

**Update**  
**March 16, 2006**

## **Invitations**

### **1) Dr. Elinor Powell– The Spiritual Basis of Conflict**

She will discuss the meaning of spirituality: that essence which is vital and non-negotiable, and which lies at the heart of our lives. Challenges can test our spirits - we become newly aware of who we are. Transformation may come about as we come to recognize the deep nature of our conflicts, the place of honour and grace, and this recognition can lead to healing and reconciliation. Come join us on Thursday, March 30 at noon and be challenged and have fun at the same time!

**Date:** Thursday, Mar 30, 2006, Noon

**Where:** **Dispute Resolution Centre**

**108-1218 Wharf Street**

**Victoria BC V8W 1T8**

**RSVP:** P: 250.383.4412

E: [speakers@disputeresolution.bc.ca](mailto:speakers@disputeresolution.bc.ca)

Admission is by donation.

### **2) REACH is pleased to announce an upcoming seminar- Dr. Sharna Olfman** ***The Building Blocks of Children's Mental Health: Care and Community (flyer attached)***

Children need unconditional love and consistent care from their families, and families in turn need a "village" to support their efforts. In recent years, with the advent of brain-imaging techniques, researcher Allan Schore and his colleagues have documented that reliable, loving care during infancy and early childhood has a profound impact on the development of regions of the brain that are critical for regulating emotions and coping with stress. And the ability to regulate feelings and manage stress is the hallmark of mental health.

Dr. Sharna Olfman will explore the kind of care and community support that all children need, for optimal development and the adverse consequences for children's mental health when these needs are not met, as is increasingly the case in the United States.

Dr. Olfman, Clinical Psychologist and Associate Professor of Psychology at Point Park University (Pittsburgh), is Founder/Director of the annual Childhood and Society Symposium and a partner in the national *Alliance for Childhood*. Editor of the Childhood in America series for Praeger Press, she is Editor of, and contributor to, *All Work and No Play: How Educational Reforms are Harming our Preschoolers* (2003), *Childhood Lost: How American Culture is Failing Our Kids* (2005), and *No Child Left Different: How America's Lost Tolerance Has Led to Psychiatric Over diagnosis and Overmedication of Kids* (2005). Her presentation is based on her recently published book: *No Child Left Different* (Praeger Press, 2006).

**An eloquent and passionate advocate for children, she combines meticulous research with a searching assessment of current trends and social conditions. Mark your calendars and come!**

**Thursday, March 23, 2006**

**4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.** David F. Strong Building C112 University of Victoria

### 3) Parenting Educators Network

An AFSA Sub-committee of professionals promoting positive parenting practices and supporting **Community Advocacy** for the Parenting Role  
Invite you to attend a workshop of dialogue, discussion and reflection on  
“Parenting Education Matters”

#### Guest Speaker:

**Janice MacAulay, Director, Policy and Research**  
**Canadian Association of Family Resource Programs (FRP Canada)**

**DATE:** Monday, March 20, 2006

**TIME:** 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (lunch provided)

**PLACE:** The Princess Mary Restaurant 358 Harbour Road Victoria, BC

**COST:** \$20.00 AFSA members \$25.00 Non-members

**Janice MacAulay** brings many years' experience working with families at a community-based family resource program to her position at the Canadian Association of Family resource Programs (FRP Canada) where she is currently Director, Policy Research. She holds the designation CCFE-Certified Canadian Family Educator-from family resource practitioners and the families they serve. Particular interests include parenting education, community collaboration, evaluation of community programs, and supporting vulnerable families. She is the author of ***Tensions & Possibilities: Forging Better Links Between Family Resource Programs and Child Welfare*** (2002).

Please make plans to join your colleagues for an interactive workshop for parenting educators or those interested in developing parenting education programs. Topics will include:

Research findings about the impact of parenting programs on child outcomes  
Pros and cons of using packaged programs vs. creating your own  
Factors to consider when building a customized parenting program

***Please note:*** Workshop participants will receive information about FRP Canada's publication ***Working with Parent Groups: A Handbook for Facilitators***. Janice will also introduce ***Family Service Canada's Certification*** process for parenting educators and share information about a current project to develop an annotated inventory of parenting and parent-child programs for use in Canada.

**Training**

#### **PREVENTION FORUM VII (Flyer attached)**

April 27-28<sup>th</sup>, 2006, Malaspina College, Nanaimo

**IN B.C.**

**IRPP- HELP ROUNDTABLE - Early Childhood Development and Child Care: What Do We Know?**

## **ROUNDTABLE**

Institute for Research on Public Policy (IRPP) and Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP)

### **Early Childhood Development and Child Care: What Do We Know?**

Joseph & Rosalie Segal Centre at SFU Harbour Centre, **Vancouver** (515 West Hastings Street)

#### **Monday March 27, 2006**

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.

The roundtable 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.

Please join us: <http://www.irpp.org/events/archive/irpp-help>



**CONTRACT POSITION POSTING (see flyer attached)**

KOOTENAY BOUNDARY REGIONAL RESOURCES COOPERATIVE  
**ECD Regional Community Development Advisor**