

Explore some of the exciting possibilities and challenges of taking children outside in a one-day workshop hosted by **Manitoba Education** and the **Manitoba Child Care Association**.

This will be of special interest to Kindergarten and early childhood educators, school and childcare centre administrators, superintendents, and others interested in nature education.

Frances Krusekopf and Enid Elliot will share the development and implementation of a Nature Kindergarten in the Sooke BC School District where adults learn alongside the children and follow an inquiry-based, playful approach to education. Kindergarten children spend every morning outside in the forest learning, questioning, and wondering. This project has created a web of relationships among and between children, early childhood educators, teachers, and community members.

Response by Manitoba Nature Education Enthusiasts

- ❖ **Ron Blatz** is the Executive Director of the Discovery Children's Centre, and a promoter of the Manitoba Nature Action Collaborative for Children and the Two Weeks Outdoors challenge.
- ❖ **Mavis Lewis-Webber** is an Early Childhood Education faculty member at Red River College, the Treasurer of the Manitoba Nature Summit, and a recent participant in the Forest School Canada Practitioner training.

Keynote Speakers



Frances Krusekopf has been a teacher and school administrator for the past 15 years and is currently the Principal of Colwood Elementary School on Vancouver Island. Inspired by the experience of her son's participation in a *Waldkindergarten* in Germany, Frances began to collaborate with Dr. Enid Elliot and a dynamic team of educators and passionate community members to develop a Nature Kindergarten pilot in Colwood, BC.

Enid Elliot, Ph.D., is an early childhood educator who continues to find herself surprised, intrigued, and delighted by children, families, and early childhood educators. As adjunct professor at University of Victoria and a faculty member at Camosun, Enid has been investigating the influence of outdoor natural settings on children and early childhood educators.

Check out their blog at <<http://naturekindergarten.sd62.bc.ca>>.

- ❖ **Diane Cameron** is a Kindergarten teacher at Seven Oaks School Division's École James Nisbet Community School, where Kindergarten and Grade 1 students spent two weeks outdoors this past academic year.
- ❖ **Jody Watson** is the Director of Education at FortWhyte Alive, where she develops and delivers outdoor education programming for children.

Taking Kindergarten into Nature

● Professional Learning Day
Monday, November 4, 2013
9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
● Centro Caboto Centre
1055 Wilkes Avenue, Winnipeg, MB
● Cost \$30 per person
● Lunch & refreshments included

Registration

Please have your credit card available for your payment of \$30 per person.

To register, visit <www.mccahouse.org>.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided; please specify when you register online if vegetarian or gluten-free food is required.

School divisions are responsible for travel and substitute costs.

Please note that once your space has been confirmed and payment processed, no refunds will be issued. If you are unable to attend, you are welcome to send a substitute in your place, but please communicate that person's name to Ruth at the email address provided.

For further information about the session, please contact the Early Childhood Education Unit at <ruth.parnetta@gov.mb.ca>, or call 204-945-7188 or toll-free 1-800-282-8069, extension 7188.

Space is limited, so please register by October 11, 2013.



Manitoba Child Care Association

Manitoba

