



*The Halton Resource Connection*

# The Halton

# Resource Connection

Partners in Professional Excellence

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## Professional Learning



## May - August 2017

Visit [thrc.ca](http://thrc.ca) for up-to-date information and online registration

Phone: 905-875-4600 Ext. 141 Email: [administrativeassistant@thrc.ca](mailto:administrativeassistant@thrc.ca)



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**THRC strives to provide you with meaningful opportunities to meet your professional learning needs through:**

Resources

Hands on Experiences

Engaging Dialogue

Inspiring Conversations

We can assist you with meeting the requirements set out by the College of Early Childhood Educators, Ministry of Education, Quality MAP and Quality First. Behind the scenes, the team at THRC thoughtfully plans for you based on research, best practices, what is happening around us and your feedback.

..... **THRC supports you!** .....

**VISION:**

.....  
**THRC is a leader and essential partner for professional excellence in the Halton Early Learning and Care Community**  
.....

# Are You Inspired to Learn?

## THRC offers many ways to engage in professional learning!



Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECEs) are required to engage in the mandatory Continuous Professional Learning (CPL) program. Take advantage of the wide variety of professional learning opportunities provided by THRC and support your CPL today!

## CPL Options Web

*The chart below outlines different examples of learning activities:*



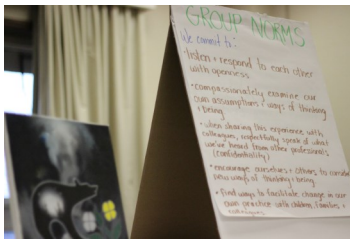
# Community News

## Winter Recharge 2017

Reflection by Jill Fortney, Program Support Services Team, Halton Region

On February 25, early learning and child care professionals attending THRC's annual Winter Recharge Conference experienced an opening keynote address delivered by the notable and highly regarded Dr. Jean Clinton, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neuroscience with a specialization in Child Psychiatry.

This 1 ½ hour keynote was followed by morning and afternoon sessions intentionally designed as inquiry-based learning opportunities. In her address to the more than 150 participants, Dr. Jean Clinton affirmed the work of inquiry-based learning in Halton as “walking the walk” not just “talking the talk” and spoke of how she’s been thinking about this form of learning for a long time. Having her affirm the value of this type of learning and the celebration of the work we’ve been doing was a powerful message of encouragement to our early learning community.



The influence of this type of learning is realized through the way it connects people in a shared pursuit of professional skills and knowledge that:

- parallels what Educators are being asked to do with children
- authentically aligns with a view of Educators who are competent, capable of complex thought, curious and rich in experience (and as has been suggested, simultaneously rich in potential)
- is collaborative and equitable: each individual brings personal professional knowledge to the group and the group evolves as the discoveries, questions, and insights emerge from exploration and experimentation of ideas

“A great platform for learning and connecting!”

“It was great! I loved how everything was based around inquiry and having conversations to expand and deepen thinking processes.”

Let's keep the conversation going!  
Look for more Inquiry Group opportunities on [page 20](#)

# Quality MAP

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## Reflections on Quality Nature Pedagogy in the Early Years

by Anna Nguyen-Sgro, Quality Specialist, Halton Region

In current research on early childhood pedagogy and practice, there appears to be a renewed emphasis on nature pedagogy. However, the importance of nature and outdoor time for young children is not new; in fact classical theorists, including Montessori, Fröebel and Rousseau emphasized the need to connect children to nature in early childhood education.

In Ontario, the Child Care and Early Years Act (CCEYA) legislates that children spend at least two hours of their day outdoors. Alliances such as Back to Nature promote the value of connecting children and their families with nature. *How Does Learning Happen?* also emphasizes the value of connecting children to the natural world. Indeed, there are many reasons to provide opportunities for children to discover, investigate, imagine, explore, build, create, be active, and take risks in the outdoor environment.



In nature, children are provided with unlimited opportunities for learning and exploration. Extensive research suggests that children and adults who spend time in nature are happier and healthier as they reap the benefits to their mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual health and well-being (Louv, 2005). “Opportunities to experience nature enhance children’s sense of wonder and joy in the world around them, whether programs are located in large urban centres with small patches of green space, gardens, and trees or in vast fields and forests” (How Does Learning Happen, 2014, p.21). Educators should provide regular opportunities for children to explore, care for, and interact with nature to strengthen these connections (How Does Learning Happen, 2014, p.21).

Spring is often described as a magical season of renewal. Children’s natural sense of wonder and curiosity often leads them to take notice of creepy crawly insects and worms, blooming flowers and budding plants, the return of birds and other wildlife, and the teeter-tottering of sunshine and rain. How might you follow children’s curiosities and interests to deepen their exploration and connection to nature?

**In upcoming months, The Halton Resource Connection (THRC) is providing opportunities to inspire you to connect children to nature:**

- **Wednesday, May 24, 2017** - Supervisors’ Connection - Unique Benefits of Outdoors with Bill Kilburn, Program Manager, Back to Nature Network (see [page 12](#))
- **Wednesday, June 7, 2017** - Outdoor Community of Practice: To Study Linking *How Does Learning Happen?* with Outdoor Play (see [page 16](#))
- **Thursday, June 8, 2017** - Loose Parts and Outdoor Play (see [page 17](#))



# Resource Library

## Loose Parts

by Serena LeChat, Resource Library Supervisor

For generations, children have been using found materials in their play, from rocks to sticks, stones, wire, and wood pieces. They were used to interact in various learning experiences such as gravity, sounds, textures, and concepts. Loose parts are alluring, beautiful found objects and materials that children can move, manipulate and change while at play. Children naturally gravitate towards novel objects like stones, wood pieces, driftwood, and fabrics that provide open-ended possibilities. One way to enhance children's curiosity is to introduce a wide variety of materials we call "loose parts" into the play settings. The materials have no specific set of directions and can be combined with other materials or used independently.

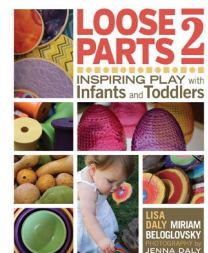
The Resource Library has offered various loose parts Professional Learning opportunities covering loose parts with Infants, Toddlers, Preschool, School Age groups and loose parts for the outdoors. The Resource Library has also featured various ideas for loose parts, focusing on these age groups and the outdoors through displays. Displays shows how loose parts could be used in the curriculum fostering various domains and helping you see the extraordinary in ordinary materials.



Do you want to know more about loose parts?

Look for the following loose parts focused Professional Learning opportunities!

- **Thursday, May 11, 2017** - Connecting Families with Loose Parts Through Play (see [page 11](#))
- **Thursday, June 8, 2017** - Loose Parts and Outdoor Play (see [page 17](#))



### Resource Library Hours

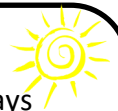
Tuesday: 12:00pm-8:00pm  
Wednesday: 9:00am-8:00pm  
Thursday: 12:00pm-8:00pm  
Saturday: 10:00am-3:00pm

### SUMMER HOURS

The Resource Library will be closed on Saturdays from July 1-August 5, 2017.

Tuesday - Thursday hours will remain as usual.

Regular hours will resume on August 12.



# Centralized Intake Line

## Frequently Asked Questions

Do you have questions about the Centralized Intake Line? You're not alone!  
Here are some of our most Frequently Asked Questions.

### 1. Do Preschool Facilitators only support preschool programs?

No. A Preschool Facilitator (PF) can support infant, toddler or preschool programs around class-wide goals and strategies. PFs use *How Does Learning Happen?* as the framework for modeling, coaching and reflective conversations. Preschool Facilitators support Educators to build on their skills and understanding of classroom arrangement, routines and transitions, challenging behaviour, observation and documentation, supporting child development and self-regulation. Call the Centralized Intake Line at 905-875-4600 Ext. 133 for more information.

### 2. Will a Support Facilitator provide one-on-one support to an identified child in my program?

No. A Support Facilitator's (SF) role is to support Educators in building their skills and capacity in utilizing class-wide inclusion strategies. An SF uses a coaching and consultation approach to support Educators in learning to use strategies which promote inclusion of all children in the room. These strategies may include: routines and transitions, independence, self-help skills, social interactions, utilizing visual supports, and developing functional play skills. Speak to your Resource Consultant or call the Centralized Intake Line at 905-875-4600 ext. 133 for more information.



### 3. How long do I have to wait for a Support Facilitator or Preschool Facilitator?

The time period varies throughout the year based on a variety of factors. If you are curious about the status of your application for a PF/SF, please contact the Centralized Intake Line at 905-875-4600 ext. 133.

### 4. I need help writing policies for my child care centre. Is there anyone who can help me?

Yes. The Program Support Services Team can support you in writing child care policies, as well as for a variety of administrative and leadership supports. Call the Centralized Intake Line at 905-875-4600 ext. 133 for more information.

### 5. I have a lot of classrooms who are experiencing challenges with a similar topic. Is there someone who can provide a professional learning session for the entire staff?

Yes. The Program Support Services Team can support licensed child care centres with customized Professional Learning opportunities around a variety of topics.

The ErinoakKids Speech and Language Childcare Support Team can also provide Professional Learning opportunities around childcare providers' use of communication strategies. Call the Centralized Intake Line at 905-875-4600 ext. 133 for more information on either of these services.

### 6. I would like to talk to someone who understands the Early Learning and Child Care world and what I am experiencing but I don't know exactly what I need

The Program Support Services Team can support you and your program in a variety of ways. Call the Centralized Intake Line at 905-875-4600 ext. 133 to be connected to a Consultant.

For more information about any of the above services, please contact:

**Centralized Intake Line: 905-875-4600 Ext. 133**

# Halton's Early Literacy Specialist

Pedagogical Documentation, by Moyra Hewlett, Halton's Early Literacy Specialist

“Because **pedagogical documentation** is intended to uncover the student’s thinking and learning processes, it has the potential to help us look at learning in new ways.”  
(Ontario Ministry of Education, 2015)

Pedagogical documentation is a means of “uncovering” the language abilities of very young children. By observing and sharing observations with families and children we continue to broaden our understanding of how language is learned, and how young children are capable of communicating their knowledge.

The Nature of Language is a free, weekly, drop-in program designed to bring families together to explore the woods at one location from week to week. The Halton Early Literacy Specialist and OEYCFC staff support families and caregivers by providing a provocation at the beginning of each walk, and building on these experiences by engaging in documentation with a focus on literacy. Photos and ideas are brought back each week to children and families to build on the stories, and support the sharing of memories as building blocks for language.

Here is one such story:

## ***Meet at Mill Pond: Happiness is... watching a leaf***

Neve (2 years) stands staring at the ground and smiling at the Outdoor Classroom Nature of Language program. Since the children have been searching for rocks to throw in the pond, I assume that he is “asking” for more rocks, or trying to find one that he likes, but his grandmother corrects me.

“He is watching the leaf move,” his grandmother explains. I return my attention to Neve, and see that he is intently focused on a leaf hovering and darting above the ground.

“Leaf is moving. He is happy,” says Grandma.



### **Question for Reflection:**

How can your program put more emphasis on outdoor exploration and play that engage the body, mind & senses? (Ministry of Education, HDLH, 2014, pg 34)

*“When we recognize and build on the strengths of families and the love they have for their children, everyone benefits.”*

(Ontario Ministry of Education, 2014)





# Register Online for Professional Learning

Registering yourself online for Professional Learning events through THRC is the best way to ensure a space is reserved for you. Creating your own account gives you the ability to book events any time, from anywhere, this means you receive registration confirmation and event reminder emails directly to your inbox and are able to view a record of all of the bookings you've made.

..... **How to Register Online at thrc.ca** .....

1. Go to the event page for the event of your choice

⇒ Go to [thrc.ca](http://thrc.ca). On the top menu bar, click 'Professional Learning' to be brought to "About Professional Learning" Page. Click on either the link to view the digital copy of our Professional Learning Publication, or click the link to view the Online Registration Calendar

⇒ If you are viewing the digital Publication, click on the date of the event you would like to attend to be brought to the event page

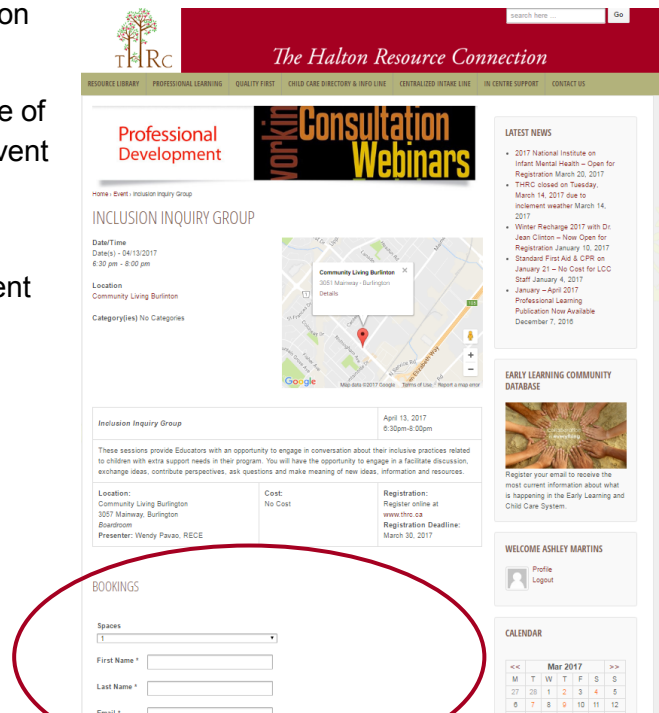
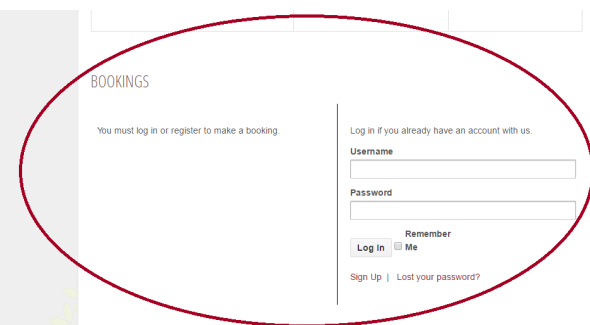
⇒ If you are viewing the calendar on the Upcoming Events page, click on the session name to be brought to the event page

2. Scroll to the bottom of the event page. Below the event information is a space for Bookings

3. Log in to your existing account. If you do not have an existing account, please create one. It is free, requires minimal information and only takes a moment

4. Once you are successfully logged in, select the amount of spaces you would like to book. Fill out the required fields and click 'Submit your booking'

5. If you booking requires payment, you will be automatically redirected to PayPal to issue payment



6. If you are unable (or would prefer not) to issue payment through PayPal, close the window. We will still receive your ticket information. Please contact us to arrange alternate payment at 905-875-4600 Ext. 123 or [programassistant@thrc.ca](mailto:programassistant@thrc.ca)

7. Your booking will remain 'pending' until payment has been received (if applicable) and your booking information is approved by our administrators

## Questions? Contact Us!

# Upcoming Professional Learning Sessions

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*The Halton Resource Connection*

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May - August 2017

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# May 2017

## Halton Family Service Coordination Training

This session, hosted by the Our Kids Network, is a full-day session ideal for individuals who work with children and families with complex needs, individuals who participate in the Family Service Coordination process, individuals who are unfamiliar with Service Coordination, and individuals who would like to increase their skills and knowledge in facilitating Service Coordination meetings.

Service Coordination aims to:

- Use a family centred, strengths based approach
- Ensure the process is tailored to each family's need
- Support families that access services through two or more agencies
- Provide support to families in a way that helps them identify and meet their own goals
- Allow families to achieve and maintain a quality of life consistent with their values, priorities, strengths, and preferences

For more information, please visit [www.ourkidsnetwork.ca/Public/Service-Coordination](http://www.ourkidsnetwork.ca/Public/Service-Coordination)

<b>Date/Time</b>	Friday, May 5, 2017 9:00am - 4:00pm
<b>Location</b>	Halton Children's Aid Society - 1445 Norjohn Court, Burlington
<b>Cost</b>	No cost
<b>Registration</b>	To register, please email <a href="mailto:ktc@rockonline.ca">ktc@rockonline.ca</a> with the following information: Name, Agency/Title, Email/Phone Number, Date of Training

## Connecting Families with Loose Parts, Through Play

How can you introduce families to the value of Loose Play? What do you routinely do to involve families in the classroom? Collaborating and co-learning with families supports Educators in fostering positive interactions with children and allows for meaningful connections to be made between the home and early learning environments (HDLH). As an Educator in the classroom, we have the opportunity to help families understand the importance of their participation in their child's learning. During this workshop, participants will collaborate and gain ideas and resources for working alongside families, with a loose parts interest in mind.

**Facilitator: Serena LeChat, RECE**

<b>Date/Time</b>	Thursday, May 11, 2017 6:30pm-8:00pm
<b>Location</b>	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)
<b>Cost</b>	THRC Member: \$5 THRC Non-Member: \$15
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before April 27, 2017

..... Visit [thrc.ca](http://thrc.ca) for full details and to register .....

**Phone:** 905-875-4600 Ext. 141 **Email:** [administrativeassistant@thrc.ca](mailto:administrativeassistant@thrc.ca)

## Effective Supervision

Effectively supervising children in your care includes, yet goes beyond, counting how many children you have in your room. Supervising young children requires constant awareness and vigilance as well as appropriate strategies to ensure children are accounted for and are safe. In this session, we review the wide variety of skills and strategies that provide effective supervision.

**Facilitator: Lindsay Buset-Turner, RECE, BA**

<b>Date/Time</b>	<u>Thursday, May 18, 2017</u> 1:30pm-3:00pm
<b>Location</b>	Woodlands Operations Centre - 1179 Bronte Road, Oakville (Oakwood Room)
<b>Cost</b>	THRC Member: \$5 THRC Non-Member: \$15
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before May 4, 2017

## Supervisors' Connection

### Time Spent in Nature: Are There Unique Health Benefits?

Recent research efforts have investigated the impacts of regular time spent in nature on human health outcomes. There is strong evidence that spending time in nature provides a wide variety of both physical and mental health benefits. This interactive session will: consider nature as a positive health intervention; present a summary of research findings currently being provided to physicians as an accredited Continuing Medical Education credit as a partnership between Ontario's Back to Nature Network and the Ontario College of Family Physicians; and provoke discussion on the necessity of including outdoor time in natural space every day for children in early years education.

**Facilitator: Bill Kilburn, B.Ed, B.Sc, M.Sc**

<b>Date/Time</b>	<u>Wednesday, May 24, 2017</u> 1:00pm-3:00pm
<b>Location</b>	Halton Regional Centre - 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville (South Auditorium)
<b>Cost</b>	THRC Member: \$15 THRC Non-Member: \$25
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before May 10, 2017

## Mentoring Circles

This facilitated conversation brings you and other supervisors together to share, discuss, and get support for the everyday challenges of leading and managing a child care program. Using the Occupational Standards for Child Care Administrators as a guide, this is a valuable opportunity for linking with other leaders to explore the skills and knowledge needed in the role. The focus for this session is financial management.

**Facilitator: Andrea Davis, RECE, B.Sc**

<b>Date/Time</b>	<u>Wednesday, May 24, 2017</u> 3:00pm-4:00pm
<b>Location</b>	Halton Regional Centre - 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville (South Auditorium)
<b>Cost</b>	No Cost
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before May 10, 2017

..... Visit [thrc.ca](http://thrc.ca) for full details and to register .....

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## Exploring the Language of Art

Come and spend the evening exploring a variety of art media such as clay, wire, paint, charcoal, ink and more alongside professional Artists part of the Artists & Children Together (ACT) initiative. Through conversation, consider ways that you can use art materials as languages with the children in your programs. Find more information at [www.mcrc.on.ca/act-initiative](http://www.mcrc.on.ca/act-initiative).

**Facilitators: Victoria Armstrong, RECE, B.ECS, Janina Bonin, RECE, Debbie Burger, RECE, Kim Duong, B.ID, Joan Urquhart, B.A, B.Ed, Alison Dunford, B.F.A, M.F.A**

<b>Date/Time</b>	Thursday, May 25, 2017 6:30pm-8:30pm
<b>Location</b>	Milton Community Resource Centre - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Dorset Park Room)
<b>Cost</b>	THRC Member: \$5 THRC Non-Member: \$15
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before May 11, 2017

## Cook's Professional Learning Day

Do you prepare or serve food in a child care program? Join us for a day of gathering information, learning new skills and networking with peers. Come for a day of interactive shopping and cooking activities as well as participate in sessions on the Importance of Well Being, Cultural Cooking and Smart Strategies for Minimizing Food Waste.

**Facilitators: Julie Mann-Harrison, RECE, AECEO.C & Sandra Seville, Registered Dietitian**

<b>Date/Time</b>	Friday, May 26, 2017 8:45am-4:00pm
<b>Location</b>	The Loft at Longo's South East Oakville - 469 Cornwall Road, Oakville
<b>Cost</b>	THRC Member: \$55 THRC Non-Member: \$65
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before May 12, 2017

## Reading Emotions: Exploring Language and Behaviour Connections through Song, Stories, Books and Spaces to Communication Emotions

This workshop gives Educators an opportunity to discuss current research on the ties between books and empathy, and explores how children's verbal and non-verbal languages (speaking, creating, playing and writing) offer the children outlets to express strong emotions and offer caregivers insights into fostering children's emotional well-being.

**Facilitator: Moyra Hewlett, RECE, B.ECS, OCT**

<b>Date/Time</b>	Wednesday, May 31 2017 6:00pm - 8:00pm
<b>Location</b>	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)
<b>Cost</b>	THRC Member: \$5 THRC Non-Member: \$15
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before May 17, 2017

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# The Halton Resource Connection

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Partners in Professional Excellence

# Save the Date

.....October 13, 2017.....



# Leadership Conference

..... with Michael Lewis .....

# June 2017

## See, Share, and Wonder: Centre Tour and Inquiry - Maple Avenue

The Regional Child Care Centres in Halton Region are inviting you to come and visit! Engage in a centre tour and a facilitated discussion, be curious together, look, wonder, and discover by connecting to the quality journey of others.

<b>Date/Time</b>	Tuesday, June 6, 2017 9:30am - 11:30am
<b>Location</b>	Maple Avenue Regional Child Care Centre - 65 Maple Avenue, Georgetown
<b>Cost</b>	No Cost
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before May 23, 2017



All Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECEs) engage in the mandatory Continuous Professional Learning (CPL) program.

For more information about CPL, please visit: <https://www.college-ece.ca/en/Members/CPL-Program>

**Take advantage of the wide variety of Professional Learning opportunities provided by THRC and support your Continuous Professional Learning plan!**

— SHARE YOUR —  
**STORY**



Do you have a meaningful Professional Learning experience to share with your peers?

Share your experience with THRC for a chance to have your story featured in our next publication!

**Phone:** 905-875-4600 Ext. 141  
**Email:** [administrativeassistant@thrc.ca](mailto:administrativeassistant@thrc.ca)

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**Outdoor Community of Practice:  
To Study Linking *How Does Learning Happen?* with Outdoor Play**

Outside holds boundless opportunities to experience happiness, joy and learning for both children and adults. Come join us for this exciting, evolving and interactive community of practice to explore outdoors and nature together as Educators and leaders. Throughout this four part series we will:

- discover the value of creating an outdoor play environment that promotes, well-being, investigation, imagination, creative thinking and meaning making
- use pedagogical approaches found in *How Does Learning Happen?* Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years, that nurture learning and development
- create outdoor experiences which promote facilitated risk-taking
- increase individual's skills in observing and documenting children's learning.

*What is a community of practice?*

A Community of Practice is:

- guided by facilitators who will support conversations. Facilitators may offer group provocations in the form of videos, pictures, hands on experiences and reading material to provoke your thinking and deepen your understanding
- a group of people who interact together and commit to meet regularly. Attendance is required for all four sessions
- may share the same concern or passion
- may want to create something, or figure out how to do something better
- emergent in nature; the dialogue and actions are led by the people

We will explore the outdoors together at Sedgewick Crescent Regional Child Care Centre. We ask that you come dressed to fully participate in this outdoor experience. We will be outside rain or shine!!

<b>Dates/Time</b>	<u>Tuesday, June 6, 2017</u>	6:30pm-8:00pm
	Tuesday, September 26, 2017	6:30pm-8:00pm
	Tuesday, December 5, 2017	6:30pm-8:00pm
	Tuesday, March 27, 2017	6:30pm-8:00pm
	<i>Please note:</i> Attendance is required for all four sessions. You will only be required to register for the first session.	
<b>Location</b>	Sedgewick Regional Child Care Centre - 1256 Sedgewick Crescent, Oakville	
<b>Cost</b>	THRC Member: \$20 THRC Non-Member: \$30	
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before May 24, 2017	

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## Loose Parts and Outdoor Play

How do you incorporate loose parts into your program? The 'loose parts' theory looks at how the best play comes from things that give children the opportunity to play in many different ways and on many different levels. Loose parts promote and support imaginative play through open-ended, creative expression which occurs naturally when loose parts are placed in the environment. Using them allows children opportunities to develop their own ideas, and explore the world around them through self-directed play. During this workshop, participants gain ideas in which loose parts could be used in various areas of the play environment. This session focuses on ideas for loose parts to be used outdoors.

**Facilitators: Serena LeChat, RECE & Irina Boangiu, RECE**

<b>Date/Time</b>	Thursday, June 8, 2017 6:30pm-8:00pm
<b>Location</b>	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (THRC Board Room)
<b>Cost</b>	THRC Member: \$5 THRC Non-Member: \$15
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before May 25, 2017

## Working with School Age Children?



# Save the Date!

## Wednesday, June 14, 2017



Exploring the 12 FUNdamental Movement Skills for School Aged Children

## Teacher Talk - Module I

Play and daily routines provide opportunities to create enriched, interactive language-learning environments that include *all* children. In this session, learn how to:

- Identify the children's conversational styles and the roles Educators play
- Let the child lead in individual and group interactions
- Help children become better conversational partners

**Facilitator: Kelly Lewis, M.CI.Sc., S-LP, Reg. CASLPO**

<b>Date/Time</b>	Saturday, June 24, 2017 9:00am-4:00pm
<b>Location</b>	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Bronte Room)
<b>Cost</b>	THRC Member: \$15 THRC Non-Member: \$25
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before June 10, 2017

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## Literacy Rich Environments: Creating Spaces to Foster Children’s Expression

Language-rich environments, both indoors and outdoors, can create optimal conditions for children’s personal expressions of meaning: “What do I know? What am I thinking? What am I curious about?” How might Educators create expressive environments that are catalysts for children’s inquiry, play, and discovery in relationships with materials and other people? This workshop explores how experiences indoors and outdoors build authentic language connections, and how teachers act as “creator of the environment as a third teacher” (Edwards, 2012, p.149) by advocating for experiences that foster rich language.

**Facilitator: Moyra Hewlett, RECE, B.ECS, OCT**

<b>Date/Time</b>	Wednesday, June 28 , 2017 6:00pm - 8:00pm
<b>Location</b>	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)
<b>Cost</b>	THRC Member: \$5 THRC Non-Member: \$15
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before June 14, 2017



## Early Literacy Specialist

Halton’s Early Literacy Specialist works collaboratively with Early Years Centres, libraries, and cultural programs on projects and initiatives to support parents/caregivers and Educators.

In addition, the Early Literacy Specialist supports early literacy and numeracy development throughout Halton Region by providing resources, workshops, seminars and consultations for parents, caregivers and early childhood professionals. Watch for opportunities to connect with Moyra further in this publication.

**For more information, connect with Halton’s Early Literacy Specialist**

**Phone: 905-876-1244 ext. 232 Email: [moyrah@thrc.ca](mailto:moyrah@thrc.ca)**

## Are you receiving THRC eConnects?



Register your email address to receive news, updates and more from THRC!

Register by phone: 905-875-4600 Ext. 141

Or email: [administrativeassistant@thrc.ca](mailto:administrativeassistant@thrc.ca)

..... Visit [thrc.ca](http://thrc.ca) for full details and to register .....

**Phone: 905-875-4600 Ext. 141 Email: [administrativeassistant@thrc.ca](mailto:administrativeassistant@thrc.ca)**

# July 2017

## Coaching Resonant Connections and Dynamic Goal Setting

In this workshop, you reconnect with the levels of listening and power of curiosity as key ingredients to a coaching conversation. Following on these principles, you discover how to access the values and resonance that underlie each person's most inspired energy. We turn goal setting on its head, creating goals that are no longer just specific and measurable but thrilling too! This workshop blends practical coaching skills with inspirational leadership. **You must attend Achieving Quality Outcomes through Coaching Partnerships (see pg. 23) prior to attending this session.**

**Facilitator: Barbara Harrison, RECE, AECEO.C**

<b>Date/Time</b>	Thursday, July 20, 2017 12:00pm - 4:00pm
<b>Location</b>	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)
<b>Cost</b>	THRC Member: \$10 THRC Non-Member: \$20
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before July 6, 2017

## CCDIL



### Child Care Directory and Information Line

A free centralized one-stop information service provided supporting Halton families in finding quality child care. CCDIL recognizes that creating opportunities for parents to make informed choices regarding quality child care is essential to the growth and development of strong and stable families.

**905-875-0235**

# August 2017

## Standard First Aid & CPR-C

Child care supervisors, employees, and home child care providers must have a valid standard first aid certification including infant and child cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) as noted in The Child Care and Early Years Act (CCEYA).

<b>Date/Time</b>	Thursday, August 24 & Friday, August 25, 2017 8:00am-4:00pm
<b>Location</b>	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room/Bronte Room)
<b>Cost</b>	Licensed Staff (as defined in CCEYA) - No Cost Non-Licensed Staff - THRC Member: \$110, THRC Non-Member: \$120
<b>Registration</b>	Register online at <a href="http://thrc.ca">thrc.ca</a> before August 10, 2017

..... Visit [thrc.ca](http://thrc.ca) for full details and to register .....


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# May - August 2017 Inquiry Groups

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**Registration for all Inquiry Groups closes 1 week before the session date.**

## **How Does Learning Happen? Inquiry Groups**

These inquiry groups provide Educators and Leaders with the opportunity to explore *How Does Learning Happen?* Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years. Through a facilitated process, we'll discuss your understanding and experiences of living out the concepts in relationships with children, families and each other. Come with your discoveries and curiosities and be ready to share, explore and learn new practices. **Be sure to bring your copy of *How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years.***

 - Indicates that a centre tour is included with this Inquiry Group

<b>Infant and Toddler Educators</b>		<b>Facilitator: Julie Mann-Harrison, RECE, AECEO.C</b>
<u>Thursday, June 15, 2017</u> 	6:30pm-8:00pm	The Orchard Children's Centre - 3550 Dundas Street, Suite C6, Burlington
<u>Tuesday, August 1, 2017</u>	6:30pm-8:00pm	THRC - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)
<b>Preschool Educators</b>		<b>Facilitator: Jill Fortney, RECE, M.Ed., AECEO.C</b>
<u>Tuesday, May 16, 2017</u> 	6:15pm - 7:45pm	Little Kids Day Care - 2165 Grosvenor Street, Oakville
<u>Tuesday, July 18, 2017</u>	6:00pm - 7:30pm	Halton Regional Centre - 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville (Scotchblock/Merton Room)
<b>School Age Educators</b>		<b>Facilitator: Lindsay Buset-Turner, RECE, BA</b>
<u>Tuesday, May 30, 2017</u>	10:00am - 11:30am	Woodlands Operations Centre - 1179 Bronte Road, Oakville (Oakwood Room)
<b>Leaders</b>		<b>Facilitator: Jill Fortney, RECE, M.Ed., AECEO.C</b>
<u>Thursday, May 11, 2017</u> 	9:30am - 11:30am	Little Kids Day Care - 2165 Grosvenor Street, Oakville
<u>Tuesday, July 11, 2017</u> 	9:30am - 11:30am	MCRC - Bronte Street School - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton

## **Inclusion Inquiry Groups**

These sessions provides Educators with an opportunity to engage in conversation about their inclusive practices related to children with extra support needs in their program. You will have the opportunity to engage in a facilitated discussion, exchange ideas, contribute perspectives, ask questions and make meaning of new ideas, information and resources.

**Facilitators: Wendy Pavao, RECE & Joe Melo, RECE, RT/EI**

<u>Wednesday, June 21, 2017</u>	6:00pm-8:00pm	THRC - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)
<u>Wednesday, August 16, 2017</u>	6:00pm-8:00pm	Community Living Burlington - 3057 Mainway, Burlington (Boardroom)

..... Visit [thrc.ca](http://thrc.ca) for full details and to register .....

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# Quality First

## Professional Learning

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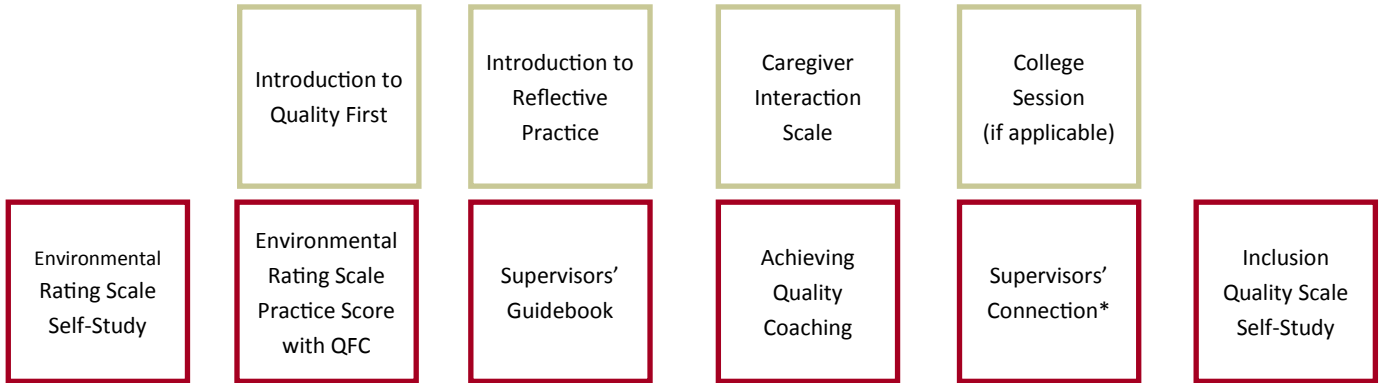
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Want to learn more about Quality First?  
Find more information at [thrc.ca/quality-first](http://thrc.ca/quality-first)

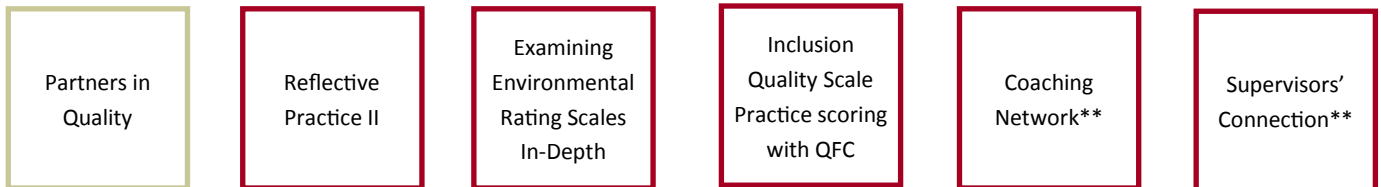
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# Quality First Requirements

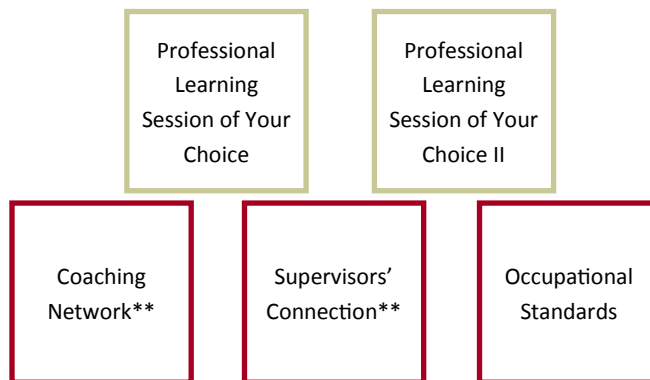
## Level I



## Level II



## Level III



Staff, Supervisor and Centre Mentor Requirements
  Supervisor and Centre Mentor Requirements

\*Supervisor and/or Centre Mentor to attend one session annually

\*\* Supervisor and/or Centre Mentor to attend two sessions annually

# Quality First Professional Learning Sessions

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Listed in alphabetical order

**Registration for all Quality First sessions closes 2 weeks before the session**

## Achieving Quality Outcomes Through Coaching Partnerships

### Level I

In this coaching workshop, explore how active, deliberate, and compassionate coaching can give you the information and tools you need to create an atmosphere of continuous learning and support for each individual in realizing and working towards their optimum performance.

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Thursday, June 29, 2017</u> Denise MacDougal, RECE	1:00pm-4:00pm	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)
<u>Tuesday, August 15, 2017</u> Barbara Harrison, RECE, AECEO.C & Cathy Lipton, RECE	1:00pm - 4:00pm	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)

## ECERS-3

.....  
**ECERS-3 has replaced the Environment Rating Scale ECERS-R!**


The ECERS-3 continues to provide you with an in-depth look at how your program supports the well-being and engagement of the children in your care, while looking more closely at how the equipment and materials in your classrooms are being used.


Find Professional Learning opportunities to provide you with the information needed to understand and use ECERS-3 on [page 24](#)

## Caregiver Interaction Scale (CIS)

### Level I

This session introduces you to the Caregiver Interaction Scale (CIS) and how it is used in Quality First. Through a variety of learning experiences, you explore the indicators in the tool and raise your awareness of the components of high-quality adult-child relationships. During this session, reference is made to *Think, Feel, Act* and *How Does Learning Happen?* from the Ministry of Education.

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Thursday, May 25, 2017</u> Denise MacDougal, RECE	6:15pm-8:15pm	Webinar 
<u>Tuesday, July 25, 2017</u> Jennifer Davero, RECE	10:00am-12:00pm	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)

 = Webinar (online)

..... Visit [thrc.ca](http://thrc.ca) for full details and to register .....

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## Coaching Network

### Level II/III

Come out and practice your coaching skills by participating in a collaborative, interactive session where topics are chosen by participants. This session also includes time for informal networking with colleagues to share coaching tips and approaches. **You must attend Achieving Quality Outcomes Through Coaching Partnerships (see page 23) prior to attending this session.**

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Monday, May 8, 2017</u> Barbara Harrison, RECE, AECEO.C & Ashley McTavish, RECE	1:00pm-2:30pm	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)
<u>Tuesday, May 9, 2017</u> Niza Chaudhry, RECE	2:00pm-3:30pm	Halton Regional Centre - 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville (Appleby Room)
<u>Tuesday, May 16, 2017</u> Frances Killingbeck, RECE & Valerie Scott, RECE	10:00am-11:30am	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)
<u>Tuesday, July 11, 2017</u> Niza Chaudhry, RECE & Cathy Lipton, RECE	10:00am-11:30am	Halton Regional Centre - 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville (Scotchblock/Merton Room)
<u>Thursday, July 27, 2017</u> Denise MacDougal, RECE & Valerie Scott, RECE	1:00pm-2:30pm	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)
<u>Thursday, August 17, 2017</u> Barbara Harrison, RECE, AECEO.C	2:00pm-3:30pm	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)

## Examining Session: Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS-3)

### Level II/III

This session provides a more detailed look at key items and their indicators as well as common terminology found in the tool. Through activities, analysis and discussion you gain information to ensure common understanding of the items/indicators so observations are accurate. **Participants update their ECERS-3 tool throughout the session. You are required to complete an ERS self-study before attending this session.**

Date:	Time:	Location:
<u>Tuesday, June 20, 2017</u> Zenab Karimjee, RECE & Joe Melo, RECE, RT/EI	9:00am-12:00pm	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)

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**Examining Session: Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale (FCCERS-R)  
Level II**

This session provides a detailed look at key items and their indicators as well as common terminology found in the tool. Through activities, analysis and group discussions, you gain information to ensure common understanding of the items/indicators so that observations are accurate. **Participants will update their FCCERS-R tool throughout the session, in order to do this you must bring a copy of the tool. This session is for Licensed Home Child Care Agency/Home Visitors only.**

<b>Date and Facilitator:</b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b>Location:</b>
<u>Tuesday, June 20, 2017</u> Valerie Scott, RECE & Julie Mann-Harrison, RECE AECEO.C	9:00am-12:00pm	Halton Regional Centre - 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville (Glen Lawson/Mansewood Room)

**Examining Session: Infant and Toddler Environment Rating Scale Revised (ITERS-R)  
Level II**

This session provides detailed look at key items and their indicators as well as common terminology found in the tool. Through analysis and discussion, you gain information to ensure common understanding of the items/indicators so that observations are accurate. **Participants update their ITERS-R tool throughout the session, in order to do this you must bring a copy of the tool and the All About ITERS-R book. You are required to complete an ERS self study before attending this session**

<b>Date and Facilitator:</b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b>Location:</b>
<u>Thursday, May 11, 2017</u> Julie Mann-Harrison, RECE, AECEO.C & Barbara Harrison, RECE, AECEO.C	9:00am-12:00pm	Halton Regional Centre - 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville (Glen Lawson/Mansewood Room)

**Examining Session: School Age Care Environment Rating Scale (SACERS)  
Level II**

This session provides a detailed look at key items and their indicators as well as common terminology found in the tool. Through analysis and discussion, you gain information to ensure common understanding of the items/indicators so that observations are accurate. **Participants update their SACERS tool throughout the session, in order to do this you must bring a copy of the tool. You are required to complete the SACERS updated self study before attending this session.**

<b>Date and Facilitator:</b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b>Location:</b>
<u>Monday, May 1, 2017</u> Lindsay Buset-Turner, RECE, BA & Jennifer Davero, RECE	9:30am-12:30pm	Halton Regional Centre - 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville (Glenorchy Room)

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## In-Depth Inclusion Quality Scale (IQS)

### Level II


SpecialLink's Inclusion Quality Scales are key tools for measuring inclusion quality in Canadian Early Learning and Care programs. Learn how to use these tools to assess and inspire early childhood inclusion quality and engage in the dialogue about necessary resources and training to support inclusive child care.

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Thursday, May 18, 2017</u> Joe Melo, RECE, RT/EI	1:00pm-4:00pm	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)

## Introduction to Quality First

### Level I


This session provides an overview of Quality First and what it means for your organization. Explore the components of quality, the tools that will be used to support your developmental journey, and the role of your Quality First Consultant.

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Tuesday, August 1, 2017</u> Zenab Karimjee, RECE	12:30pm-2:00pm	Webinar 

## Introduction to Quality Inclusive Education Checklist

### Level I


This session provides you with an overview of the Early Childhood Resource Teacher of Ontario's (ECRTNO) tool. Using the Quality Inclusive Education (QIE) checklist, you are introduced to its purpose, and how to administer it in your own program.

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Friday, May 12, 2017</u> Joe Melo, RECE, RT/EI	1:00pm-3:00pm	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)
<u>Wednesday, July 19, 2017</u> Frances Killingbeck, RECE	6:15pm-8:15pm	Webinar 

## Introduction to Reflective Practice

### Level I

Reflection is often seen as an abstract concept. This introductory level session is designed to provide interactive reflection experiences. Learn practical methods for beginning your professional reflective practice and how individual reflection supports your ongoing professional growth.

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Tuesday, May 30, 2017</u> Cathy Lipton, RECE	6:00pm-8:00pm	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)
<u>Wednesday, July 5, 2017</u> Joe Melo, RECE, RT/EI	6:15pm-8:15pm	Webinar 


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## Occupational Standards for Administrators

### Level III


This session provides you with an overview of the updated Occupational Standards for Child Care Administrators through interactive discussions and activities.

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Thursday, June 8, 2017</u> Julie Mann-Harrison, RECE, AECEO.C	1:00pm-2:30pm	Webinar 

## Partners in Quality

### Level II


Developed from the Canadian Child Care Federation's "Partners in Quality" (PIQ) materials, this session explores the link between program standards and quality child care environments.

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Thursday, June 1, 2017</u> Frances Killingbeck, RECE	6:15pm-8:15pm	Webinar 

## Providing Quality Support to ECE Students

### Level I

As a Supervisor you play an integral role in supporting your staff as they oversee college students in their classroom. Successful student learning is dependent upon your ability to model high-quality practices, to use positive interpersonal communication skills and to act as a reflective practitioner.

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Wednesday, May 17, 2017</u> Zenab Karimjee, RECE	6:15pm-7:45pm	Webinar 
<u>Wednesday, August 23, 2017</u> Ashley McTavish, RECE	1:00pm-2:30pm	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)

## Quality Inclusive Practices

### Level II

This session provides an overview of quality inclusive practices by using a materials and equipment checklist. You will discuss modifications and adaptations that can be made in your program to support early childhood inclusion. **This session is for Licensed Home Child Care Agency/Home Visitors and Home Providers only.**

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Wednesday, July 12, 2017</u> Valerie Scott, RECE	6:30pm-8:00pm	Halton Regional Centre - 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville (Glen Lawson/Mansewood Room)

..... Visit [thrc.ca](http://thrc.ca) for full details and to register .....

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## Reflective Practice II

### Level II

Reflective practice is essential to professionalism in early childhood education. As individuals, it is a necessary means to grow, develop, refine, and change what we do in our work with children and families. Becoming a “reflective practitioner” is a personal and professional journey of developing knowledge, awareness, and skills. Building on the learning from Quality First’s “Introduction to Reflective Practice,” this session provides an opportunity for you to: reconnect with what you already know about reflective practice, explore the role and value of reflective practice for increasing professionalism and personal growth, and develop reflective skills and activities to use for yourself and for developing individuals on your team. **You must attend Introduction to Reflective Practice (see [page 26](#)) prior to attending this session.**

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Wednesday, June 7, 2017</u> Ashley McTavish, RECE	10:00am-12:00pm	The Halton Resource Connection - 410 Bronte Street South, Milton (Tiffany Room)

## Supervisors' Connection

### Level I/II/III

A great chance to connect and share knowledge with other Supervisors. Each Supervisors' Connection session has a different focus, please refer to the session descriptions in the Current Professional Learning Opportunities section of this publication for more details.

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Wednesday, May 24, 2017</u>	1:00pm-3:00pm	Halton Regional Centre - 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville (South Auditorium)

## Supervisors' Guidebook

### Level I

This session connects you to the resources, information, and activities in THRC's updated “Supervisors' Guidebook”. Through conversation, you have a chance to connect with other leaders and identify how this resource can support you in your leadership role. **Please bring your copy of the Guidebook to the session. If you would like to purchase (\$25) an additional copy, please contact THRC at [administrativeassistant@thrc.ca](mailto:administrativeassistant@thrc.ca)**

Date and Facilitator:	Time:	Location:
<u>Wednesday, June 14, 2017</u> Lindsay Buset Turner, RECE. BA	2:00pm-4:00pm	690 Dorval Drive (Oakville Room)

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