



ECEBC LEADERSHIP

Featuring Alumni of the ECEBC Leadership Initiative

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Holistic Change

In her first five years as an early childhood educator, Dawn struggled to figure out where she fit in, who could mentor her, and how her profession really worked. She constantly questioned what she was saying as she felt she did not have the experience to back her up. She felt alone, and this isolation was draining her passion for early childhood education.

As a member of the fifth Leadership Initiative cohort, Dawn was encouraged to take a year to explore her own philosophy and substitute at centres around her community. This exploration was part of the plan to

help Dawn develop her core beliefs and values. Through this, she has been able to share her knowledge and passion with others, ask questions, and continue to develop her own philosophy through experiences with staff and families. As a Leadership Initiative participant, she was part of a team that helped each other self-reflect and question their practice. Working together, the group problem-solves, builds confidence and stronger messages.

With a stronger sense of her core beliefs and values, Dawn finds she is able to confidently talk with parents, something she used to find very intimidating. Dawn now recognizes that there is power behind her words and that people respect that. Through her new self-awareness and confidence, she is now able to stand up for what she believes in for her profession, the families she works with, and her own family.

Dawn feels grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the ECEBC Leadership Initiative and hopes to inspire other Early Childhood Educators to self-reflect and stay true to their values. She looks forward to staying connected and seeing what else her new skills, experiences, and partnerships will bring.

“Looking back over the past few months I would say that my ability to share my stories, passion, and inspiration has grown, I can stay strong to my values, and it has really made me explore myself and where I want to go and what I want to do as an Early Childhood Educator, team member and mother.”

-Dawn Lee



Dawn has been a member of ECEBC since February 4, 2014

Interview by Lyndsay Spencer. Source: Context Research Evaluation Report, 2014.

TRUE in the Trees

A project designed to inspire residents to enjoy our natural environment with their children through family centered activity. By educating parents and caregivers of the value of learning and brain development that comes with outdoor play and social interaction between families and community we will enhance the knowledge of early childhood education while enhancing community capacity (Community of Innovation Project Report, 2014).