

# Child Care Connections

Providing links to the latest news and networks in the early learning and child care community

Spring 2011

## What's the News?

### Welcome Sharon Johnston

In the last Child Care Connections Newsletter, our main article focused on the exciting news that our funding proposal for a new **Professional Learning Coordinator** had been successful and that the hiring process was about to begin.

It is with great pleasure that the **Investing in Quality - Early Learning and Child Care Peterborough Committee** welcomes Sharon Johnston to this new position.

Sharon comes to this role with a great deal of experience in the child care field. She has held a variety of positions within child care programs (primary educator in a preschool playroom as well as leadership roles). Sharon has also just finished a contract with the Geneva Centre for Autism where she was a mentor for many child care programs in the province as well as a skilled facilitator for many of their professional learning opportunities.

Sharon's role as the **Professional Learning Coordinator** for Peterborough will be to coordinate a number of events and workshops on relevant topics and the latest research that help you do the important work that you do. She has been instrumental in planning the spring symposium in May, and is working hard on a great summer institute on Play that looks so exciting! She can also act as a great resource and mentor that can come into your programs and help you implement changes you want to make after participating in one of these great workshops. Sharon is looking forward to building strong relationships with the ECE's in our community and I ask you to help me welcome her to this **Investing in Quality** project.

Questions, comments or suggestions?

Contact us at:

P) 705 775-2811

trishb@raisingthebarptbo.ca

sharonj@raisingthebarptbo.ca

### Raising the Bar Update

Well, a year has gone by already and once again, it is getting close to the time to submit those Raising the Bar profile binders! I know that it has been a challenge to find the time and energy that it takes to complete each phase and I want to encourage you to make that last push of effort to finish it off. I am available to help in any way that would be useful to you over the next month or so. I can come to your office and help you enter the data you need, go over what you have in your binder to confirm that you are on the right track.

This year, the focus of the RTB silver phase profile was to look beyond the foundation you have put into place - through updated policies/procedures, and parent surveys, as well as other organization formalities - and began to look at how your centre responds to the needs of families and connects with the larger community.

### Deadline for submission: May 20th, 2011

There will be another peer review after all the binders have been submitted. On this day, RTB participants will gather to review each other's binders to confirm that the standards have been met over the past year. Any centre that has participated over the last year can nominate 1-2 members of their team to be a part of this process. Those who have been a part of this day have said that it was a very worthwhile experience. Nomination forms will be circulated in the coming weeks. If you have any questions about participating, please contact Trish at the Raising the Bar office.

### Peer Review Day: Thursday June 2nd



**Raising the Bar**  
Early Childhood Education

# Spotlight on YOU!

## New Arrivals:

Kelly Lewis from Trent Child Care - Immaculate Conception and her husband Sean, welcomed baby **Ada Rose** to their family in January. Congratulations Kelly, Sean and Valin!

Everyone at Nursery Two Child Care would like to congratulate Sam Wannamaker, who welcomed her new baby **Bentley** to the world in January.



**Do you have important news to share?  
Let us know, and we will put it in our June newsletter.**

## PD Card Winners

Jenni Lo Nursery Two Child Care

Robin Omdahl St. Catherine Daycare

*Christine Mumford* Northern Lights Children's Daycare

Have you filled your PD Card? Fax it to Trish 705 775 2812  
To be entered into a draw for a Tim Hortons gift card.

# Professional Development

## Working with Culturally Diverse Children and Families

Thursday April 28  
10 am - 12pm  
Knights of Columbus Hall

Free!

To Register: contact Karolyn Givogue at  
racerelation@gmail.com  
705 742-9658

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## Association of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario (AECEO)

2011 Annual Provincial Conference  
June 9 - 11th  
Peterborough, ON

For registration information visit the AECEO  
website at  
[www.aeceo.ca](http://www.aeceo.ca)

## *Look's Conference*

Friday, May 27th  
Peterborough



Mark your calendar!  
Great topics and fantastic prizes!

## Child Care Centre Bus Tour

Tuesday, May 31st  
6:00 - 9:00  
Free, dinner included!

Visiting Ganaraska Child Care Centres  
Port Hope, Ontario

To register, visit the  
Raising the Bar website.



## Spring Symposium

Early Learning for Every Child Today is in Bloom  
Saturday, May 7th

Keynote Speaker

*Jan Blaxall*

Member of the Best Start Expert Panel

Conference details and registration available on our website.  
[www.raisingthebarptbo.ca](http://www.raisingthebarptbo.ca)

# Building Your Bounce!

## I Am Flexible

Poet Maya Angelou was interviewed by Oprah on Angelou's 70th birthday. Oprah asked her what she thought of growing older. Angelou said, "I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow."

"I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he or she handles three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights."

### Strategy 1: Power is in Your Hands

Sometimes in life we can't control what happens to us, but we can control what we will do about it. You may not be able to control everything that is happening in your life, but you certainly have the power to do something about it. You have the power to choose your response for life.

#### How will you choose to respond?

*Try laughter....*

"Laughter gives us distance. It allows us to step back from an event, deal with it and then move on." - Bob Newhart

Can you find humour in this situation? Did it help to relieve some of your stress or did it add to your stress?

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*Try asking others to help you adjust....*

"Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light." - Helen Keller

Who do you trust to help you see all angles and perspectives of a problem? Does this person challenge you to see beyond your own beliefs to help you make the right choices for your own well-being?

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*Try being open to new ideas - you may like it....*

"The most powerful agent of growth and transformation is something much more basic than any technique: a change of heart." - John Welwood

Do you challenge yourself to try out new things? When was the last time you were excited about another person's new idea? How did you feel about trying their idea? Did it make things better or worse? If worse, which parts could have been done differently? Can you talk about changing the parts that don't work?



# Child Care Networks

All meetings take place at 6:30 to 8:00 unless otherwise stated.

## **Infant Network**

March 23rd - RTB Office  
236 Parkhill Rd. E.

May 18 - Hucklebug Child Care  
45 Alma St., Norwood

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## **Preschool Network**

March 24th - Northview Dayschool  
1000 Fairbairn St. (at Towerhill Rd.)

May 26th - Hiawatha First Nation Child  
Care  
Hiawatha Line

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## **Cook's Network**

April 12th - Northern Lights Daycare  
42 Pinecrest Ave., Keene

June 14th - RTB Office  
236 Parkhill Rd. E.

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Is there a network group that you feel is  
missing? Let me know!  
[trishb@raisingthebarptbo.ca](mailto:trishb@raisingthebarptbo.ca)

## **School – Age/ Summer Camp Network**

May 12th - Les Petit Curieux  
186 Romaine St.

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## **Apprentice Network**

For those enrolled as an ECE apprentice  
April 14th - RTB Office  
June 16th - RTB Office  
236 Parkhill Rd. E.

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## **Science Network**

April 19th - St. Catherine Daycare  
1575 Glenforest Blvd.

June 21st - Les Petit Curieux  
186 Romaine St.

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## **RTB Supervisor Network**

### **Morning Network 9:00 - 10:30**

April 8th - RTB Office  
May 6th - RTB Office  
June - no meeting

### **Afternoon Network 1:00 - 2:30**

April 7th - YMCA Boardroom  
May 5th - YMCA Boardroom  
June - no meeting

All new members are welcome!