



# ECEBC LEADERSHIP

Featuring Alumni of the ECEBC Leadership Initiative

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- Most Significant Change Story-Name Withheld

## “I’m Not Scared to take on big challenges”

My most significant change is realizing that I’m vulnerable”. That came out in the final circle at institute. I work hard as a caregiver and I need to care for myself too. Recently we’ve all been sick at work. I’ve been sending people home and

encouraging them to care for themselves. The children and people we serve are more vulnerable to illness so it’s important for all of us.

“I’m not scared to take on big challenges”. I went back to school to get licensed status as a Behavioral Interventionist working with children with autism and their families. I finished my training this past August. The knowledge, certification and expertise I gained is huge. I had been thinking about taking this step for several years. “I wouldn’t have had the guts to do it without the ECEBC Leadership Initiative.” After

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*Name withheld*



### About the ECEBC Leadership Initiative:

*In 2014, the fifth cohort held their final institute to coincide with ECEBC’s Provincial Conference. Almost 100 participants from throughout BC have now completed Communities of Innovation Projects.*

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the first institute I looked into the training quickly. My workplace supported me. Going back to school after a while away and needing to embrace on-line learning was intimidating. By the second institute, I was juggling homework.

The change in my leadership really happened because of the encouragement in the room at institute. The energy was uplifting and empowering. Interacting with the cohort made a real difference for me. The circle of trust we developed was emotional. The process dug beneath the surface and pulled us into action. I had a chance to see how others approached challenges. I tried some things on that I learned from others and have now modified my outlook to focus on my family first. I've always been influenced by Barbara Coloroso's work. Dr. Brene Brown's Ted Talk shown at institute affected me. She's a realist and the 'here's how it is' message really resonated with me. "I now have the internal confidence and ability to speak out....You don't realize how strong you are until you get stronger".

I am excited to be opening a new autism center in a new building. We are breaking ground in a few weeks and plan to be up and running in October. "I believe that I've played a huge part in the enhancement of services and the development of the new center for our community". We are now able to go into daycares and preschools in our community specializing in autism. I can focus more now on how I help others including my family. I and our center can now offer enhanced service in our community. "My leadership is bigger, better and growing".

Name withheld