

**Update
March 9, 2006**

Invitations

1) Africa Celebrates

Last year the African Community in Vancouver Island under the championship of Dr. Francis Adu-Febiri established an association called African Heritage Association of Vancouver Island (AHAVI). The AHAVI is organizing a family event to celebrate African culture on March 11, 2006 5:30 pm at St. Andrews Elementary School.

See attached poster for further information and ticket details.

2) Institute for Research on Public Policy

Over the past decade, children and families have become a key focus of public policy in Canada, and Ottawa and the provinces have actively sought to improve the well-being of Canadian children. In March 2003, the signing of the Multilateral Framework on Early Learning and Child Care and the ensuing bilateral agreements between Ottawa and the provinces over 2005 set the stage for what many hoped would be a fully fledged national daycare network.

With the recent election of a minority Conservative government in Ottawa, and the announcement by the new prime minister that he will cancel these intergovernmental agreements and fund families directly to help them pay for daycare services, Canada's family policy seems to be moving in a new direction.

In this context, the Institute for Research on Public Policy (IRPP) and the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) are pleased to invite you to a roundtable at the Joseph & Rosalie Segal Centre at SFU Harbour Centre, 515 West Hastings Street in Vancouver, on March 27, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A program is attached.

The roundtable entitled "Early childhood development and childcare: What do we know?" will examine the latest research on early childhood development and child care and attempt to sort out the policy implications. Among other topics, speakers will address the quality of care, the policy lessons to be learned from Quebec and elsewhere, the current either/or debate about funding supply or demand and the place of child care in Canada's broader benefits package for families.

This forum is a unique opportunity to participate in an open discussion about daycare and early childhood development in Canada, and we sincerely hope you can join us.

Hugh Segal
President
Institute for Research on Public Policy

Clyde Hertzman
Director
Human Early Learning Partnership

For any further information please contact Sophia Cosmadakis at earlylearning@ubc.ca

3) The Expanding Role of Mediation and Collaboration in the Court System

Speaker: Judge Loretta Chaperon

Date: Wednesday, Feb22, 2006

Time: Noon to 1:30 pm Where: Dispute Resolution Centre

108-1218 Wharf Street Victoria BC V8W 1T8

RSVP: P: 250.383.4412 E: speakers@disputeresolution.bc.ca

Action

The Federal Government has announced they will cancel the provincial/federal early learning and child care agreements. YOU CAN:

Sign on to protect the gains made on child care.

http://www.buildchildcare.ca/BE_petition.php/honourthem

Code Blue for Child Care: pan-Canadian campaign information is at

<http://www.childcareadvocacy.ca/action/codeBlue/index.html>

Training

1) Volunteer Facilitators Needed For:

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Multicultural Parent Support Circle

Support Circles in Victoria, Westshore and Sooke

Join the network of volunteers who believe that it Takes a Village to Raise a Child. Training is provided and includes:

- communication and facilitation skills
- parenting in the new millennium
- child development
- child abuse awareness and prevention
- cultural awareness and inclusion

NEXT TRAINING: March, 2006

Parent Support Circles are weekly groups for any parents who are experiencing stress or isolation in their parenting; would benefit from being part of a community of parents; and want to find healthy ways to relate to their children.

E-mail: parent-support@shaw.ca

www.parentsupportbc.ca

For more information: Phone 250-384-8042

2) INDIGO CHILDREN

~Empowering Parents... Empowering Children...~

Experience a workshop dedicated to supporting '*sensitive children*' through the development of hands on skills, exploration, and discussion.

Simple strategies for a child based approach:

Supporting Extra-ordinary Children in Ordinary Life

Understanding Sensitivities

Communication

Intuitive Wisdom

Nutrition

Sleep/Sleep Disturbances

Creative Coping

Do you know a child who is often described as: "Special" "Gifted" "Talented"
"Challenging" "Precocious" "Troubled" or "Wise beyond her/his years"

Do you know a child who: Is extremely sensitive to noise, sounds or activity; Easily over stimulated; Acutely attuned to emotional environments; Easily bored or frustrated with everyday tasks?

Has difficulty expressing themselves; Isolates themselves socially; Experiences night terrors, visions or anxiety; Talks about abstract ideas; Sees or experiences things that others don't?

Peter Tongue and Teron Wolf invite you to learn more:

1:00 – 5:00pm: Sunday, March 5; or Sunday, March 12, 2006

Oaklands Community Centre - #1 2827 Belmont Avenue, Victoria, BC

\$60.00/person

Contact: Peter Tongue: tongue@shaw.ca Teron Wolf: equanimitycentre@yahoo.ca



1) FREE TELESEMINAR

Presented by: **Aboriginal Children's Circle of Early Learning (ACCEL)**

When: **March 21st, 2006 from 12:00 to 1:30 pm EST**

Topic of Discussion:

Best and Promising Practices for Aboriginal Children – An Idea Exchange

What is ACCEL?

The Aboriginal Children's Circle of Early Learning (ACCEL) is a bilingual web-based clearinghouse and network for Aboriginal early childhood development (ECD). This virtual meeting place provides an opportunity for Aboriginal early childhood service providers to access current research, discuss best and promising practices, and to work together to identify and respond to the emerging needs of their communities with timely, culturally sensitive solutions.

What is a teleseminar?

A teleseminar is a workshop that you can participate in while being in the convenience of your own home, office, centre, etc. If you use a speaker phone, you can invite others to join in this learning opportunity and then continue discussing the important topic with these colleagues even after the teleseminar ends. If you take the call sitting at a computer with Internet access, you can also follow along with a slide presentation from a special website designed for the teleseminar.

While the oral presentations will be in English, we will provide bilingual PowerPoint slides and there will also be an opportunity to pose French questions or comments during the presentations.

There will be three presenters sharing their expertise on the topic ***Best and Promising Practices for Aboriginal Children – An Idea Exchange***. Along with these informative presentations, we hope the teleseminar will be interactive and we encourage everyone to think about sharing knowledge, ideas and questions for discussion.

Who should take part in this teleseminar?

Aboriginal ECD Service providers and all those who support the important work they do.

To Register:

Please contact ACCEL at info@accel-capea.ca to register for your FREE line. Once you have registered, we will send you instructions on how to access the teleseminar.

Registration Deadline: March 16th, 2006 (lines are limited)



1) **Victoria Native Friendship Centre**

ECD Male Support Worker to provide ongoing supportive programming to urban Aboriginal fathers, parents and families with children under 6 years of age.
(See attached information)

2) **Position: Licensed Early Childhood Educator**

The Victoria West Community Y is looking for a Licensed Early Childhood Educator to be a part of our licensed programs. This is a casual, on-call position to start, with the possibility of further employment opportunities.

Wage: \$14.11 (+ 4% holiday pay) per hr.

Hours: varied, on-call

Qualifications:

- Possess an Early Childhood Certificate with valid License to Practice
- Valid First Aid, Doctor's Note and Criminal Record Check
- *Class 4 Driver's License an asset*
- *Diverse Abilities training and/or Special Needs License an asset*

Send resume to:

Mark Dodd Victoria West Community Y
521 Craigflower Rd., Victoria, BC V9A 6Z5 Fax: 250-388-6455

3) **Infant & Toddler Educator and Early Childhood Educator.**

MFRC Daycare has a need of a full-time, permanent position.

Previous childcare experience and BC licensed ECE required (ITE asset). Benefit package & competitive wages. Submit by March 17th, 2006. Only those short-listed will be contacted. Attn Children's Services Coord, MFRC, PO Box 17000 Stn Forces, Victoria V9A 7N2.

Or (if you have space on your board)

Job title: Early Childhood Educator & Infant Toddler Educator

Start Date: ASAP

Hours: 37.5hrs/wk

Wages: \$13.00/\$15.00/hr + Benefits

Job Qualifications: Applicants for this position MUST have their valid ECE License (ITE an asset), be dependable, reliable, be available for daytime shifts, work well independently and as a team player, be friendly, out-going, energetic, and be hard working. Would also be an asset if applicant had some knowledge of military lifestyle and were bilingual.

Job description: Will be working in a daycare supervising children, assisting in daily/weekly/monthly planning of activities for the children, prepare and serve meals and snacks, doing general clean up, and any other related duties as required.

Please apply by mailing in resume

ATT: Children's Services Coord.

Military Family Resource Centre

PO Box 17000 Stn Forces, Victoria V9A 7N2

ONLY THOSE SHORT LISTED WILL CONTACTED.