

Sunshine Coast Child Care and Community Connections



Photo credit: Nancy Garter

Educators gather at One Tiny Farm in Roberts Creek for planting workshop. More on p. 4.

Summer 2024

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Child Care Resource and Referral Program

604-885-5657

coastccrr@scss.ca

Located in Sechelt Family Place
5520 Trail Ave. Sechelt

CCRR [Hours of Operation](#)



[CCRR BC website](#)

Funding for the CCRR is provided by the Province of British Columbia.

Happy summer!

Greetings to all CCRR members, early years professionals, and community partners.

It's officially summer and things are heating up! Summer plans are being made and families are making all sorts of transitions at this time of year.

June 21 is the first day of siiyaya Days, a multi day event that starts by honoring National Indigenous Peoples Day. This is followed by 10 days of awareness building, learning and cultural celebration. siiyaya Days closes on July 1st with an inclusive Canada Day, celebrating Canada while also recognizing our colonial history and celebrating the cultures of First Peoples of this land. siiyaya Days celebration will include Indigenous culture, histories, and ways of knowing with walking tours, film, music, art and crafts, dialogue circles, great food and much more. [See the full schedule.](#)

We are taking a break from professional development opportunities for the summer as all of us in the field will hopefully be taking some well-earned time off! In September we are offering a free first aid course for those who need to re-certify. This course is usually \$ 100.00, so make sure to take advantage of this opportunity. There are only 6 spots left. Also, save the date for Wednesday, October 2 as we will be hosting "An Evening with our Local Licensing Officer"; see event details on page 6.

Don't forget, the CCRR continues to operate during normal office hours right through the summer including most Saturdays (see office closures below). Parent and Tot Drop In and Strong Start centres will be operating as well; see pages 8 and 9 for summer schedules.

Come in and say hi! We'd love to see you.

Tracy, Nancy, Michal, and Lisa

Sunshine Coast Summer Camps 2024

- **SCRD-Recreation Centres** Offers several half-day programs. Financial assistance is also available through the LIFE program. [SCRD Website](#) 604-885-6801
- **Heart & Sol Coastal Farm** Day camp on the farm. [Email](#) 604-710-4992
- **Sunshine Coast Arts Council** offers several summer day camps. [Email](#) 604-885-5412
- **YMCA Camp Elphinstone** Outdoor experience day and overnight camps [Website](#)
- **Gibson's Heritage Farm** Empowerment farm day camp [Website](#) 604-306-7050
- **Pedals and Paddles** Half-day kayaking camps [Website](#) 604-885-6440
- **Gibson's Public Market** Immersive cooking, art day camp [Website](#) 604-886-8814
- **Marine Safari Camp/Tidepools Aquarium** A variety of day programs [Website](#) 604-886-8814
- **SC Salmonid Enhancement Explore the Wild Summer Camps** [Website](#) 604-885-4136
- **Coastal Kids** [Email](#) 604-741-5339 licensed child care program
- **Gibson's Sailing Club** [Website](#) 604-682-3074 Sailing courses
- **Little Scholars** [Little Scholars Email](#) 604-885-0687 Licensed Child care program
- **Treehouse Roberts Creek** [Treehouse Email](#) 604-885-0163 Licensed Child care program
- **KidzClub Sechelt** [KidzClub Sechelt Email](#) 604-741-8535 Licensed Child care program
- **KidzClub Gibsons** [KidzClub Gibsons Email](#) 604-886-2621 Child care program

CCRR Summer Closures

CCRR office will be closed for the following days:

- **Canada Day: Monday July 1, 2024 (closed Saturday June 29, 2024)**
- **BC Day: Monday August 5, 2024 (closed Saturday August 3, 2024)**
- **Labor Day: Monday September 2, 2024 (closed Saturday Aug 31, 2024)**

Child Care Outreach Visits

By Lisa Grisewood and Nancy Carter



Photo credit: Lisa Grisewood

Little Owls Graduation

We were fortunate to be invited to Little Owls Family Child Care in Sechelt for their graduation party. Julie and Stephanie presented awards to all the children graduating from Little Owls who will begin kindergarten in the fall. The theme of 'Oh the Places You'll Go' perfectly captured the excitement of moving on to the next step in the children's learning journey! Witnessing their growth is an incredible honour.

Open-ended Material Explorations

We enjoy bringing open-ended materials from our lending library into childcare centres. Often these resources are referred to as "loose parts". "When children interact with loose parts, they enter a world of 'what if' that promotes the type of thinking that leads to problem solving and theoretical reasoning" (Daly and Beloglovsky, authors of



Serendipity Child Care in Madeira Park



Munchkin Land Licensed Family Child Care in Gibsons



Noah's Ark Licensed Family Child Care in Gibsons

Photo credit: Nancy Carter

Loose Parts: Inspiring Play in Young Children—a book that is available to borrow from our library). Loose parts allow early childhood educators the opportunity to engage in the process of pedagogical narration by encouraging them to conscientiously and thoughtfully consider the materials they provide. As a community of learners, both children and teachers can then experiment and invent new ideas together with materials that support emergent curriculum.

Bellies and Babies Program presents: Infant Massage Classes



Date: July 8, 11, 15, 18 & 22

Time: 3:30pm—5:00pm

Location: Sechelt Family Place

To Register: [Email Shirley French](#) or call 604-865-1108

Benefits of Infant Massage:

- Time to bond with your baby
- Assists with Post Natal Depression
- Helps your baby sleep
- Relieves constipation/colic pain
- Meet other parents and babies
- Learn to read and understand baby's cues
- Stimulates baby's brain growth
- Helps your baby to feel securely attached

New to the CCRR Lending Library



Now that our Gibsons office has closed, we have carried out a major refurbishment of all of our resources, especially our activity boxes. We have also purchased and developed many new items. Pictured here are the Golf Set, Ice Cream Scoops, and My Five Senses Box. We have also added Waterway Pipe Builders, Rainbow Bowls Sorting, Waves & Ocean Block set, Frogs & Snakes, and Giant Pipe Builders. Come and check them out.

We are always creating new and improved activity boxes filled with wonder and excitement for young children and families to enjoy. We have also revamped our felt story kits making them more stimulating and inspiring.

Nature and Nurture Workshop at One Tiny Farm

By Tracy Wright

This is the fourth year that we have hosted our Nature and Nurture event, and this year we decided to do something different. So, on Saturday, May 25, a group of child care professionals gathered in Roberts Creek at the One Tiny Farm property to celebrate child care month and learn about farming and planting, and how we can bring these practices into our programs.



We started the day by welcoming Cassandra Fletcher, a Director from the One Straw Society, who spoke about the inspiring work they do around food security and supporting local farmers. One Straw also operates the One Tiny Farm, a fully functional crop producing farm with vegetable stand. We then were led on a tour of the Farm by Greenhouse Coordinator and all-around garden guru, Katy Latham, who showed us how they grow the different crops.

We got our hands dirty by doing a little planting ourselves as we each made a pot of herbs to take home. Finally, we rounded out our time together with lunch and excellent conversation at the Gumboot Restaurant. This is one of my favourite events of the year, and I am grateful to live in a community with such thoughtful child care professionals.

One Straw Society regularly holds workshops at the Farm. In fact, there was a kombucha making workshop taking place while we were there. It looked great! For more information: [Workshops and Education - One Straw Society](#).

Capilano University ECCE Students Present Projects

By Tracy Wright

On Saturday June 1 Capilano University's kálah-ay Sunshine Coast Campus opened its doors to all people from the child care sector on the Coast for a networking and professional development event. This event highlighted Sunshine Coast ECCE students who presented their final projects for their Curriculum Development (EDUC183-76) coursework. For these projects, the students spent time at Porpoise Bay park and narrated/ documented their own living enquiries from repeated visits. The students told of how they learned to rely on their senses and let their surroundings guide them in their learning. They also used critical reflection to ask themselves what this land represents and what it means to be in relationship with it. Is this land here to be exploited for our own use and profit, or can we think of it as a place filled with more-than-human living beings that each have their own contexts and stories? Are there stories about this land that have been silenced?



I felt fortunate that I was able to witness these thoughtful projects. I'm interested to see how these learnings could be used in a child care setting.

Vision Services for Children



Vancouver Coastal Health

Good vision is important for children's learning and development.

When vision problems are found early, it is often possible to correct them or prevent them from getting worse.

All children should see an optometrist before kindergarten, to start school ready to learn.

B.C. Medical Services Plan covers vision check-ups once a year for children under age 19. Some eye clinics have charges associated with children's eye exams. It is a good idea to call eye clinics before scheduling an appointment to ask about costs and other services.

Find an optometrist in your area:

[BC Doctors of Optometry](#)

or scan here:





Upcoming CCRR Workshops

To register, contact the CCRR at 604-885-5657 or coastccrr@sccss.ca



Emergency Child Care First Aid

Saturday, September 21

9am to 4pm

Sunshine First Aid—St. Hilda's Church Hall 5838 Barnacle St. Sechelt

This workshop is offered for FREE!

Only 6 spaces left.

SAVE THE DATE! An Evening with Our Local Licensing Officer

Wednesday, October 2 from 6:00 to 7:30pm

Location to be determined.

Tamara Piekaar, our local Licensing Officer from Vancouver Coastal Health, will sit down with us and talk about the Licensing Regulations and our engagement with and accountability therein. She will provide insight on topics that she feels are common to our child care community. Feel free to bring your own queries and points for discussion as well.

In-Centre Early Learning Framework Learning Circles

Are you interested in discussing ideas on how to incorporate BC's Early Learning Framework into your own child care program? The CCRR is offering on-site learning circles for all of our Sunshine Coast care providers, big and small. We will come to you—we can even visit you during a regular staff meeting. For more information, or to book your own workshop, please contact Tracy at twright@sccss.ca

Child Care
Resource &
Referral 

eypd

The [Early Years Professional Development Portal](#)

lists learning opportunities offered by Child Care Resource and Referral programs province-wide. These learning opportunities are for Early Childhood Educators and Families throughout B.C. If you are looking for low cost or free professional development options, including **RESPONSIBLE ADULT** courses in online synchronous and a-synchronous format, this is the place!



MÉTIS NATION
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Aansaambaenkiskayhtaamuk - Learning Together
Métis Early Years Learning Resources for Educators



The CCRR has received a cultural resource kit from the Métis Nation Government of British Columbia. This wonderful kit includes a wealth of resources that align with Métis values as well as BC's Early Learning Framework and Canada's Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Framework. Metis Nation British Columbia is offering training around using this kit in child care centres if there is enough demand. Let us know if you are interested by emailing twright@sccss.ca.

Sunshine Coast
Early Years



you're invited to
PIRATE DAY

All StrongStart Centres will be closed so
we can gather together to have a party!

The day will include:
Games, crafts, stories, snacks & FUN!



Please bring sunscreen, hats, a water
bottle and appropriate clothing!



Wednesday
June 26th, 2024
10am to 12:30pm
Porpoise Bay Park

School District 46 | Early Years
5538 Shorncliffe Ave Sechelt BC V0N 3A0 | Ph. 604-885-6787 | Email: earlyyears@sd46.bc.ca
Website: early-learning.sd46.bc.ca





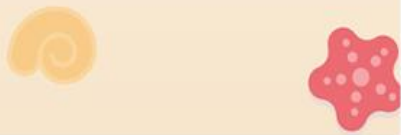

BELLIES & BABIES | PARENT-TOT DROP-IN PROGRAMS



SUMMER SCHEDULE

EFFECTIVE FROM WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

Bellies and Babies will be closed on July 22, 23, 29, 30, August 5 and 6

LOCATION	GIBSONS COMMUNITY CENTRE 700 Park Road	SECHLT FAMILY PLACE 5520 Trail Avenue
MONDAY	Bellies & Babies 11:00 am - 1:00 pm <i>Weather/staff permitting meet at Dougall Park Check Facebook for updates</i>	
TUESDAY		Bellies & Babies 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
WEDNESDAY	Parent-Tot Drop-In <i>Meet at Dougall Park</i> 9:30-11:30 am	Parent-Tot Drop-In 9:30 am - 11:30 am
THURSDAY	Parent-Tot Drop-In 9:30 am - 11:30 am <i>After Drop-In ends at 11:30 am, space will remain open until 1:30 pm for additional support and connection.</i>	Parent-Tot Drop-In 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
FRIDAY	Parent-Tot Drop-In 9:30 am - 11:30 am	

UPPER COAST BELLIES & TOTS

11:00 am to 1:00 pm
at the Madeira Park
Elementary School
playground

Tuesday, July 9
Tuesday, August 6



For more information, contact Shirley 604-865-1108 or email: sfrench@sccss.ca



SUMMER STRONGSTART



STRONGSTART FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN NEWBORN TO FIVE CAN JOIN IN FOR PLAYFUL FUN THIS SUMMER!

OFFERING BOOK LENDING AND SUMMER FUN!

JULY 2- AUGUST 8, 2024

GIBSONS STRONGSTART

783 School Road, Gibsons
Tuesdays and Thursdays
9:00am-12:00pm

SECHELT EARLY YEARS CENTRE STRONGSTART

5538 Shorncliffe Ave,
Sechelt
Mondays and Wednesdays
9:00am-12:00pm

HALFMOON BAY STRONGSTART

808b Northwood Road,
Halfmoon Bay
Tuesdays
9:00am-12:00pm

STRONGSTART OUTREACH OFFERING:

THE WONDERWHEELS BOOKMOBILE WILL VISIT ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ACROSS THE COAST.

BOOK BORROWING FOR CHILDREN NEWBORN TO AGE 12!

NO PRE-REGISTRATION NECESSARY – JUST DROP IN!

JOIN US WEEKLY AT THE LOCATIONS LISTED BELOW:

Wednesdays:

9:00 am - Langdale Elementary
10:00 am - Gibsons Elementary
11:00 am - Cedar Grove Elementary
12:00 pm (Noon) - Roberts Creek Elementary
1:00 pm - Davis Bay Elementary

Thursdays:

9:00 am - Halfmoon Bay Elementary
10:30 am - Pender Harbour Library
12:00 pm - West Sechelt Elementary
1:00 pm - Kinnikinnick Elementary

Any changes will be posted on Facebook: Sunshine Coast StrongStart.

School District 46 | Early Years
5538 Shorncliffe Ave Sechelt BC V0N 3A0 | Ph. 604-885-6787 | Email: earlyyears@sd46.bc.ca
Website: early-learning.sd46.bc.ca

Sunshine Coast
Early Years

