



# ECEBC LEADERSHIP

Featuring Alumni of the ECEBC Leadership Initiative

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## “Reaching My Goal”

Two years ago – I was employed at the Sorrento Preschool Society as an Early Childhood Education Assistant. I was so fortunate and blessed to be able to be a participant in the ECEBC’s Leadership Initiative.

During my first two years working at the Preschool, I was slowly gaining confidence but felt that the lack of experience I had held me back

from furthering my education and becoming fully licensed. When the opportunity arose for my co-worker and I to be a part of the Leadership training, I felt both excited but extremely nervous. Our first trip down to the coast was one that I will always remember. I thought to myself, “What am I doing!?” and “I am the ONLY ECE Assistant in the room!” I felt a little bit out of place but was very quickly welcomed and appreciated – a feeling I didn’t have very often at work.

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*“Our third and final institute boosted my energy, my confidence, and created a new drive.”*

*Amber Mackie*



*Amber has been a member of ECEBC since April 3, 2012.*

## Early Childhood Educators: Discover Our Team

The project targeted local schools, parents, and other community members to highlight the importance of early childhood education to every child’s development and to create enthusiasm about the possibilities in the field of early childhood development (Community of Innovation Project Report, 2013).

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have very often at work.

I slowly started to gain more confidence throughout the first few days of institute. I had a better understanding of why I was there. After the first institute I went home and started to seriously consider finishing my education to become an early childhood educator. Our work started for our project and I felt that I could speak up and express my opinions to our supporting committee members. It was a very good feeling to come back with new information that was absolutely helpful to our project. November came quickly and we boarded another plane to Vancouver. This time on our first day of institute I felt more in place with fellow ECE's! I agreed to say a "welcome and introduction" on behalf of our cohort during the showcase at Vancouver Community College. This was slightly nerve-wracking.... But I decided to not let my fears get in the way. I overcome them by speaking in front of a room full of people I did not know! After leaving our second institute I had a firm grasp of our project, our plans for the future and felt even more confident in myself in many aspects.

By the time our third institute came, I had looked into grants for continuing my education – I knew that this was what I wanted to do. I had to find a way to help myself achieve this goal. Our third and final institute boosted my energy, my confidence, and created a new drive.

Since being an ECEBC Leadership Initiative participant, the confidence I have gained has been overwhelming! I worked hard to find grants for funding and am now at the curriculum portion of my ECE course – with only my practicums to finish. I will be fully licensed by the end of December. I am working as the Lead Instructor within a 3-5 program under an exemption and couldn't feel more proud of myself and what I have achieved since our last institute.

I am so thankful for the leadership skills and confidence I have gained from the ECEBC. I believe that if it were not for the institutes I was able to attend – I would not be where I am now.