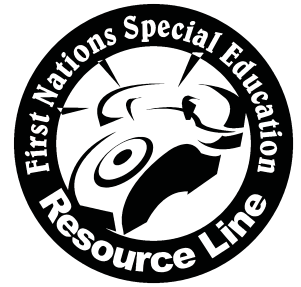


First Nations Special Education CONNECTIONS



Newsletter of the First Nations Special Education Toll-free Resource Line

Vol. 10, Pro-D Issue Sept. 2009

Working with First Nations students in BC?

Have special education questions?

Call the Resource Line!

The Resource Line is a free service for BC educators and parents.

It can help you brainstorm approaches, guide you toward helpful resources, help you to understand assessment documents, and let you know about the latest information on special education.

When you call or email, you will reach the Resource Line Coordinator, Holly Smith. Holly is available to answer your questions, Monday to Thursday, 12:30 to 4:30 during the school year

Contact the Resource Line:

Toll-free 1-877-547-1919

hollys@fnesc.ca

Connections is the monthly newsletter of the Resource Line. Back issues of *Connections* are available from:

www.fnsc.ca/resource-line.htm

The Resource Line is a collaborative project of the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) and the First Nations Schools Association (FNSA), made possible thanks to financial assistance from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

Professional Development Issue 2009-2010

OCTOBER 2009

October 1-2, Whitehorse. The Stikine Teachers' Association *Annual Fall Conference*. Daniel Tlen will give a keynote address on the importance of both English and First Nations languages. On Oct. 1, Mark Boynton will present an all-day workshop on Working with Students with Challenging Behaviours. On Oct. 2, participants will be able to choose between Catherine Feniak on reading strategies for K-6 teachers and Kim Boettcher on reading strategies for grades 7-12 teachers. For registration or further information please contact Cathy Bouman at librarylizard@gmail.com, or 250-771-3043

October 2-3, Vancouver. *Learners on the Autism Spectrum-Creating a Culture of Inclusion through Designing Peer Pay and Friendships Programs* presented by Pamela Wolfberg and Heather McCracken at SFU Vancouver Harbour Centre. This specialized two-day seminar is designed to prepare participants to carry out the practices of the Integrated Play Groups (IPG) model for children and teens. Register online at www.friend2friendsociety.org email friend2friend@shaw.ca or call 604-528-0560.

October 2-3, Vancouver. *Motivating Minds with SmartLearning Conference*. Susan Close and the SmartLearning facilitators have focused their attention this past year on integrating the latest brain research and learning with the approach and tools for SmartLearning. Details at www.susanclose.ca or contact Joey Sahli, 778-988-3145 jsahli1@telus.net

October 5-9, Delta. *Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders-Practical Applications (ASD)*. The training program includes practical hands-on training and application exercises of critical elements in teaching students with autism and ASD. The course structure involves presentation of concepts along with video(s) when applicable, immediately followed by demonstration and opportunities for the participant to apply the concept(s) through active participation with feedback from the instructor. For details visit <http://www.autismoutreach.ca/training/course-calendar>

October 13-16, Delta. *Introduction to Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA)*. This course provides the participant an overview of ABA history and theory, but the emphasis will be on practical hands-on coaching and training. Participants will have the opportunity to develop a comfort level with teaching in a Discrete Trial Format by having daily opportunities to practice the necessary skills. They will also see how ABA principles are applied to other teaching situations and to program development

for students with autism spectrum disorders. ABA Course Prerequisite: POPARD's Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders – Practical Applications or University Level Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorders. Details at <http://www.autismoutreach.ca/training/course-calendar>

October 15-17, Nelson. *West Kootenay Early Years Conference.* For more information: http://www.successby6wk.com/2009_conference_handbook_web.pdf

October 16-17, Vancouver. *How to Use the ABLLS-R as an Assessment and IEP Development Tool The Assessment of Basic Language and Learning Skills.* (The ABLLS-R) is an assessment tool, curriculum guide, and skills-tracking system used to guide the instruction of language and critical learner skills for children with autism or other developmental disabilities. This tool allows for the individualization of treatment programs by providing accurate information on the skills and deficits of each child. Those who have some background in the Verbal Behavior Approach to autism treatment will find this hands-on workshop very useful. Details at <http://www.actcommunity.net/>

October 21-23, Fort Nelson. Fort Nelson District Teachers' Association presents, *Fred Jones: Tools for Teaching (Discipline*Instruction*Motivation).* Please contact Amanda Morris at amorris@sd81.bc.ca for details. For additional information on Fred Jones, visit <http://www.fredjones.com>.

October 22-23, Richmond. BCTLA hosts the *Champions of Literacy Conference. Imagination-Information-Innovation.* Keynote: Roch Carrier, a national treasure and a champion of Canadian culture. For more information: <http://bctf.ca/bctla/conference/index.html>.

October 22-24, Burnaby. BCTELA hosts the *2009 National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Northwest Regional Conference.* The conference theme is Asking the right questions: Engaging today's learners. Featuring: Jeff Wilhelm, Carol Jago, Faye Brownlie, David Booth, Beverly Ann Chin, Kathleen Gregory, Sharon Jeroski, Carl Leggo, John Golden, Shelly Stagg Peterson, Susan Close, & Sue Montabello. To register: www.bctela.ca

October 22-24, Whistler. BCAMT hosts the *2009 Northwest Mathematics Conference* at the Fairmont Chateau and Westin Resort in Whistler. The conference theme is "*Going for Gold: Let the Mathematics Begin.*" Keynotes: Trevor Calkins, Carole Saundry, and Peter Liljedahl. Conference includes an NCTM Learn & Reflect Strand and a Teachers Teaching with Technology regional conference. For details visit www.bctf.ca/bcamt/nw2009.

October 23, Burnaby. SRCLE is hosting the *ENCOMPASS Social Responsibility, Social and Emotional Learning, and Social Justice Conference* at Burnaby Mountain Secondary School. Learn it! Know it! Michele Borba is the keynote speaker. Cost: \$40. For details visit <http://srcle.net/>.

October 23, Burnaby. A Learning Assistance Teachers' Association event will be held at the Holiday Inn Metrotown, entitled "*Why Math is Failing Our Children.*" Shad Moarif (Ed.M, Harvard.) Shad is the founder of Karismath formerly known as CLSO-MATH which is guided by the principles of Universal Design for Learning. For more information contact Alan Peterson at lataconference@hotmail.com

October 23, Vancouver. The Association for Educators of Gifted, Talented and Creative Children in BC presents *Dr. Joanne Foster* of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, co-author of the award-winning *Being Smart About Gifted Children* (2005), and the second edition *Being Smart About Gifted Education* (2009). All educators, administrators, gifted program facilitators, advocacy group members and parents are welcome. For details visit www.aegtccbc.org.

October 23, Vancouver. *Speaking of Kids Conference 2009.* Special guest Marlee Matlin will address the issue of diversity followed by a book signing session. We are also happy to announce Dr. Lee Gunderson as a presenter who will be speaking about 'Smart But Stuck' - Is it a Reading Problem or a Language Problem? For details visit <http://www.ldav.ca/>.

October 23, Victoria. *The SCERTS Model: Supporting Students with ASD in Educational Settings.* This is a comprehensive, team-based approach for children with ASD that was developed to support students in educational settings. The three major areas of priority, Social Communication, Emotional Regulation and Transactional Support, are addressed in a comprehensive manner to enable educators, therapists and parents to all be "on the same page" to ensure success in school, as well as in home and community settings. Basic tenets of practice as well as practical strategies in inclusive settings will be presented. For details visit <http://www.actcommunity.net/>

October 23-24, Abbotsford. *BCPTA Primary Leadership Conference,* Friday Keynote Concert by Charlotte Diamond "The Joy of Singing Leads to a Love of Language." Presentations across the curriculum by popular speakers and classroom primary teachers. Final details and online registration will be on the BCPTA website www.bctf.ca/bcpta Registrar: Sandra Huggett shuggett@sd57.bc.ca

October 23-24, New Westminster. *Finding Success: Living with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.* FASD fall fair organized by the FASD Roundtables. FASD displays from a wide variety of BC service providers, youth panel living with FASD, training sessions, presentations and facilitated discussion groups. For more information: <http://www.fasdoutreach.ca/fasd-events>

October 23-24, Surrey. *PITA Fall Conference, Growing Ideas.* Featuring over 60 workshops in literacy, math, science, social studies, PE, and more. For details visit www.pita.ca or contact Ray Myrtle president@pita.ca

October 26-27, North Vancouver. *6th Annual Connecting the Dots Conference.* This conference for Aboriginal families and service providers reinforces the need for community connections for supporting children and families. This year we will focus on the importance of Native Spirituality for health and well-being in the lives of many Aboriginal people. For more information: <http://www.aidp.bc.ca/2009ConectingtheDotsposter.pdf>

NOVEMBER 2009

November 4-6, Richmond. *BC Making Connections Conference, Creating and Sustaining Positive Futures.* Everybody has a role to play Making Connections 2009 is the 12th annual conference focusing on school-wide positive behaviour support. This is a great conference for schools just starting their journey with PBS and those looking to add to and sustain their efforts. Check out our exciting new format. For details visit <http://mail.sd35.bc.ca/~BC-PBS/>

November 5-7, Vancouver. *15th Annual Provincial Conference on Aboriginal Education: Reconnecting the Generations.* Presented by the First Nations Education Steering Committee, BC Ministry of Education and Metis Nation BC, www.fnesc.ca/conferences/index.php. For more information e-mail: reception@fnesc.ca

November 6, Vancouver. *Safety for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.* A continual challenge for families and professionals is how to protect children with ASD from putting themselves in danger. This workshop will focus on what parents and school teams can do to teach basic safety to children with autism, and other special needs students, for whom safety awareness is a significant issue. For more information: <http://www.actcommunity.net/>

November 19-21, Edmonton, Alberta. *Mind Body Spirit Conference* presented by LDAA - Learning Disabilities Association of Alberta. A continuing education opportunity for teachers, administrators, professionals, and parents on practical strategies and emerging research on learning disabilities. Featuring Dr. Scott Wooding, Dr. Robert Brooks, Dr. Linda Siegel as well as a host of other experts who will discuss approaches to intervention that focus on mind, body and spirit - recognizing that learning disabilities affect every aspect of a person's life. Earlybird registration until September 30, 2009. Register online at www.LDAA.ca

November 20, Vancouver. *An Introduction to Sensory Processing in Children with ASD – Reaching a Common Understanding.* What is sensory processing and why is it important? What does sensory dysfunction look like? How does it feel? What can be done to help your child? Mary-Ann Fulks is an occupational therapist with 20 years experience in pediatric practice and is a clinical faculty member of the School of Rehabilitation Sciences at UBC. Mary-Ann has received praise from audiences across BC for her balanced, insightful and thoughtful assessment of the role of sensory processing issues for children with ASD and their treatment. For details visit <http://www.actcommunity.net/>

November 21, Vancouver. *Westcoast Child Care Resource Mini Conference: Inspiring Excellence in Child Care and Early Learning.* Registration details are on the Westcoast website: http://www.wstcoast.org/training/Westcoast_conference09.pdf

November 30-December 4, Delta. *Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders-Practical Applications (ASD).* The training program includes practical hands-on training and application exercises of critical elements in teaching students with autism and ASD. <http://www.autismoutreach.ca/training/course-calendar>

DECEMBER 2010

December 7-10, Delta. *Introduction to Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA).* Completion of this course provides the participant an overview of ABA history and theory, but the emphasis will be on practical hands-on coaching and training. Visit <http://www.autismoutreach.ca/training/course-calendar>

JANUARY 2010

January 9, 16, 23 (3 Saturdays), Vancouver. *Hands-On Training in Verbal Behavior for Therapists.* This workshop is designed to provide teachers, special education assistants, therapists and parents who serve as their child's primary therapist with guided practice in implementing Verbal Behavior methodology – an approach

to ABA illustrated with excellent video. You must have a background in ABA and understand the terminology of Verbal Behavior to register for this workshop as it requires a significant amount of knowledge and practical experience. For more information: <http://www.actcommunity.net/>

January 11-15, Delta. *Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders-Practical Applications (ASD).* The training program includes practical hands-on training through instructor demonstration and coaching and application exercises of critical elements in teaching students with autism and ASD. For more information or to register <http://www.autismoutreach.ca/training/course-calendar>

January 18-21, Delta. *Introduction to Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA).* Completion of this course provides the participant an overview of ABA history and theory, but the emphasis will be on practical hands-on coaching and training. For more information or to register <http://www.autismoutreach.ca/training/course-calendar>

FEBRUARY 2010

February 4-6, Victoria. *Early Years Conference 2010: The Rights of the Child.* The conference will explore early childhood, family and community development through the lens of Child Rights. The U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child (1990) articulates various inherent human rights that should be afforded to children. Policies designed to support and provide general and specific services to children and their families should reflect these rights in order that all children may reach their full potential in society. Conference participants will have the opportunity to consider research, policy, and practice from a child's rights perspective in order to further the quality of their work with children, families and communities. http://www.idpofbc.ca/Advnot_EarlyYears20102.pdf.

MARCH 2010

March 26, Vancouver. *Increasing the Social Skills of Children with ASD: Targeting Acquisition and Motivation.* The topic of the morning session is 'Improving the Social Behavior of Children with ASD'. The afternoon's topic is 'Let's Play: Incorporating Peers in the Treatment of Children with ASD'. For more information: <http://www.actcommunity.net/>

March 27, Vancouver. *Bridges to Adulthood for Learners with ASD: Targeting Skills For the Next Environment.* Presented by Dr. Gerhardt, internationally recognized for his research and practice in providing supports for teenagers and adults with ASD. An excellent presenter, he combines years of experience in providing direct service to older learners with ASD, with a commitment to researching innovative solutions to the challenges that they face as they mature. He is the author or co-author of a number of articles and book chapters on the needs of adults with autism spectrum disorder, the school-to-work-transition process and analysis and intervention of problematic behavior. He has presented nationally and internationally on these topics. For more information: <http://www.actcommunity.net/>

March 31-April 1, Vancouver. The Special Education Association (SEA) is proud to present the *35th Annual Crosscurrents Conference* (right before the Easter long weekend) at the Westin Bayshore Hotel. The dates have been changed this year to accommodate the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics. Keynote plus a variety of quality sessions and exhibitors for regular and special education. For information contact or visit the website. Exhibitors contact Karen Bell at karbell@shaw.ca

APRIL 2010

April 14-17, Vancouver. *Facing the Future Together: Where Do We Go From Here? Fourth National Biennial Conference: Adolescents and Adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.* For more information: <http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/Adults.html>

April 19-23, Delta. *Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders-Practical Applications (ASD).* The training program includes practical hands-on training and application exercises of critical elements in teaching students with autism and ASD. For more information or to register <http://www.autismoutreach.ca/training/course-calendar>

April 26-29, Delta. *Introduction to Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA).* Completion of this course provides the participant an overview of ABA history and theory, but the emphasis will be on practical hands-on coaching and training. Visit <http://www.autismoutreach.ca/training/course-calendar>

MAY 2010

May 21, Vancouver. *7th Annual Conference on Early Childhood Assessment.* This year's theme will explore the notion of time and its relevance to the assessment of young children. We will look at ways to balance and respect children's needs, families wishes and the preference of many professionals to conduct assessment

earlier rather than later in childhood. This year's event will feature new research findings, innovative practice and perspectives from parents. As sample of the exciting workshops that will be available, we welcome Lori Roggman who will present information on "Parenting Interactions with Children Checklist of Observations Linked to Outcomes" (PICCOLO), a user-friendly observational measures of parenting behaviour. It also features a presentation for frontline practitioners that looks at assessment and screening tools and their relevance in early childhood settings and primary classrooms. <http://www.aidp.bc.ca/earlyyears.pdf>

JUNE 2010

June 7-11, Delta. *Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders-Practical Applications (ASD).* The training program includes practical hands-on training through instructor demonstration and coaching and application exercises of critical elements in teaching students with autism and ASD. For details visit <http://www.autismoutreach.ca/training/course-calendar>

June 14-17, Delta. *Introduction to Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA).* Completion of this course provides the participant an overview of ABA history and theory, but the emphasis will be on practical hands-on coaching and training. For more information <http://www.autismoutreach.ca/training/course-calendar>