

2017 Atlantic Institute on Early Learning & Care



Putting Early Learning Frameworks into Practice

The early years environment is ground zero for children's development, but educators need support to make early childhood settings the best they can be. This Institute offers hands on introductions to well established tools for professional practice and previews new ones in development.

Experts will share their experiences about how early learning frameworks can guide your work as they shape institutional views of play as the medium to build cognitive, social and emotional competencies.

In the Atlantic Provinces and across Canada purposeful, experiential, inquiry driven learning through play is the recommended approach to supporting young children's development. Children with these experiences arrive at school with confidence and an eagerness to direct their own learning, bringing with them a respect for playful learning into primary schooling.

Early childhood educators are the ambassadors of play-based pedagogy. Your ability to articulate to parents, other educators, administrators, even your own family and friends, about what you do raises the status of the profession and the public's understanding of early education and care.

As busy people with important jobs there are few chances to step back and reflect on what we do. I hope this Institute provides that respite with great speakers, stimulating discussions, fresh ideas, gained insights and lots of time for play with new friends.

The federal governments re-entry into early learning and care has created a heightened interest in the early years. New investments offer possibilities for innovation. Rather than more of the same, windows are opening for evidence-driven change. Hopefully new strategies to improve children's outcomes will emerge from your sessions.

-Honourable Margaret Norrie McCain



Margaret & Wallace McCain
Family Foundation



CONFERENCE SCHEDULE **FRIDAY, AUGUST 25**

7:30 am

Conference Registration
Outside MPR, 3rd floor Rosaria

7:30 am

Breakfast
Cafeteria, 3rd floor Rosaria

9:00 am

Welcome & Introduction
MPR, Rosaria

- *Dr. Fernando Nunes - Chair, Child & Youth Study, Mount Saint Vincent University*
- *Kathy Pratt-LeGrow - Chair, Jimmy Pratt Foundation*

9:15 am

KEYNOTE: "Using Pedagogical Frameworks: A Practical Guide"
MPR, Rosaria
Tove Mogstad Slinde, Chair of the Network on Early Childhood Education and Care, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

10:30 am

Health Break

10:45 am

PRESENTATION: Frameworks in Practice - An Overview of the 5 Atlantic Early Learning Frameworks
MPR, Rosaria
Kathleen Flanagan, Researcher, Early Childhood Education

11:15 am

Breakout Sessions:

- Resources for francophone educators
Presenter: Isabelle Vinet/ Josée Nadeau
Room: MPR
 - Reflective practice
Presenter: Christine McLean
Room: MCC105
 - Play-based learning in NL kindergarten
Presenter: Michelle Power
Room: MCC106
 - Pedagogical documentation
Presenter: Sherry Rose
Room: MCC301
 - Using early learning frameworks across child and family settings
Presenter: Nicolle Hogan/Monique McLean
Room: MCC302
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12:30 pm

Lunch
Cafeteria, 3rd floor Rosaria

1:30 pm

PRESENTATION: Communicating Your Message, Denise Stone, Director, Early Years Integration & Community Development, Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
MPR 3rd Floor Rosaria

1:50 pm

PANEL: Implications for the ECEC profession
MPR 3rd Floor Rosaria

- Canadian trends in ECEC qualifications and professionalism
• Presenter: *Doreen Gillis*
- Saint John Professional Learning Communities
• Presenter: *Gary Hall*
- Effective professional learning
• Presenter: *Maureen Dockendorf*
- More staff or more qualifications? Making the case for ECE Degrees
• Presenter: *David Philpott*

3:30 pm

Closing
Jane Bertrand, Program Director, Margaret and Wallace McCain Family Foundation

Keynote Speakers



Tove Mogstad Slinde is a Senior Adviser in the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research in the Department of Early Childhood Education and Care. Since 2012 she is the elected Chair of the Network on Early Childhood Education and Care in OECD.

In the Ministry of Education and Research Tove Mogstad Slinde has been working on policy governance, research and developmental work. Ms. Slinde has worked within the ECEC sector in Norway on different levels since 1987. Among other things she has been working with management and developmental work and the implementation of national policies on the regional and local levels. This has entailed cooperating closely with municipalities, kindergarten owners and other relevant institutions and stakeholders including teacher education and staff-organizations. Representing the Department of ECEC in international cooperation, she has been involved in the work of the OECD ECEC network (since 2008), as well as the Thematic Working Group on Early Childhood Education and Care in EU. She is also currently engaged in the advisory committee for the research project CARE, funded by the EU.

Tove's keynote presentation offers an overview of recent endeavours on policy development related to quality ECEC, including the recent OECD's Starting Strong V Transitions from ECEC to Primary Education and Curriculum and Quality Analysis and Impact Review European of ECEC. Tove highlights policy issues related to curriculum frameworks and quality early childhood services in Norway and in other jurisdictions.

Keynote Speakers



Kathleen Flanagan is an internationally known early childhood education and care policy consultant and researcher. Kathleen has co-led several initiatives focused on human resources in the ECEC sector, and is secretariat to the Provincial-Territorial Directors of Early Childhood Education and Care. She has provided expertise in curriculum development, including the development of Nova Scotia's and PEI's early learning (curriculum) frameworks.

She recently led Manitoba's Early Learning and Child Care Commission focusing on system re-design in order to move toward universally accessible child care.

Kathleen will review the political and policy Landscape across Canada that has influenced the development of early learning curriculum frameworks across Canada, and will highlight the common elements to all frameworks currently either in place or in pilot stages. She will provide a particular focus on the Atlantic Provinces, describing common elements and common challenges. The presentation will conclude with potential next steps for the Atlantic region.



If you'd like to tweet during the event, please use the hashtag **#AtlanticECE**

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