

Muskoka ELCC
Connections and Updates Bulletin
June 2026

We're happy to share the latest news and learning opportunities from the District Municipality of Muskoka ELCC team. Please share widely with your colleagues and teams

🌈Happy Pride Month!!

June is Pride Month — a time to celebrate, affirm, and reflect on the belonging of every child, family, and educator in our communities. Honouring the diversity of the children and families we serve isn't optional; it's a shared value, and for RECEs, a professional commitment. The College of Early Childhood Educators has put together a wonderful resource including books, videos, articles, and organizations to support your practice with the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. Explore the resource here.

🗓️ Save the Date!!

Pedagogy of Care 2026 | October 23–24, 2026 | Bayview Wildwood Resort, Severn Bridge

Mark your calendars! Two days of connection, learning, and inspiration are on the way. Registration and the full speaker lineup coming soon.

🎙️ Call for Voices – Pedagogy of Care 2026

Are you doing something in your practice you're proud of?

We're looking for educators and practitioners to contribute in one of two ways:

- **Lightning Opener:** A 5-minute share in front of 20–40 people before one of our main speakers.
- **Poster Presentation:** Set up a display and connect with attendees over lunch, science-fair style.

All selected participants receive a $150 honourarium and support from our team to help you prepare. Submit your interest by July 5!

📌Upcoming Local Sessions

Summer Livin' at the Library! Tuesday, June 23 | 5:30–7:00 pm | Huntsville Public Library

A library card could do a lot more for you and the children you work with this summer! Come play, explore, try Maker Kits, learn scarf songs, browse early learning collections, and hear about StoryWalks® and summer programming in Huntsville! Fun, low-key, full of real takeaways. Register here.

💻Free Online Professional Learning — June 2026

Métis Nation of Ontario: Toddlers and Land-Based Learning - Free, self-paced

How play schemas, intentional planning, and time outdoors support curiosity, connection, and children's mental health. Available anytime.

Autism Ontario: Toileting Made Easier - June 17, 12:00–1:30 pm

Practical tools for supporting autistic children ages 2–10. Recording provided.

Autism Ontario: Navigating a New Diagnosis (Children Under 5) - June 18, 12:00–1:00 pm

For caregivers and professionals. Covers services, support networks, and the Ontario Autism Program. Recording provided.

Early Childhood Webinars: Unlocking the Power of the Pyramid Model - June 18, 2:00–3:30 pm

A research-based framework for supporting social-emotional development. Practical strategies you can use right away. Recording provided.

Early Childhood Webinars: Rethinking Group Time - June 25, 2:00–3:30 pm

How does adult presence, pacing, and expectations shape children's sense of safety and belonging. Relational strategies for moving from compliance toward connection. Recording provided.

📝How did the MELP land for you?

As we wrap up the first cycle of the Muskoka Early Learning Partnership Quality program, your feedback has given us a lot to think about. Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the feedback survey! **We will be connecting with the gift card winners soon!**

We are grateful to live, work, and play on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg — including the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi Nations, collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy. We also acknowledge the Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee Nations who have walked this territory, the Wahta Mohawk community near Bala, the Moose Deer Point First Nation along Twelve Mile Bay, and the Métis whose roots run deep in the Moon River and Georgian Bay area. We honour the stewardship of these lands and waters throughout the ages and carry that responsibility into the work we do with young children and families every day.

Miigwetch, Niá:wen, Merci, Thank you.