchell	<a href="mailto:marg@bcrsociety.ab.ca">marg@bcrsociety.ab.ca</a>	12046-77ST	Edmonton	AB	T5B 2G7	780 477-6648	Program Managert	Ben Calf Robe Society
Bev	Norton	<a href="mailto:bnps11@sasktel.net">bnps11@sasktel.net</a>	479 Tom St., Box 367	Buffalo Narrows	SK	S0M 0J0	306-235-2226	Director	Aboriginal Head Start
Sharon	O'Brien	<a href="mailto:mfrc@pei.aibn.com">mfrc@pei.aibn.com</a>	158 St. Peters Rd	Charlottetown	PEI	C0A1H0	902-892-0928	Director	Mi'Kmaq Family Resource Center/ Wekatesk Aboriginal Head Start
Tricia	O'Watch		PO Box 57	Sintaluta	SK	S0G 4N0	306-727-2135	Head Start	Carry the Kettle First Nation
Yolanda	Pennell	<a href="mailto:y_pennell@hotmail.com">y_pennell@hotmail.com</a>	210 Jeep Crecent	Eastern Passage	NS	b3g 1p4	902 452-8779	AHS Coordinator	Mi'kmaq Child Development Centre
Dan	Peters	<a href="mailto:dpeters@nwac.ca">dpeters@nwac.ca</a>						NAYSPS Coordinator	NWAC
Sylvia	Popowich	<a href="mailto:sawcc.communications@gmail.com">sawcc.communications@gmail.com</a>	Box 1174	Yorkton	SK	S3N 2X3	306.783.1228	Elder	Saskatchewan Aboriginal Women's Circle Corporation
Bill	Powalinsky	<a href="mailto:bill.powalinsky@servicecanada.gc.ca">bill.powalinsky@servicecanada.gc.ca</a>	1288 Central Avenue	Prince Albert	SK	S6V 4V8	306-953-8401	Senior Development Officer, Aboriginal Programs	Service Canada
Valerie	Rachwal	<a href="mailto:afc@nf.aibn.com">afc@nf.aibn.com</a>	P.O. Box 1949, Stn. B	Happy Valley-Goose Bay	LB	A0P1E0	709-896-4398	Early Childhood Educator	Aboriginal Family Centre
Lily	Robinson	<a href="mailto:pahp1@sasktel.net">pahp1@sasktel.net</a>	202 10th Street East	Prince Albert	SK	S6V 0Y9	1-306-763-7676	Director	Prince Albert Aboriginal Head Start Program Inc
Sarah	Rose							President	Under One Sky

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Delegate Contact List

Coreen	Roulette	<a href="mailto:dfcheadstart@mts.net">dfcheadstart@mts.net</a>	210 First Avenue North East	Dauphin	MB	R7N 1A7	204-638-5707	Head Start Coordinator	Dauphin Friendship Centre - Little Steps Head Start Family Program
Debbie	Sault	<a href="mailto:dsault@onwa-tbay.ca">dsault@onwa-tbay.ca</a>		Thunder Bay	ON			Mental Health Coordinator	Ontario Native Women's Association
Audrey	Toulejour	<a href="mailto:lapreschool@sasktel.net">lapreschool@sasktel.net</a>	Box 401	La Loche	SK	S0M 1G0	(306) 822-2711	Director	La Loche Preschool
Maryse	Turcot	<a href="mailto:mturcot@krg.ca">mturcot@krg.ca</a>	PO box 948	Kuujuuaq,	QC	J0M 1C0	819-964-2961 ext. 2366	Childcare consultant KRG Childcare Section	Kativic Regional Childcare
Melanie	Wabano	<a href="mailto:mwabano@nwac.ca">mwabano@nwac.ca</a>						Health Administration & Research Support	NWAC
Doris	Wesaquate	<a href="mailto:doris_wesaquate@phac-aspc.gc.ca">doris_wesaquate@phac-aspc.gc.ca</a>	South Broad Plaza, 1st Floor, 2045 Broad Street	Regina	SK	S4P 3T7	306-780-3474	Program Consultant	Public Health Agency of Canada
Belinda	Whitecap		PO Box 57	Sintaluta	SK	S0G 4N0	306-727-2135	Community Health Representative	Carry the Kettle First Nation

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List of Invitees

First	Last	Title	Organization	Email	Address	City	Prov	PC	Phone	Notes
Patty	Gauthier		Beauval Aboriginal Headstart	<a href="mailto:bahsp@sasktel.net">bahsp@sasktel.net</a>	Box 269	Beauval	SK	S0M 0G0	306-288-2274	called 01/06 left message, they called back, and got contact info. Registered 01/12
Joan	Gignac	Executive Director	Aboriginal Headstart Association of BC	<a href="mailto:executivedirector@ahsabc.com">executivedirector@ahsabc.com</a>	PO Box 271	Cobble Hill	BC	V0R 1L0	250-858-4543	Registered 01/11
Karen	Issac		Aboriginal Child Care Society	<a href="mailto:karen@acc-society.bc.ca">karen@acc-society.bc.ca</a>	708-100 Park Royal South	West Vancouver	BC	V7T 1A2	604-913-9128	emailed 01/25 with info about prospective presenters, called 02/02 may register
Mary Anne	Kennedy-Libel		Mocikitaw Child Development Centre	<a href="mailto:mcdc@sasktel.net">mcdc@sasktel.net</a>	Box 111	Green Lake	SK	S0M 1B0	306-832-4422	called 01/06 got contact info
Margaret	Kleber		Children for the Future, Swan River Friendship Center	<a href="mailto:srheadstart@mts.net">srheadstart@mts.net</a>	Box 1448, 1413 Main Street East	Swan River	MB	R0L 1Z0	204-734-3257	
Marc	Lalonde	Manager	TWN Child and Family Dev. Centre	<a href="mailto:mlalonde@twnation.ca">mlalonde@twnation.ca</a>			BC		604-929-0693	
Sharon	O'Brien		Mi'kmaq Family Resource Center	<a href="mailto:mfrc@pei.aibn.com">mfrc@pei.aibn.com</a>	158 St. Peter's Road	Charlottetown	PEI	C1A 5P8	902-892-0928	
Yolanda	Pennell		Mi'kmaq Family Resource Center	<a href="mailto:y_pennell@hotmail.com">y_pennell@hotmail.com</a>	PO Box 47012	Halifax	NS	B3K 5Y2	902-422-7850	01/20 called and asked if they could be invited, because all their other colleague organizations were, but they were missed...sent them an invite
Sylvia	Popowich	Elder							fax 306-783-1771	
Vivian	Keshane	Director	Yorkton First Steps Aboriginal Head Start Inc.	<a href="mailto:firststeps@sasktel.net">firststeps@sasktel.net</a>	Box 1743	Yorkton	SK	S3N 3L4	306-783-1247	called 01/06 need to call back and speak with Michelle 02/04 Vivian Keshane registered
Valerie	Rachwal	Early Childhood Educator	Labrador Friendship Center, Aboriginal Family Center	<a href="mailto:afc@nf.aibn.com">afc@nf.aibn.com</a>	38 Grenfell Street, PO Box 1949 Stn. B	Happy Valley-Goose Bay	NL	A0P 1E0	709-896-4398	called 01/05 got email address

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Coreen	Roulette		Little Steps Head Start Family Prgram	<a href="mailto:dfcheadstart@mts.net">dfcheadstart@mts.net</a>	210 First Avenue NE	Dauphin	MB	R7N 1A7	204-638-5707	
Helen	Tootoosis		Pe-tapan For Our Children Inc.	<a href="mailto:pe.ta.pan@sasktel.net">pe.ta.pan@sasktel.net</a>	Box 1603	North Battleford	SK	S9A 3W1	306-445-0550	called 01/06, need to call back later and speak with Helen, called back and left message, played phone tag with Helen for a bit, and then got contact info, Registered 01/12
Margaret	Mitchell		Otenaw Iyniuk Literacy Project, Ben Calf Robe Society	<a href="mailto:marg@bcrsociety.ab.ca">marg@bcrsociety.ab.ca</a>	12046 77 Street	Edmonton	AB	T5B 2G7	780-477-6648	
Doris	Wesaquate	Program Consultant	Public Health Agency of Canada	<a href="mailto:doris_wesaquate@phac-aspc.qc.ca">doris_wesaquate@phac-aspc.qc.ca</a>						
Maryse	Turcot	Childcare Consultant, KRG Childcare Section	Kativic Regional Childcare	<a href="mailto:mturcut@krg.ca">mturcut@krg.ca</a>						
Catherine	Graham		NAHO	<a href="mailto:cgraham@naho.ca">cgraham@naho.ca</a>						
Judy	Hughes		SAWCC	<a href="mailto:sawcc@hotmail.com">sawcc@hotmail.com</a>						
Mike	Maurice		Metis Elder							
Audrey	Toulejour		La Loche Pre School	<a href="mailto:lapreschool@sasktel.net">lapreschool@sasktel.net</a>	Box 520	La Loche	SK	S0M 1G0	306-822-1711	called 01/06 left mssage Cheryl 03/09 spoke with Audrey, she is going to register
Kathleen	Desautels	Headstart Coordinator	Kikinahk Headstart Preschool	<a href="mailto:headstart@kikinahk.com">headstart@kikinahk.com</a>	Box 254	La Ronge	SK	S0J 1L0	306-425-2051	03/09 resent info to Kathleen, emailed back...very interested in attending, just needs to clear it with her boss to make sure she can be away those days.
Rebecca	Doreen		Niwasa Head Start Pre-School and Early Learning Programs	<a href="mailto:rebecca@niwasaheadst">rebecca@niwasaheadst</a>	1869 Main Street East	Hamilton	ON	L8H 1G2	(905) 549-4884 ex. 222	0309 Im 9.49 am Im they called back...someone is going to register

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Angela	Rich		Shetshatshiu Innu Band Council	<a href="mailto:arich@sifn.ca">arich@sifn.ca</a>	PO Box 160	North West River	NL	A0P 1M0	709-497-3445	called 01/05 left message, she called back 01/12, gave email address, sent invite, 0309 would like to send staff members, afraid to travel, suggested to send 2 and resent information 03/10 2 delegates registered
Lily	Robinson		Prince Albert Aboriginal Headstart Program	<a href="mailto:pahp1@sasktel.net">pahp1@sasktel.net</a>	202-10th Street East	Prince Albert	SK	S6V 0Y9	306-763-7676	called 01/06 got contact info 03/09 spoke with Lily...very interested, just need to see if she has time to come. She will get back to us.
Yvonne	Allard		St. Laurent Aboriginal Head Start Ctr.	<a href="mailto:stlahs@mts.net">stlahs@mts.net</a>	Lot 825 Pth. 6	Saint Laurent	MB	R0C 2S0	204-646-2565	
Corinne	Baggley	Senior Policy Manager, Social Policy and Programs Branch	INAC	<a href="mailto:corinne.baggley@ainc-inac.gc.ca">corinne.baggley@ainc-inac.gc.ca</a>						sent invite 02/04 emailed 02/17 unable to attend
Jessica	Ball	Professor	School of Child & Youth Care, University of Victoria	<a href="mailto:jbball@uvic.ca">jbball@uvic.ca</a>	PO Box 1700, STN CSC	Victoria	BC	V8W 2Y2	250-472-4128	emailed 01/18 unable to attend
Harold	Deck	Aboriginal Affairs Directorate	Skills and Employment Branch	<a href="mailto:harold.deck@hrsdc-mdcc.gc.ca">harold.deck@hrsdc-mdcc.gc.ca</a>						sent invite 02/04 called 03/07 unable to attend, but will forward the invite on to someone who may be able to come.
Elizabeth	Ford	Health and Environment Director	ITK	<a href="mailto:eford@itk.ca">eford@itk.ca</a>						unable to attend, but would like to send someone from the
Katie	Kawerski		Flin Flon Sweetgrass Aboriginal Head Start Program, The Indian Metis Friendship Assn.	<a href="mailto:ffsahsc@mts.net">ffsahsc@mts.net</a>	57 Church St.	Flin Flon	MB	R8A 1K8	204-687-1311	emailed 02/04 unable to attend

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Joyce	McLeod		Dezoah Undaa Etleh Koke AHS Fort Providence Aboriginal Head Start	<a href="mailto:mcleodville@hotmail.com">mcleodville@hotmail.com</a>	PO Box 225	Fort Providence	NT	X0E 0L0	867-699-4010	called 01/05, Joyce is out of the office until Friday, but they had her email. She called 01/12, is interested, just needs to confirm with sponsoring organization, called back 01/25 unable to attend
Tina	Schwartz		Apisciawasisak Learning Centre	<a href="mailto:tschwartz@icsd.ca">tschwartz@icsd.ca</a>	Box 218	Ile a la Crosse	SK	S0M 1C0	306-833-2626	called 01/06 got contact info emailed 03/08 not able to attend.
			Our Children, Our Way Child Development Centre, Mi'kmaq Native Friendship Centre		2161 Gottingen Street	Halifax	NS	B3K 3B5	902-933-3846	called 01/05 number out of service
			CPE Amaarvik Child Care Centre (Aboriginal Head Start)		General Delivery	Ivujuvik	QC	J0M 1H0	819-922-3679	called 01/05 number out of service
			L'ikol Madeline Dumont Preschool Aboriginal Head Start		3130 Laurie Drive	Saskatoon	SK	S7L 5J7		01/05 attempted to find phone number online, but could not
Jennifer	Corbiere	Manager, Aboriginal Head Start	Public Health Agency of Canada	<a href="mailto:jennifer.corbiere@hc-sc.gc.ca">jennifer.corbiere@hc-sc.gc.ca</a>						sent invite 02/04
Shaye	Patras	Principal	Seba Beach School	<a href="mailto:seba@psd70.ab.ca">seba@psd70.ab.ca</a>	162-2 Avenue	Seba Beach	AB	T0E 2B0	780-797-3733	0309 1m 10.04 am called back, will not be able to attend
Cathy	Winters			<a href="mailto:cathy.winters@hc-sc.gc.ca">cathy.winters@hc-sc.gc.ca</a>					613-952-5064	sent invite 02/04 03/08 Erin said Health Canada will not be attending
			CPE Sukliateet Child Care Centre (Aboriginal Head Start)		General Delivery	Aupaluk	QC	J0M 1K0	819-491-7070	called 01/05 left message 03/09 not interested

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			CPE Mikijug Child Care Centre (Aboriginal Head Start)		General Delivery	Kangiqtuujuag	QC	J0M 1K0	819-338-3362	called 01/05 no answer, no voicemail...will call back called 01/06, recording stating that there are technical difficulties and the call cannot be routed 03/09 number out of service
Charlotte		Director	Annie Johnstone Awasis Centre	<a href="mailto:awasis2@sasktel.net">awasis2@sasktel.net</a>	Box 89	Pinehouse Lake	SK	S0J 2B0	306-884-4868	called 01/06 got contact info 03/09 new director's name is Charlotte, she is going to speak with her board and get back to us 03/10 not able to attend
Christina	Arnald		Rhymes That Bind Centre for Family Literacy	<a href="mailto:christina_arnald@aaa.ab.ca">christina_arnald@aaa.ab.ca</a>	201-11456 Jasper Avenue	Edmonton	AB	T5K 0M1	780-421-7323	Kim Chung, Program Director, 0309 9.25 a.m. Kim called back, emailed her the information
Simon	Brascoupe	Director	First Nations Centre, NAHO	<a href="mailto:sbrascoupe@naho.ca">sbrascoupe@naho.ca</a>						
Kim		Program Coordinator	Selkirk Aboriginal Head Start Program, Selkirk Friendship Center	<a href="mailto:sfcahs@mts.net">sfcahs@mts.net</a>	425 Eveline Street	Selkirk	MB	R1A 2J5	204-482-6419	called 01/05 left message, she called back 01/12, gave email address, sent invite, 0309 contact has changed to Kim, call back at 11 am
Ronalda	Doxtator-Wynn		Thunder Bay Aboriginal Head Start	<a href="mailto:supervisor@tbahs.ca">supervisor@tbahs.ca</a>	1610 John Street Road	Thunder Bay	ON	P7G 1J9	807-768-2342	Carmen Michon, 0309 9.29 am
Marjorie	Flowers		Hopedale Suguset Centre	<a href="mailto:marjorie_flowers@nunatsiavut.com">marjorie_flowers@nunatsiavut.com</a>	General Delivery	Hopedale	NL	A0P 1G0	709-933-3846	called 01/05, spoke with Marjorie Flowers, got email address, 0309 9.31 a.m.
Val	Janz		Make Children First, Interior Community Services	<a href="mailto:vjanz@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca">vjanz@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca</a>	765 Tranquille Rd.	Kamloops	BC	V2B 3J3	250-554-3134	0309 spoke to VJ and resend information, she or another person from the region will likely attend
Sean	Kerr	Communications Director	Congress of Aboriginal Peoples	<a href="mailto:sean@abo-peoples.org">sean@abo-peoples.org</a>						Someone is interested in coming, but they are unsure if they can afford to attend **Don't phone
Dianne	Kinnon	Director	Inuit Tuttarvingat, NAHO	<a href="mailto:dkinnon@naho.ca">dkinnon@naho.ca</a>						

NWAC ECD Networking Forum  
List of Invitees

Kim	Kirkley		Maajiishkatoong Zoong Mniidoowin Native Children and Famiy Services	<a href="mailto:kkirkley@nativechild.org">kkirkley@nativechild.org</a>	30 College Street	Toronto	ON	M5G 1K2	416-969-8510	0309 9.45 am Im
			Niji Mahkwa School	<a href="mailto:nijimahkwa@wsd1.org">nijimahkwa@wsd1.org</a>	450 Flora Avenue	Winnipeg	MB	R2W 2R8	204-589-6742	<a href="#">0309 9.53 a. resent information to bboklaschuk@wsd1.org</a>
Angela	Mihichuk		Zaagi-idiwin Aboriginal Head Start United Native Friendship Center	<a href="mailto:inquiry@unfc.org">inquiry@unfc.org</a>	616 Mowat Avenue	Fort Frances	ON	P9A 3N1	807-274-7244	0309 9.57 am resent to zahs@vianet.ca
Beverley	Norton		Apisci-Mostosis Preschool Aboriginal Head Start Project	<a href="mailto:bnps11@sasktel.net">bnps11@sasktel.net</a>	Box 337	Buffalo Narrows	SK	S0M 0J0	306-235-2226	called 01/06 got contact info, 0309 9.59 am Im
Tenesh	Nuna	Program Coordinator	Shakashtueu Pishum Centre, Innu First Nations Aboriginal Head Start	<a href="mailto:tnuna@sisn.ca">tnuna@sisn.ca</a>	PO Box 160	Sheshatsiu	NL	A0P 1M0	709-497-8458	0309 10.00 am, also one of Angela Rich's organizations, she is working on it
Sheila	Pelletier	Director	Awasis Child Care Coop	<a href="mailto:sheilapelletier@hotmail.com">sheilapelletier@hotmail.com</a>	3737 Wascana Parkway	Regina	SK	S4S 0A2	306-585-5322	called 01/06 got contact info 03/09 Sheila is out of the office, and Crystal is taking over. Left a message for Crystal.
Irene	Rubon		Paulatuk Aboriginal Head Start Inuvialuit Social Development Program	<a href="mailto:speffer@irc.inuvialuit.com">speffer@irc.inuvialuit.com</a>	General Delivery	Paulatuk	NT	X0E 1N0	867-580-3923	03/09 internet is not working, need to send via fax to fax number 867-580-3006
Ellen	Thomas		Saskatoon Tribal Council Child and Family Services		Suite 200-335 Packham Ave.	Saskatoon	SK	S7K 4S1	306-956-6148	01/05 left message Daisy 03/09 number not in service
Jonathan	Thomson	Heath Director	Assembly of First Nations	<a href="mailto:jthompson@afn.ca">jthompson@afn.ca</a>						
Wenda	Watteyne	Executive Director	Metis Nation Council	<a href="mailto:wendaw@metisnation.ca">wendaw@metisnation.ca</a>						



NWAC ECD Networking Forum  
List of Invitees

Lori	Whiteman	Program Director, T4SSP	Treaty 4 Governance Centre	<a href="mailto:lwhiteman@treaty4ed.com">lwhiteman@treaty4ed.com</a>					306-550-5770	invite sent 02/14 03/09 left message
Lisa	Zackowski		Border City Aboriginal Head Start	<a href="mailto:headstart@bordercity.com">headstart@bordercity.com</a>	5007-47th Avenue	Lloydminster	SK	S9V 0W5	306-825-5255	called 01/06 got contact info 03/09 left message
			First Nations Friendship Center	<a href="mailto:fnfc@junction.net">fnfc@junction.net</a>	2902 29th Ave.	Vernon	BC	V1T 1Y7	250-542-1247	03/09 need to call Connie or Trina 250-542-7578 Trina will be in at 11:30...need to call back 03/10 left message for Connie Deane
			Tetiit Zeh Child Centre Aboriginal Head Start Program	<a href="mailto:mcpersonheadstart@nt.sympatico.ca">mcpersonheadstart@nt.sympatico.ca</a>	PO Box 30	Fort McPherson	NT	X0E 0J0	867-952-2025	03/09 need to call Tina Blake 867-952-2392 emailed info to thsyearlychildhood@gmail.com
Arlene			Mikisew Pre School Corporation	<a href="mailto:mikprecorp@sasktel.net">mikprecorp@sasktel.net</a>	Box 153	Sandy Bay	SK	S0P 0G0	306-754-2299	called 01/06 got contact info 03/09 left message
Susan	John	Project Director	Awasisak Headstart	<a href="mailto:georgie2@sasktel.net">georgie2@sasktel.net</a>	Box 238	Cumberland House	SK	S0E 0S0	306-888-2261	called 01/05 left message 03/09 left message for Susan
Loretta	Whitecap-Brown	Family Director	STC Urban Aboriginal Head Start Program	<a href="mailto:lwhitecap-brown@sktc.sk.ca">lwhitecap-brown@sktc.sk.ca</a>					306-359-2534	03/09 number not in service



## Native Women's Association of Canada

### *Early Childhood Development Networking Forum*

**From Policy to Action: Sharing best practices in Early Childhood Development to achieve a brighter future for Aboriginal children.**

#### **When:**

Tuesday **March 22, 2011**  
at 6:00 PM CDT  
to  
Thursday **March 24, 2011**  
at 4:30 PM CDT

[Add to my calendar](#)

#### **Where:**

**Saskatoon Inn Hotel &  
Conference Centre**

2002 Airport Drive  
Saskatoon, SK  
S7L 6M4



#### [Driving Directions](#)

For information contact:  
Megan Gros  
1-604-483-3532  
[megan@ravenevents.ca](mailto:megan@ravenevents.ca)

The Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) is pleased to invite you to its first-ever ECD Networking Forum.

Make valuable connections to support your community's ECD initiatives!

Join other ECD professionals and representatives from provincial and national organizations to network and share best practice in the advancement of Early Childhood Development.

Discuss topics such as the transition from early childhood programs to primary school, the importance of culture and language in the early years as well as best practice and principles to underpin policies which support your work.



This intimate gathering will provide helpful information for practitioners looking for best practices and initiate a peer network for ongoing dialogue and support.

To learn more about NWAC, the agenda, the venue and the connections you will make, [click here!](#)

### **Registration**

This is a by-invitation-only event.

NWAC will cover travel and accommodation costs for one ECD practitioner from each invited organization.

**[Register Here!](#)**

# Early Childhood Development Networking Forum

\* Required information

## Personal Information

*	First Name:	<input type="text"/>
*	Last Name:	<input type="text"/>
*	Email Address:	<input type="text"/>
*	Address 1:	<input type="text"/>
	Address 2:	<input type="text"/>
*	City:	<input type="text"/>
*	Province:	<input type="text"/>
*	ZIP Code:	<input type="text"/>
*	Phone:	<input type="text"/>
	Job Title:	<input type="text"/>
*	Organization	<input type="text"/>

If you have any special food requirements, accessibility needs, or other requests, detail below.

500 characters remaining

The conference will take place at the Saskatoon Inn Hotel & Conference Centre. If you require accommodations, please enter your arrival and departure dates below.

Please note that NWAC will only cover the nights of March 22 and 23, 2011 at the Saskatoon Inn.

Do you require a hotel room at the Saskatoon Inn Hotel & Conference Centre?

Yes

No

Arrival at Hotel on:

March 22

March 23

The conference will begin with a welcome reception at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, March 22, 2011. We encourage delegates to schedule travel so that they arrive in Saskatoon on Tuesday afternoon.

Departure from Hotel on:

March 24

March 25

The conference will wrap up around 4:30 pm on Thursday, March 24. NWAC will cover accommodations for two nights.

If you wish to stay an additional night, please provide us with that information here so we can make the reservation for you. You will be responsible for the costs for the third night.

## Travel Information

Will you require air transportation to this event?

Yes

No

Air travel will be booked by NWAC. You will be contacted by Melanie Wabano, Health Administration & Research Support at NWAC, to confirm travel details.

Your flight to the event will be booked for Tuesday, March 22, 2011, unless scheduling conflicts arise with the airline.

Preference for flight time

Airport of departure

Please fill out the following information for your travel home from the Networking Session, which wraps up on Thursday, March 24 at 4:30 pm.

Airport of arrival

Preference of flight time

You will be provided with a travel claim form in your registration package, so NWAC can reimburse you for your travel expenses after the event.

Please keep all original receipts, as they will be required in order to process your travel claim.



# Native Women's Association of Canada

## *Early Childhood Development Networking Forum*

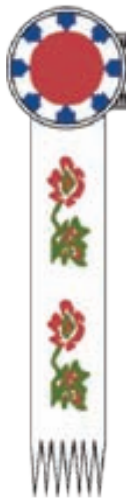
From Policy to Action: Sharing best practices in Early Childhood Development to achieve a brighter future for Aboriginal children.

## Delegate Registration Package



Tuesday March 22, 2011 • Thursday March 24, 2011

SASKATOON INN HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTRE



# Native Women's Association of Canada

## 1 Information About NWAC's Early Childhood Development Networking Forum

The Forum will take place from March 22, 2011 at 6:00 pm to March 24, 2011 at 5:00 pm.

Make valuable connections to support your community's ECD initiatives!

Join other ECD professionals and representatives from provincial and national organizations to network and share best practices in the advancement of Early Childhood Development. Discuss topics such as the transition from early childhood to primary school, the importance of culture and language in the early years as well as best practices and principles to underpin policies that support your work.

This intimate gathering offers helpful information for practitioners looking for best practices and a peer network for ongoing dialogue and support.

## 2 Agenda

### TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2011

6:00 - 8:00 PM WELCOME RECEPTION & REGISTRATION

Light snacks and non-alcoholic drinks available

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011

08:00 AM BREAKFAST

Hot breakfast will be available for delegates and presenters

09:00 AM OPENING CEREMONIES

Drum group – Pipestone Creek Singers (TBD)

Performance by Traditional dancers (Metis jiggers)

09:30 AM WELCOMING REMARKS

Opening Prayer, Elders Mike Maurice (Metis), and Sylvia Popowich (First Nations)  
Judy Hughes, President SAWCC  
Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, representative (TBD)  
Saskatchewan First Nations and Métis Relations Deputy Minister, Ron Crowe (or Ministerial rep, TBD)



Photo: David Wu, BC ACCS

10:00 AM KEY NOTE ADDRESS

Dr. Margo Greenwood Academic Leader of the National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal

Q & A

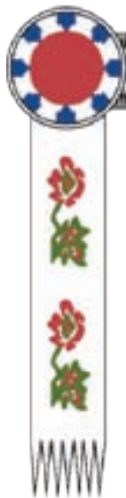
10:45 AM BREAK

11:00 AM FRAMING THE DAY

Erin Corston (Wolski), NWAC Health Director (Who is NWAC? Why an ECD Networking Session?)  
Dr. Carrie Bourassa, Infinity Consulting / First Nations University of Canada (ECD Best Practices)

Q & A





## Native Women's Association of Canada

12:00 PM LUNCH

1:00 PM WORKSHOP SERIES  
Karen Isaac, BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (ACCS) Connecting, Collaborating and Communicating

2:00PM AHS PRESENTATION SERIES  
Joan Gignac, AHSABC, Valuing Aboriginal Head Start, a 15 Year Celebration  
Coreen Roulette, Little Steps Head Start Family Program, Integrating Aboriginal Culture into Early Childhood Settings (Additional AHS presentations TBD)

3:00 PM HEALTH BREAK

03:15 PM WORKING SESSION

04:30 PM CLOSING PRAYER  
Elders Mike Maurice (Metis), and Sylvia Popowich (First Nations)

07:30 PM DINNER - CULTURAL CELEBRATION - NETWORKING  
Entertainment – Children's Dance Group from Saskatoon  
Dallas Fiddler-Boyer, Metis Fiddler

### THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011

08:00 AM BREAKFAST  
Hot breakfast will be available for delegates and presenters

09:00 AM OPENING  
Recap of Day I, NWAC Health Director, Erin Corston (Wolski)



Photo: Lenora Pritchard

09:30 AM KEY NOTE ADDRESS  
Cathy Graham, Director, Metis Center, National Aboriginal Health Organization  
Q & A

10:30AM BREAK

10:45 AM PRESENTATION  
Ron ECD Intercultural Partnerships, First Nations Fatherhood Research

12:00 PM LUNCH

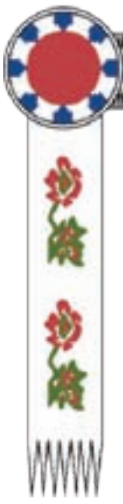
01:00 PM PRESENTATION  
Marc (Tatanasci) Lalonde, Tsleil-Waututh Child and Family Development Center  
Q & A

3:00 PM BREAK

03:15 PM WORKING SESSION

04:30 PM CLOSING PRAYER  
Elder Mike Maurice (Metis), Elder Sylvia Popowich (First Nations)

05:00 PM FAREWELL AND DEPARTURE



# Native Women's Association of Canada

## 3 Travel Information

The conference will take place at the [Saskatoon Inn](#), 2002 Airport Drive, Saskatoon, SK, S7L 6M4.

Please click [here](#) to visit Google Maps to obtain directions from where you are.



The Saskatoon Inn is a three minute drive from the Saskatoon Airport. There is a complimentary shuttle between the airport and the hotel that departs every half hour when it is called for. There is a courtesy phone for the Saskatoon Inn located near the baggage claim, and the shuttle can be called from there.

## 4 Accommodations

If you indicated during your registration that you will require accommodation, your name will be added to the rooming list. Please note that NWAC will only cover the nights of March 22 and March 23 at the Saskatoon Inn, unless the flight arrangements made for you by NWAC require you to stay an extra night. If you have

any questions about your accommodations, or if you would like to book additional nights at the hotel at your own expense, please contact Megan at Raven Events.

## 5 Environmental Sustainability

To promote environmental sustainability, delegate packages at this event will be provided in electronic format. Delegates are encouraged to bring laptops and other wireless devices, and there will be wireless internet available.

## 6 Contact

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact:

**Megan Gros, Raven Events**

[megan@ravenevents.ca](mailto:megan@ravenevents.ca)

**1-604-483-3532**



Photo: David Wu, BC ACCS



**Santé  
Canada**

**Health  
Canada**

The ECD Networking Forum has been made possible through financial contributions from Health Canada. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of our funder.





## Native Women's Association of Canada

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

#### **When is the event taking place?**

The conference will take place from March 22 to March 24, 2011.

#### **Where is the event taking place?**

SASKATOON INN

2002 Airport Drive, Saskatoon, SK, S7L 6M4

#### **How many people can attend from my organization, and what is the cost to attend?**

This is a by-invitation-only event and there are no registration fees. NWAC will cover travel and accommodation costs for one person from each invited organization unless other arrangements have been made.

#### **Can I bring my spouse or significant other?**

Yes. If you are planning on bringing someone, please email their name to Megan Gros at [megan@ravenevents.ca](mailto:megan@ravenevents.ca), so they can be added to the rooming list. NWAC will not cover travel expenses for your spouse.

#### **Do I need a credit card to check into the hotel?**

When you check in, you will be asked if you would like to register your credit card to your room so that incidentals (phone, etc.) will be turned on. If you do not provide a credit card, incidentals will remain turned off.

#### **Do I need a credit card to make my hotel reservation?**

You do not need a credit card in order to guarantee the hotel room, as Raven Events will handle the room booking for you.

#### **Where can I park at the hotel, and is there a cost for parking?**

The hotel has a large parking lot, and parking is free.

#### **Will there be free internet access available during the conference?**

Yes. There will be free wireless internet available. We encourage delegates to bring their laptops and other wireless devices, as the delegate's kits will be provided in electronic format.

#### **Who is in charge of booking travel?**

If you indicated in your registration that you required air travel, your flights have been booked. Otherwise, you will need to make arrangements to get to and from the event.

#### **Which of my expenses will be reimbursed?**

NWAC will cover all expenses incurred to attend this event, including transportation, accommodation, and parking. Make sure to keep all your receipts including boarding passes and forward to NWAC with completed expense claim form, which will be provided to you at the event.

#### **How will I receive my travel reimbursement?**

Travel expenses will be reimbursed once all eligible original receipts have been submitted with the travel claim form.

#### **Are meals being provided at this event?**

Yes. You will be provided with breakfast, lunch, and dinner on March 23, and breakfast and lunch on March 24. Meals during the conference outside of the conference catering arrangements will not be reimbursed.

#### **I have food allergies, other dietary requirements, or accessibility concerns. Will my needs be accommodated?**

Yes. If you have not indicated your requirements on the registration form, please send an email to [megan@ravenevents.ca](mailto:megan@ravenevents.ca) detailing what you require.

If your question is not answered here, please contact Megan Gros at Raven Events by email at [megan@ravenevents.ca](mailto:megan@ravenevents.ca), or by telephone at 1-604-483-3532.



# Native Women's Association of Canada

## *Early Childhood Development Networking Forum*

From Policy to Action: Sharing best practices in Early Childhood Development to achieve a brighter future for Aboriginal children.

## Conference Guide



Tuesday March 22, 2011 • Thursday March 24, 2011

SASKATOON INN HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTRE



# DIRECTORY

[Agenda](#)

[NWAC](#)

[Presenters](#)

[Resources](#)

[Forms](#)

Click on buttons



*Photo: Lenora Pritchard*





## AGENDA

### TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2011

06:00 - 08:00 PM **WELCOME RECEPTION &  
REGISTRATION**

Light snacks and non-alcoholic drinks available

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011

08:00 AM **BREAKFAST**

Hot breakfast will be available for delegates and presenters

09:00 AM **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Welcome by drummers

Performance by Traditional dancers (Metis jiggers)

09:30 AM **WELCOMING REMARKS**

Opening Prayer, Elders Mike Maurice (Metis), and  
Sylvia Popowich (First Nations)

Vivian Keshane, Vice-President [SAWCC](#)

Tribal Vice-Chief Geraldine Arcand, [Saskatoon Tribal Council](#)

10:00 AM **KEY NOTE ADDRESS**

Dr. Margo Greenwood, Academic Leader of the [National  
Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health](#)

Q & A

10:45 AM **BREAK**

11:00 AM **FRAMING THE DAY**

Erin Corston (Wolski), [NWAC](#) Health Director (Who is NWAC?  
Why an ECD Networking Session?)

Dr. Carrie Bourassa, Infinity Consulting / First Nations  
University of Canada (ECD Best Practices)

Q & A

12:00 PM **LUNCH**

01:00 PM **WORKSHOP SERIES**

Karen Isaac, [BC Aboriginal Child Care Society \(ACCS\)](#)  
Connecting, Collaborating and Communicating

02:00 PM **AHS PRESENTATION SERIES**

Maria Campbell, Associate Professor, University of  
Saskatchewan

Joan Gignac, [AHSABC](#), Valuing Aboriginal Head Start,  
a 15 Year Celebration

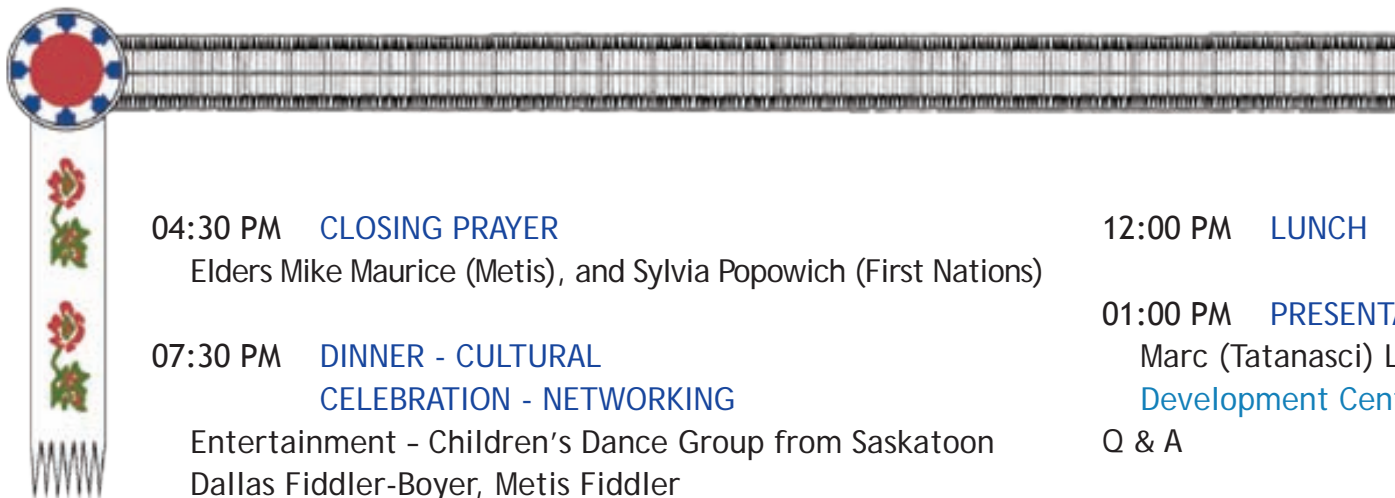
Coreen Roulette, Little Steps Head Start Family Program,  
Integrating Aboriginal Culture into Early Childhood Settings  
(Additional AHS presentations TBD)

03:00 PM **HEALTH BREAK**

03:15 PM **WORKING SESSION I**







04:30 PM **CLOSING PRAYER**  
Elders Mike Maurice (Metis), and Sylvia Popowich (First Nations)

07:30 PM **DINNER - CULTURAL  
CELEBRATION - NETWORKING**  
Entertainment - Children's Dance Group from Saskatoon  
Dallas Fiddler-Boyer, Metis Fiddler

**THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011**

08:00 AM **BREAKFAST**  
Hot breakfast will be available for delegates and presenters

09:00 AM **OPENING**  
Recap of Day I, [NWAC](#) Health Director, Erin Corston (Wolski)

09:30 AM **KEY NOTE ADDRESS**  
Catherine Graham, Director, [Metis Center, National  
Aboriginal Health Organization](#)  
Q & A

10:30 AM **BREAK**

10:45 AM **PRESENTATION**  
Ron George, [ECD Intercultural Partnerships, First Nations  
Fatherhood Research](#)

12:00 PM **LUNCH**

01:00 PM **PRESENTATION**  
Marc (Tatanasci) Lalonde, [Tsleil-Waututh Child and Family  
Development Center](#)  
Q & A

02:00 PM **WORKING SESSION II**

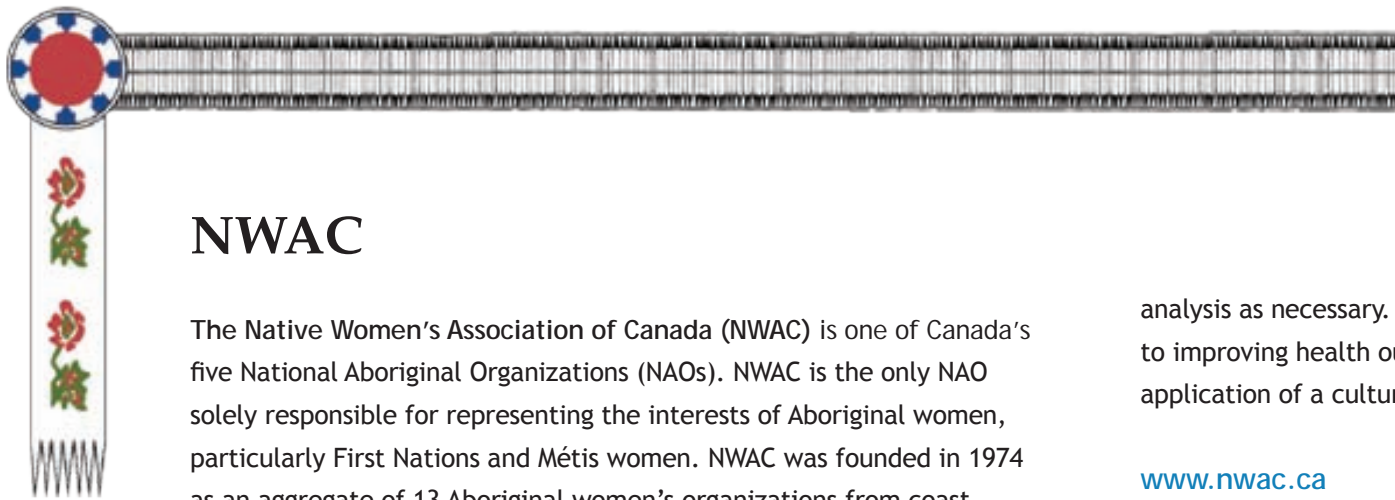
03:00 PM **BREAK**

03:15 PM **WORKING SESSION III**

04:30 PM **CLOSING PRAYER**  
Elder Mike Maurice (Metis), Elder Sylvia Popowich  
(First Nations)

05:00 PM **FAREWELL AND DEPARTURE**





## NWAC

The Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) is one of Canada's five National Aboriginal Organizations (NAOs). NWAC is the only NAO solely responsible for representing the interests of Aboriginal women, particularly First Nations and Métis women. NWAC was founded in 1974 as an aggregate of 13 Aboriginal women's organizations from coast to coast to coast, and has goals of preserving Aboriginal culture and achieving equal opportunity for Aboriginal women and their families. NWAC works at the national level promoting Aboriginal's women's unique role in shaping legislation and policy within First Nation and Canadian societies.

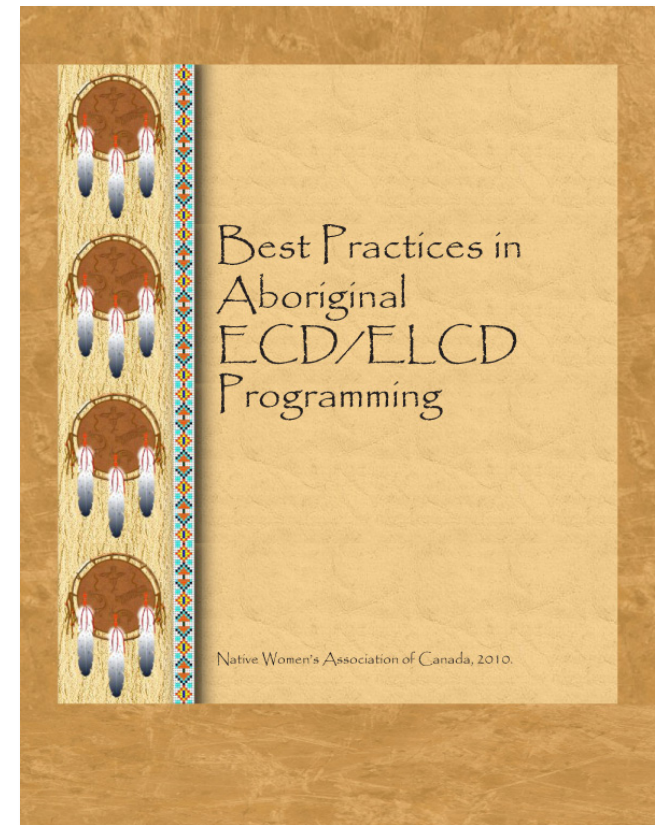
NWAC passionately pursues every opportunity to raise awareness of the unique circumstances and realities facing Aboriginal women. Education and awareness have become key priorities for the entire organization. NWAC is led by President Jeannette Corbiere Lavell who has a long history of advancing Aboriginal women's equality rights nationally. NWAC's President and Executive Director work with a Board of Directors to develop political positions that respect the diversity of First Nations and Metis women's interests.

NWAC's Health Department responds to concerns identified by grass-roots Aboriginal women and sets priorities through advice and guidance from its National Advisory Committee. This bottom-up structure was established to ensure local Aboriginal women's voices are heard at the national level. The Health Advisory Committee works closely with the Health Department and contributes to health projects and policy

analysis as necessary. Its mandate and vision reflects a commitment to improving health outcomes through knowledge translation and the application of a culturally relevant gender based perspective on issues.

[www.nwac.ca](http://www.nwac.ca)

Click on image



## PRESENTERS

DR. MARGO GREENWOOD, *Academic Leader of  
the National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health*

Dr. Margo Greenwood, Academic Leader of the National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health, is an Indigenous scholar of Cree ancestry with more than 25 years' experience in the field of early childhood education. Professionally and personally, children have been the focus of her life. She has worked as a frontline caregiver in early childhood services, designed early childhood curriculum, programs, and evaluations, and taught early childhood education courses at both the college and university levels. As a mother of three, she is personally committed to the continued well-being of children and youth in Canada.



While Margo's focus has been on all children, she is recognized regionally, provincially, nationally and internationally for her work on Aboriginal children. She has served with 25 national and provincial federations, committees and assemblies, and has undertaken work with UNICEF, the United Nations, and the Canadian Reference Group to the World Health Organization Commission on Social Determinants. Margo received the Queen's Jubilee medal in 2002 in recognition of her years of work to promote awareness and policy action on the

rights and well-being of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children, youth and families. She was also recognized in 2010 as the 'Academic of the Year' by the Confederation of University Faculty Associations' of B.C. for her research contributions to the wider community. Most recently she was honoured with National Aboriginal Achievement Award for Education in 2011.

Currently, Margo is an Associate Professor in both the First Nations Studies Education and programs at the University of Northern British Columbia. Her current research interests include historic and contemporary systemic and structural impacts on the development of early childhood programs and services Canada; the social determinants of health with particular emphasis on colonization and children's rights; and cross-cultural communication and research. Her scholarship and research also includes issues pertaining to Indigenous ways of knowing and being, or Indigenous epistemologies and ontologies. In addition to her teaching and service commitments, Margo has directed a number of research centres and currently leads the National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health, which supports a renewed and inclusive public health system in Canada and Aboriginal ActNow BC, a Ministry of Health-funded collaborative health promotion initiative.

[www.nccah-ccnsa.ca](http://www.nccah-ccnsa.ca)



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## PRESENTERS

### ERIN CORSTON (WOLSKI), *NWAC Health Director*

Erin Corston (Wolski) was born and raised in a small community located in Treaty 9 Territory in northern Ontario. She is an active member of the Chapleau Cree First Nation (CCFN) and hopes to return to her community and contribute her expertise at the local level.

Erin has dedicated the last decade of her career to Aboriginal health advocacy and as such has worked in various capacities at three of the five National Aboriginal Organizations (NAOs) in Ottawa. She is currently Health Director and Acting Director of the Environment at the Native Women's Association of Canada.

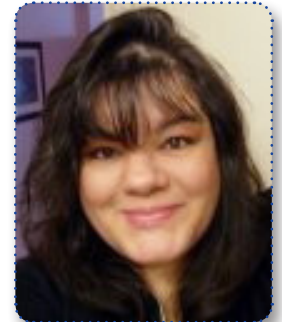
Erin is a Ryerson University graduate and worked as an Environmental Health Officer early in her career serving the needs of First Nations communities throughout Ontario.

An advocate for Aboriginal women's equality rights, she focuses much of her attention on Aboriginal health research and policy. She has contributed to the advancement of culturally relevant gender based analysis (CRGBA) through her work with various Aboriginal women's organizations in Canada and is honoured to have had the opportunity to work with some of the most innovative leaders in Aboriginal women's health in Canada. Her goal is to continue learning and contributing.



### CATHERINE GRAHAM, *Director, Metis Center, National Aboriginal Health Organization*

Director of the Métis Centre, Catherine Graham has two undergraduate degrees and a Master's in Legal Studies from Carleton University where her studies focused on issues related to Aboriginal Peoples and the law, and violence against women. Her research interests include the social determinants of health, culturally relevant gender-based analysis, mental health, Aboriginal identity, and indigenous governance. Catherine has worked with Aboriginal organizations at the national and local levels for several years on issues related to inclusion and equity. She has also worked as a consultant in the area of criminal justice, relationship development, gender-based analysis, and mental health.



[www.naho.ca/metiscentre](http://www.naho.ca/metiscentre)

[www.nwac.ca](http://www.nwac.ca)





## PRESENTERS

DR. CARRIE BOURASSA, *Infinity Consulting /  
First Nations University of Canada (ECD Best Practices)*

Carrie Bourassa was born and raised in Regina. Carrie pursued both her undergraduate and graduate degrees at the University of Regina. She earned her Bachelor of Arts Honours degree in Political Science in 1995, graduated with her Master of Arts degree in 1999, and earned her Ph.D. in Social Studies in 2008.



Photo: U of R Photography Department

Carrie has worked in several different capacities in her career including Sessional Instructor with the First Nations University of Canada (formerly the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College), Ministerial Assistant, Policy Analyst with the Saskatchewan Provincial government and Manager of Employment Equity at the University of Regina.

Currently, Carrie is following her dream of teaching at the post-secondary level. She is an Associate Professor in the Department of Inter-disciplinary Programs at the First Nations University of Canada teaching Indigenous Health Studies. Carrie's research interests include the impacts of colonization on the health of First Nations and Métis people; creating culturally competent care in health service delivery; Aboriginal community-based health research methodology; Aboriginal end of life care and Aboriginal women's health. Carrie is beginning her second 3

year term as a member of the Canadian Institute for Health Research Standing Committee on Ethics. Carrie is a member of the Native Women's Association of Canada Advisory Committee on Senior Abuse and Aboriginal Women, member of the Saskatchewan RESOLVE Steering Committee and the Métis Centre of the National Aboriginal Health Organization's Métis Research and Ethics Committee. Carrie recently completed a chapter for the Saskatchewan Child Welfare Review entitled *Final Summary Review of the Manitoba Child Welfare System for the Saskatchewan Child Welfare Review Report*. She is also an accredited Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Program facilitator through the First Nations University of Canada and actively involved in volunteering at community centres including the Regina Métis Sports and Culture Centre. Carrie is also the nominated Principal Investigator of the Indigenous Peoples' Health Research Centre. In 2004, Carrie was honoured when she was chosen as one of Saskatchewan's ten Aboriginal Role Models by the Aboriginal Employment Development Program's Provincial Aboriginal Representative Workforce Council (PARWC). More recently, Carrie was a recipient of the Campion College Alumni of Distinction Award for Professional Achievement and was inducted into the Alpha Sigma Nu Honour Society of Jesuit Institutions of Higher Education in November 2010. Carrie is the owner and operator of Infinity Consulting.

Carrie is Métis and belongs to the Riel Métis Council of Regina Inc. (RMCR). She resides in Regina with her husband, Chad and her daughters, Victoria, 12 and Lillie, 1.

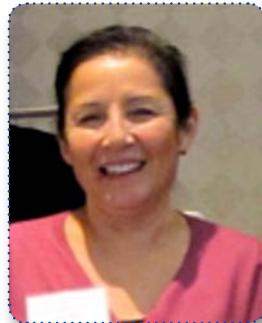
[Aboriginal Early Childhood Development/Early Learning  
Childhood Development Best Practices in Canada \(Power Point\)](#)



## PRESENTERS

### *KAREN ISAAC, BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (ACCS)*

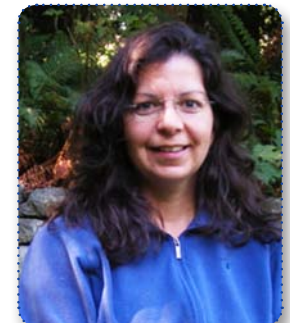
Karen Isaac, a Miqmaq from the Gaspé region of Quebec, has over 20 years experience working with Aboriginal organizations at the national and provincial levels. In 1999, Karen joined the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (ACCS), a nonprofit organization established in 1995 by the First Nations Summit to administer BC's \$12 million allocation of the First Nations/Inuit Child Care Initiative. Between 1996 and 2000, the ACCS help oversee the creation of 800 new licensed childcare spaces in 57 BC First Nations communities throughout BC. ACCS continues to support BC Aboriginal communities and early childhood educators by providing culturally focused early childhood development and care resources, training, networking and research.



[www.acc-society.bc.ca](http://www.acc-society.bc.ca)

### *JOAN GIGNAC, Executive Director, Aboriginal Head Start Association of B.C*

Joan Gignac is a member of the Sagamok Anishnawbek Ojibway nation in Ontario and has lived and worked in BC for the past 20 years. Joan has worked in the Early Childhood Profession for 20 years she is an Early Childhood Educator with 14 years of experience working with Aboriginal Head Start and First Nation Head Start programs in BC. She currently works for the Aboriginal Head Start Association of B.C. as their Executive Director. In this position Joan has been able to use her knowledge and understanding of the Early Childhood profession, and her passion and belief in the Head Start programs to provide training and resources around best practices and leadership to the AHS program in BC and nationally.



[www.ahsabc.com](http://www.ahsabc.com)



## PRESENTERS

COREEN ROULETTE, *Head Start Coordinator,  
Little Steps Head Start Family Program*

My name is Coreen Roulette. I was born and raised in Dauphin, Manitoba. I am a single mother to one son, Brendan who is 11  $\frac{3}{4}$  years old and two cats. The majority of my working career has involved working with children and youth. I earned my diploma as an Early Childhood Education III in 1991.



I've been employed with the Dauphin Friendship Centre for almost 11 years in the Little Steps Head Start Program. I started on the floor as an Instructor working directly with the children. I was promoted to Family Support Worker and worked closely with the parents until I was promoted to Head Start Coordinator/Director about 5 years ago.

I've always wanted to combine my love of children with my Culture. With Little Steps Head Start, I've been able to do this. I'm always looking for ways to bring the culture and traditional knowledge into the Program. I'm trying to learn my language and attend ceremonies when possible.

A mentor once told me to "be open to the lessons along the way". I try to be open to new ideas, listen, learn and ask questions. I have found that once I open my heart and my mind, the teacher and the lessons appear.

[Medicine Wheel Curriculum \(Power Point\)](#)

MARC (TATANASCI) LALONDE, *Manager, Tsleil-Waututh  
Child & Family Development Center*

Marc Lalonde worked as an Infant Development Consultant (IDC) in Port Alberni for 5 years. During that time he reached out to the First Nations communities and supported their development of an Aboriginal Infant Development Program (AIDP). When the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council (NTC), which represents 14 Nations along the west coast of Vancouver Island, began its AIDP they asked Marc to lead this initiative. Marc then worked for (NTC) for ten years, developing the program and mentoring Nuu-chah-nulth people to become Infant Development Workers. He is now on the North Shore working with the Tsleil-Waututh First Nation (formerly known as the Burrard Band). Marc manages the Child and Family Development Centre for the Tsleil-Waututh Nation and has been the Regional Advisor for AIDP in the Vancouver Coastal area. He sits on the Executive Committee for the Aboriginal Early Childhood Development Association, as treasurer.



[www.twnation.ca](http://www.twnation.ca)

[The Context of Success \(Power Point\)](#)





## RESOURCES

### BC ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE SOCIETY

The BC Aboriginal Child Care Society is a non-profit charitable society. We are a provincial organization serving Aboriginal early childhood programs throughout British Columbia. We provide Aboriginal Child Care Resource and Support Services. Our mission is to Build on our Nations' Past for Our Children's Future.

We have much to offer, including training workshops, a lending library, ECE curriculum boxes, two traveling child care advisors, annual conferences, Aboriginal ECE/ECD related publications, weekly enews, bi-monthly newsletters and more! Our website is [www.acc-society.bc.ca](http://www.acc-society.bc.ca)

[ACCS CCRR Info Sheet Jan. 2011 Revised](#)

[ACCS Scholarship - Information Sheet 2011](#)

[Environmental Scan of Aboriginal Early Childhood Development Programs in BC: The Winds of Change](#)

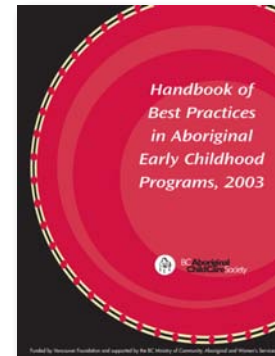
[Early Intervention Guide 2004](#)

[ECE Curriculum Box Info Sheet](#)

[Errata-Early Intervention Guide](#)

[Errata-Steps in the Right Direction](#)

Click on images



[Moe the Mouse Information Sheet May 2010](#)

[Report on the 2006 ACCS Annual Training Conference NCCA Report](#)

[Steps in the Right Direction 2007](#)

[Valuing Community Voice](#)



# RESOURCES

## EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT INTERCULTURAL PARTNERSHIPS

[www.ecdip.org](http://www.ecdip.org)

[ECDIP Capacity Building Page](#)


[IC Policy Brief](#)

[IF DVD & Resources Description](#)

[Indigenous Child Language Issues](#)

[Kit Fathers Resources List](#)

Click on image

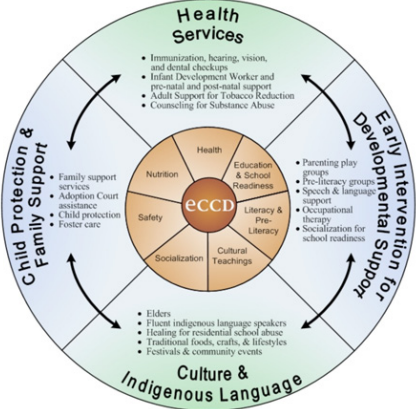


**HOOK AND HUB**

**Promising Practices in First Nations toward Intersectoral Coordination of Services  
Centred on Early Childhood Health, Care and Development**

Jessica Ball, M.P.H., Ph.D.  
School of Child and Youth Care, University of Victoria

Pathways to the development of community capacity to deliver health, development, and social programs for young children and their families are highlighted in a report entitled: "Early Childhood Care and Development Programs as Hook and Hub: Promising Practices in First Nations Communities." (pdf available at [www.ecdip.org](http://www.ecdip.org))



**Health Services**

- Immunization, hearing, vision, and dental checkups
- Infant Development Worker and pre-natal and post-natal support
- Adult Support for Tobacco Reduction
- Counseling for Substance Abuse

**Early Intervention for Developmental Support**

- Parenting play groups
- Pre-literacy groups
- Speech & language support
- Occupational therapy
- Socialization for school readiness

**Culture & Indigenous Language**

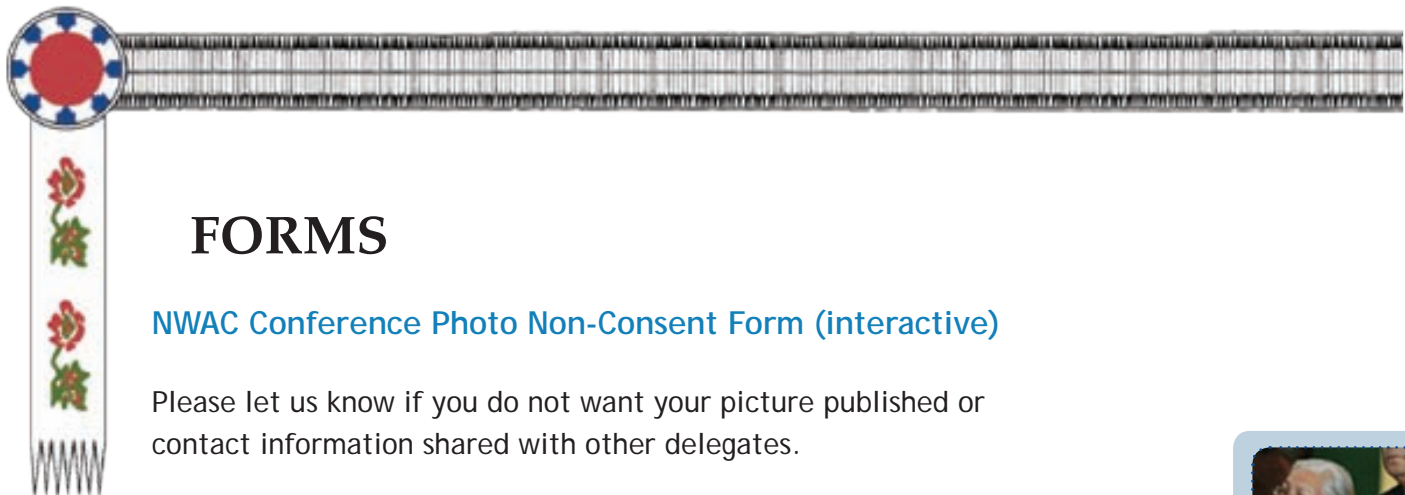
- Elders
- Fluent indigenous language speakers
- Healing for residential school abuse
- Traditional foods, crafts, & lifestyles
- Festivals & community events

**Child Protection & Family Support**

- Family support services
- Adoption Court assistance
- Child protection
- Foster care

Early Childhood Care and Development as a Community-Based Hub





## FORMS

### [NWAC Conference Photo Non-Consent Form \(interactive\)](#)

Please let us know if you do not want your picture published or contact information shared with other delegates.

### [Conference Evaluation Form](#)

Please provide us with your feedback on the Forum. Simply click the link and complete the Survey Monkey questionnaire. Thank you.



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The ECD Networking Forum has been made possible through financial contributions from Health Canada. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of our funder.

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[www.ravenevents.ca](http://www.ravenevents.ca)

Graphic Design by  
[www.massivegraphic.ca](http://www.massivegraphic.ca)



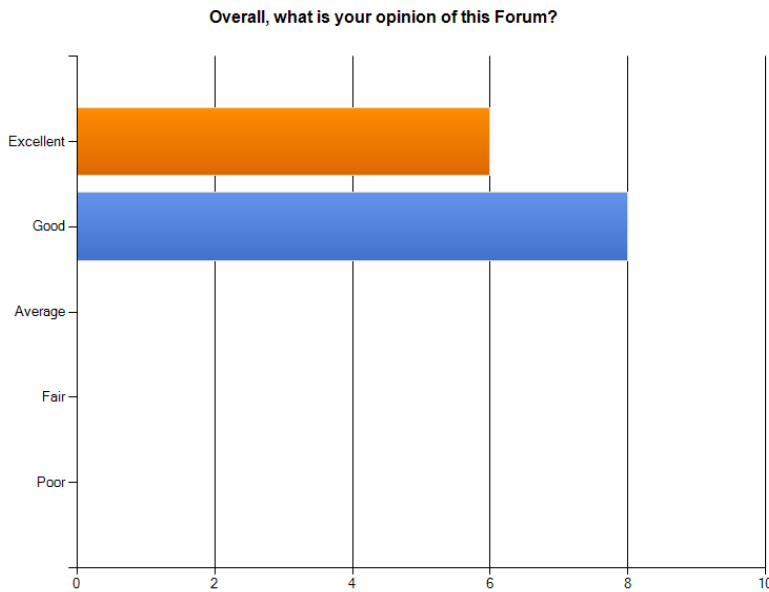
*Photos: Lenora Pritchard*



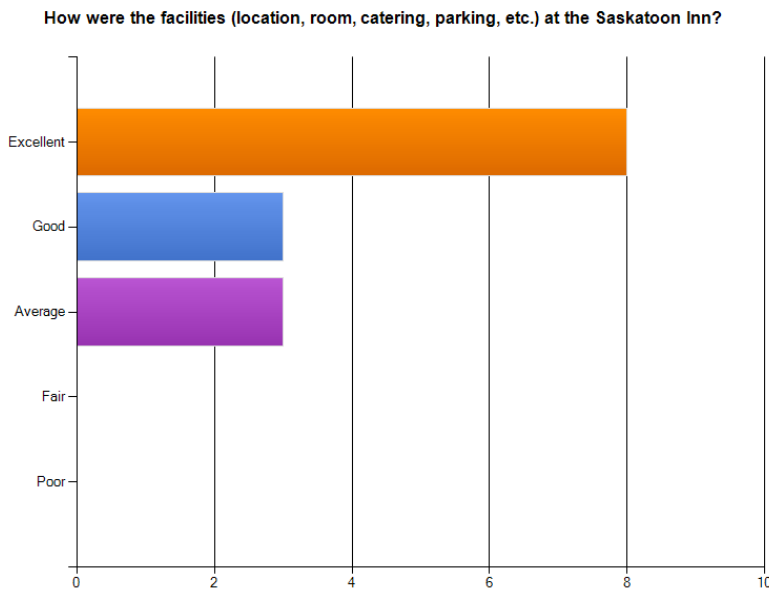
[Back to Directory](#)

## ECD Networking Forum Delegate Feedback Summary

### 1. Overall, what is your opinion of this Forum?

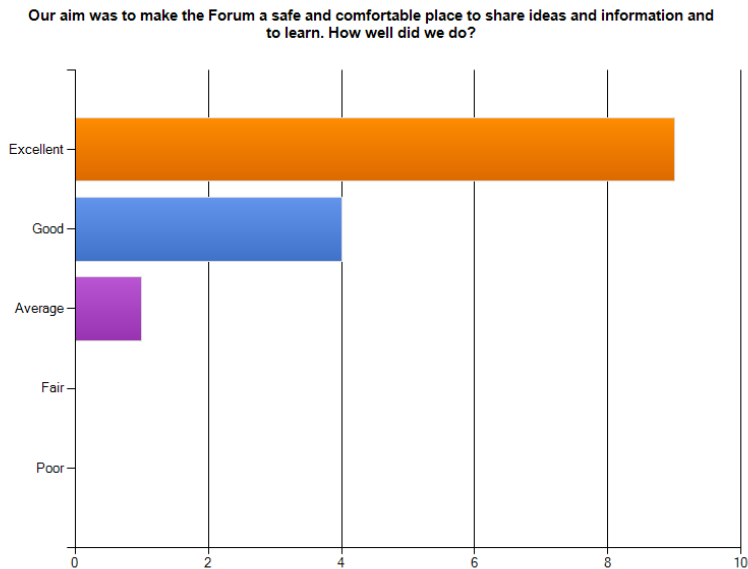


### 2. How were the facilities (location, room, catering, parking, etc.) at the Saskatoon Inn?

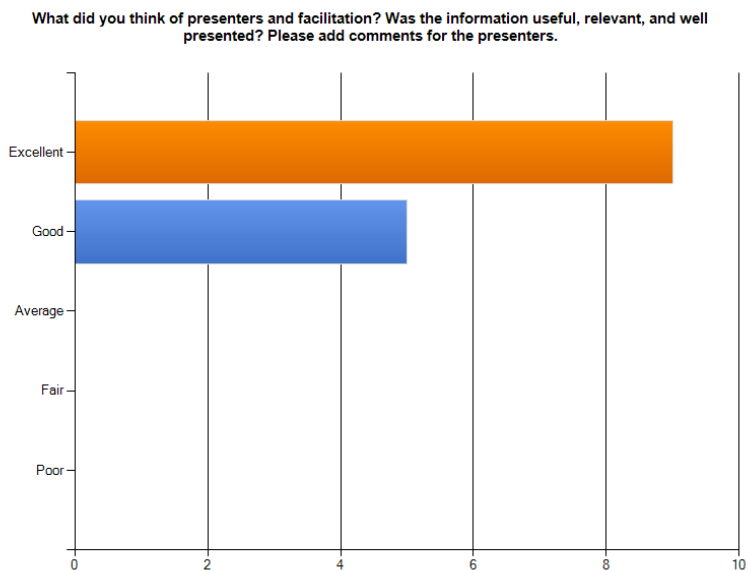


## ECD Networking Forum Delegate Feedback Summary

### **3. Our aim was to make the Forum a safe and comfortable place to share ideas and information and to learn. How well did we do?**



### **4. What did you think of presenters and facilitation? Was the information useful, relevant, and well presented? Please add comments for the presenters.**



#### **Additional Comments:**

- Excellent job and time frame was adequate. Information was useful and will be shared with colleagues. It was an honor to share stories with the Elders. Good visual presentation done by Joan Gignac.



## **ECD Networking Forum Delegate Feedback Summary**

- i would have liked a more substantial Metis center keynote and presentation. she provided info but I wanted more
- All of the presentations were fantastic! The ones that I found to be most useful were Joan Gignac's and Ron George's. Fatherhood is something that is often overlooked, and it was nice to have a presentation specifically about that. It really added depth to the conference.
- They did a really good job!
- Thank you! I've come away with new ideas and have been rejuvenated.
- I appreciated the flexibility of the presenters. It added to the over all success of the conference.
- I enjoyed all the presenters
- It was very useful and informative.

### **5. Was there something you wish we had more of?**

- More sharing of stories related to what works and what doesn't for their programs.
- -More group work and time to network with others. Too many presentations made this difficult. -More facilitation and bringing/tying things together could have allowed it to flow better. -A focus on next steps would have been helpful
- how ahs can be supported by native women's association
- More time for networking and discussion. I really liked that the agenda was not strictly followed...flexibility like that lends a sense of intimacy and creates a collaborative atmosphere.
- More conferences like this in general would be so beneficial. It was very helpful to be able to network and share ideas with other site and I think we could use alot more of it!
- More school involvement with nursery, pre-school and kindergarten perspectives because all the good work that is being done in Head Start and Day Cares in Aboriginal Communities whether on or off reserve needs to continue on in the early grades. It is so needed. Maybe more presentations of the curriculums in literacy and numeracy specifically in kindergarten and grade 1 so that Head Starts will know exactly what to prepare the children who will be entering these grade will expect. Perhaps more on the assessments that Head Starts use example: How the Brigance is being used in the Head Starts and how is that data going to be used in the schools? Will it be used to start their cum files?
- Would have been great if there had of been a specific goal to the session so htat individuals could walk away knowing what the next steps would be.

### **6. Was there something you wish we had less of?**

- For information to be presented in a less "presentation" style and to be more interactive

### **7. Other comments? (Please feel free to contact Megan Gros with Raven Events at [megan@ravenevents.ca](mailto:megan@ravenevents.ca) or at 604-483-3532 to discuss your input)**

- Great Networking opportunity from coast to coast and loved the entertainment. The dancers heart was in it.

## **ECD Networking Forum Delegate Feedback Summary**

- excellent opportunity to meet people and learn together. thank you for the organizers, the facilities and the awesome speakers.
- I would like to commend Megan with Raven Events for this wonderful event. Megan was warm, welcoming, and helpful to everyone that I saw her interact with. If there were any hitches, they were not obvious to participants. I know that everyone had a great time, which is the true earmark of the success of the event. I would also like to commend the team from NWAC. Ladies, the drumming and singing to start of the event was beautiful! It was nice to see such a cohesive team from NWAC, and I am looking forward to seeing you all again in the future!
- Organized really well. I really appreciated the opportunity to attend. I loved receiving all of the information on jump drive...wish all conferences would do that!!
- I enjoyed all the information presented also all the materials that I recieved, expecially all the presenters information and ppp that were on the memory stick. Great job
- I wish there were more workshops like this happening often
- I really appreciate the memory sticks as I had a chance to just listen to the presenters and not worry about getting everything off the powerpoints. I wish I could have had Jessica Balls presentations so that I can review periodically what the latest research is which is very important.
- Thank you for embracing us as a community.

Costs		RE Budget		Actual Budget		Variance		Notes
<b>Coordination/Admin etc.</b>								
	Event Management RE	\$	11,424.00	\$	11,424.00			
	Copy Editing	\$	100.00	\$	40.00			
<i>subtotal</i>			\$	11,524.00	\$	11,464.00	\$	60.00
<b>Travel &amp; Accommodations</b>								
	Rooms	\$	12,499.20	\$	10,310.70			
	Travel	\$	30,000.00	\$	26,174.47			controlled by NWAC, includes travel and expense reimbursements
<i>subtotal</i>			\$	42,499.20	\$	36,485.17	\$	6,014.03
<b>Food and Beverage, Facility etc.</b>								
	Food	\$	8,173.42	\$	7,791.25			
	Banquet Facilities	\$	1,680.00	\$	630.00			was reduced because breakout rooms were cancelled
	AV	\$	500.00	\$	1,576.58			The last minute addition of microphone and speaker greatly increased total cost.
<i>subtotal</i>			\$	10,353.42	\$	9,997.83	\$	355.59
<b>Promotional Products</b>								
	Design of promotional materials	\$	1,500.00	\$	1,500.00			
	Delegate Kits	\$	955.00	\$	663.00			Branded USB sticks (\$614.00) plus printed agenda (\$49.00)
	Nametags	\$	50.00	\$	34.66			
	Translation of written materials	\$	-	\$	-			
<i>subtotal</i>			\$	2,505.00	\$	2,197.66	\$	307.34
<b>Entertainment, Speaker Fees, Honoraria</b>								
	Entertainment	\$	600.00	\$	1,266.47			
	Speaker Fees	\$	1,000.00	\$	-			Speakers were given gifts instead of fees
	Honoraria	\$	500.00	\$	800.00			
	Gifts	\$	1,000.00	\$	885.00			
<i>subtotal</i>			\$	3,100.00	\$	2,951.47	\$	148.53
<b>Miscellaneous</b>								
<i>subtotal</i>		\$	-	\$	-			
<b>Total</b>			\$	69,981.62	\$	63,096.13	\$	6,885.49

event budget includes all applicable taxes