

## **Teacher Education Report**

*Ruth Ker, Teacher Education Coordinator*

A closer connection amongst the Teacher Training Institutes continues to be fostered with regularly scheduled, well-attended zoom calls. Important discussions have happened around bringing more diversity into our trainings, on-line teaching formats and tools, emphasizing the young child's need to know there is morality in our world, birth to three training requirements, and working with individual questions from our member institutes. In this mutually supportive environment, goodwill thrives amongst our member institute colleagues.

Although, during Covid-19 restrictions, most teacher training venues are using on-line formats, WECAN's Teacher Training Expectations have remained the same. Member institutes are keeping records to indicate how their usual in-person requirements are being honored during this necessary time of on-line presence.

Our Institute Teacher Education Membership Handbook has gone through several edits. [Here is the link](#) to the most recent version.

Welcome to our new Associate member, Centro de Desarrollo Antroposofico in Cuernavaca, Mexico. The TEC looks forward to making a site visit to this teacher training institute, which has been in operation since 2013, as soon as travel is possible again. Congratulations also to the Early Childhood Teacher Education Center at Sophia's Hearth and to Rudolf Steiner Centre Toronto for being the first member institutes to have completed their self-study processes and receive WECAN endorsement for their birth to three educator trainings. One other Full Member Institute has made application and is in process with their birth to three self-study and there have been other inquiries as well.

We continue to look for future opportunities to conduct the site visits that are waiting to happen once travel restrictions subside and the health of our site visitors is assured. We are grateful for the patience of our incoming new members and those who wish to renew their memberships.

In the meantime, the Teacher Education Committee has welcomed Nancy Blanning, a liaison to WECAN's Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Committee, as a regular guest at the Teacher Education Committee meetings. We also want to warmly welcome our newest TEC member, Katherine Scharff who will bring much awareness about the birth to three aspects of our trainings.

We live in unprecedented times and I am full of gratitude and admiration for the creativity and perseverance of our Member Institute early childhood teacher educators. They have risen to the challenge of many obstacles over the past year in order to give their students the best possible training they can provide.