

WECAN TEACHER EDUCATION REPORT

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I am writing this as our teacher education institutes are finishing their summer offerings and preparing for autumn beginnings for the year ahead. Each institute has their own way of offering their early childhood educator trainings, and many also provide ongoing enrichment opportunities for colleagues in North America. [The WECAN website](#) lists the WECAN-recognized member institutes and learning more about these different styles of EC offerings is well worth the exploration.

During our last North American Teacher Education online meeting in May, there was a rich presentation on ways we can approach our teacher training educators so that we can support the strengthening of their abilities to advocate for the young child. The institute leaders also spent some time in conversation about the upcoming 2026–2027 meetings. It promises to be a fruitful year ahead of learning more through conversation and mutual support.

The institute leaders also expressed that they have found support and encouragement for meeting the needs of the students of our time through the conversations and presentations experienced while attending the international ITEF (International Teacher Educators Forum) meetings and the IASWECE (International Association for Steiner/Waldorf Early Childhood Education) Teacher Trainers network meetings. It's exciting to think that there are ways that we can embrace each other to foster recognition of Waldorf early childhood as a world presence.

The North American EC educator training institutes will continue to gather on a monthly basis from September to May to share knowledge and conversation, and WECAN's Teacher Education Committee meets regularly in support of our institute membership. These are rhythmical, dedicated moments that keep us all awake to the changing face of teacher education.

Congratulations are in order for [Alkion Center of Hawthorne Valley Association](#) in New York for their WECAN Associate renewal and to [PÉGASE ISRAEL](#) in Quebec, a new WECAN Associate member. They have both recently completed the self-study and site visit process.

There are two more institute renewal processes underway, which we will hear more about in the next news update.

In closing, once again, I am full of appreciation and admiration for the creativity and perseverance of our member institute early childhood educators. They have risen to the challenge of many obstacles over the past years to give their students the best possible training alternatives they can provide. They have positioned themselves to be open to transforming their offerings in order to suit the current impulses of our times as we all embrace "the winds of change."