

ISSUE 27: May 2025



The Here and Now: Reimagining Early Childhoods In Urgent Times



ECPN Updates

Pedagogist Program

We are excited to share that as of May 1st, we're on Instagram! We'll be using the platform to share updates and glimpses into the wonderful work pedagogists are doing across the province. You can find us [@ecpnbc](https://www.instagram.com/ecpnbc).

We also made the decision, after months of careful consideration about where and how we show up online, to step away from X. As a network committed to thoughtful and ethical community engagement, it matters where we choose to contribute our time, attention, and stories. While no social media platform is without its complications, we believe that X no longer aligns with the values that guide our work. For now, we'll continue sharing pedagogical work and invitations on Facebook and our newly created Instagram account. We recognize that these platforms are not without fault, but at this moment, they offer spaces where we can remain meaningfully connected with educators

and communities across B.C. These are situated decisions, and we will continue to revisit and rethink where and how we gather, listen, and share.

re:materia

Over the past year, the [re:materia exhi'pit](#) has travelled across British Columbia, gathering educators, pedagogists, and community members to think seriously—and creatively—about the material realities of waste. Launched at the ECEBC Conference in May 2024, the exhi'pit is a participatory artistic installation and pedagogical invitation to disrupt the familiar cycles of consumption that so often shape life in early childhood centres.

From July to August, the exhi'pit opened at Kwantlen Polytechnic University's Surrey campus, where educators explored how materials in early childhood spaces carry stories of extraction, convenience, and disposability. In October, it travelled to the Castlegar Community Centre and the Métis Early Years Conference in Kelowna, prompting conversations about beauty in waste, complexity, and the entanglements of land, culture, and waste. From October through January, the exhi'pit was hosted by the Kamloops Art Gallery, where its presence invited the public to knot and stitch waste pieces into fabric, reconfiguring knowledges with waste. Most recently, in February 2025, the exhi'pit arrived at Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo, where educators and children engaged in facilitated dialogues that explored the pedagogical and ethical complexities of working with waste by staying with the question "What does it mean to be done with something?"

At each stop, the exhi'pit is not simply presented. It is re-imagined in relation with those who encounter and are encountered by it. It offers no neat solutions but instead lingers with tensions and contradictions. It asks: What does it mean to live with materials that persist? How might we take up the labour of thinking differently with waste in early childhood education?

To learn more about the exhi'pit and explore its evolving catalogue, visit: [re:materia Catalogue](#).

As the exhi'pit continues to move, we look forward to the new stories, questions, and possibilities that will emerge in its unfolding.

Upcoming Events

Spring Presentation Series

Over the next several weeks, the ECPN is hosting multiple presentations that bring forward important topics and considerations for early childhood professionals. Join us for these three rich and relevant conversations.

May 22 – Echoes and Emergences: Centring Black Life in Canadian Early Childhood Education
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm PT

Join Dr. Fikile Nxumalo as she engages with possibilities for pedagogical engagement with relational Black knowledges that are anti-colonial, affirm Black childhoods, are place-based and unsettle neoliberal multiculturalism.

[Register Here](#)



June 7 – Playing in the Anthropocene: Pedagogical (Re)Openings
10:00 am – 12:00 pm PT

In this conversation, Lisa Goddard and Adrienne Bacelar de Castro situate play within the story of early childhood education and consider how it has been shaped by developmental expectations and neoliberal pressures.

[Register Here](#)



June 24 – Amplifying the Voices of Transgender Kids in a Trans/Gender Justice Program
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm PT

In this webinar, TK Hannah centres children as knowledge-holders and active participants in shaping their worlds, drawing on the voices, experiences, and perspectives of transgender children who participated in an affirming trans/gender justice camp in B.C.

[Register Here](#)



ECPN Information Session



In June, the ECPN will be offering two information sessions for educators, directors, and other early childhood professionals to learn more about the Early Childhood Pedagogist Program and the role of the pedagogist. These one-hour sessions will provide information about the resources and professional development offerings that are available to educators in B.C. If you are interested in learning more about the Pedagogist Program, or have questions for the ECPN leadership team, join one of the sessions below.

Session 1

Date: Thursday, June 19, 2025,
Time: 6:30 – 7:30 pm PT

[Register Here for Session 1](#)

Session 2

Date: Wednesday, June 25, 2025
Time: 6:30 – 7:30 pm PT

[Register Here for Session 2](#)

ECPN Highlights

Blog Post – Living with Caterpillars Part 2

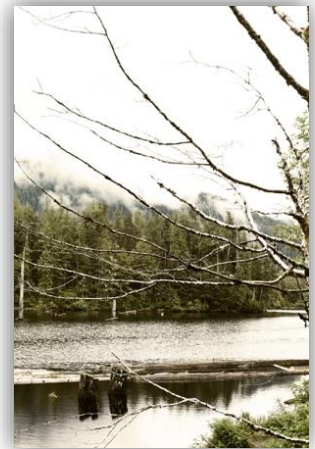
In this second installment, ECPN pedagogist Teresa Smith continues her reflections on living and learning with caterpillars. This reflection moves beyond the tidy narratives of metamorphosis to consider the complex, layered encounters that unfold when we linger with more-than-human others in early childhood spaces. By pausing with caterpillars and noticing the everyday details of their lives, Teresa invites educators to reconsider the ethical and relational dimensions of early childhood practice. Teresa traces the intentional shifts that opened new possibilities for relating with caterpillars, inviting educators to pause with discomfort, question familiar routines, and notice the entangled lives that shape our shared worlds. This blog post is not a guide on how to teach about caterpillars, but a provocation to rethink how we live and learn together in ways that disrupt human-centered logics and make space for new, unexpected connections.



[Read More](#)

Blog Post – Ruptures in the Margins, Part 3

In this final post of her three-part series, ECPN pedagogist Chelsea Hann explores how the stories we choose to tell shape our understanding of education and the world. Moving beyond familiar, developmental narratives, Chelsea engages with the work of feminist scholars and Indigenous storytellers to question the seemingly fixed, “calcified” stories that structure early childhood practice. She invites readers to notice the layers of assumptions that harden into these stories and to consider how small moments of rupture might unsettle and expand the possibilities for pedagogical work. This post challenges us to see education as a relational, ongoing process of story-making, where the stories we tell matter deeply for how we come to know land, children, and our shared worlds.



[Read More](#)

Conversation XI – Pedagogists Engagements in Early Childhood Education

From January to May, the ECPN hosted Conversation XI, a four-part series exploring the multifaceted roles of pedagogists in early childhood education. Through dialogues between pedagogists, pedagogical coordinators, and directors, the series explored how pedagogists collaborate with educators to engage with children's processes, attend to children's lifeworlds, foster meaningful conversations, and develop situated pedagogical commitments. Each webinar highlighted the importance of relational, reflective, and responsive practices in curriculum-making, emphasizing the dynamic interplay between children, educators, and pedagogists in creating meaningful educational

experiences. We plan to pick up on these series ideas and bring them to the next series in Fall 2025, with educators joining pedagogists in discussion for Convesation XII. Stay tuned!

If you missed the live webinars or want to revisit any of the conversations, the recordings are on the ECPN [website](#).

Continuing the Conversation

May is Child Care Month in B.C. This is a time to recognize and honour the vital role of early childhood education and early childhood educators in the lives of children, families, and communities. It is also a time to pause and reflect on the conditions, commitments, and complexities that make up the work of early childhood education.

On May 9, we recognized early childhood educators on Child Care Provider Appreciation Day, but our appreciation and attention cannot be contained to a single day. The work of educators is ongoing and daily and not merely a service provided to others. This work is pedagogical, political, and relational and requires educators to make decisions grounded in ethics, place, and possibilities for living in shared worlds. It is about noticing the stories that shape our systems and practices and asking questions: What is educational about early childhood education? Who are educators? What does it mean to practice early childhood education with pedagogical commitments? What must we attend to and nurture in our spaces?

Throughout May, and beyond, we are using our social media platforms to continue these conversations. We have been sharing posts that provoke reflection about pedagogy, curriculum, and commitments. Through posting about recently published blogs, field notes, and pedagogical narrations, we invite educators to think deeper about their practices. We plan to share stories from those in the field – pedagogists, educators, directors – and uplift the voices, questions, and commitments of those in the sector across the province. Through our posts we invite others to think with us: What does this work ask of us? What does it make possible? How do we make this work visible, not just during Child Care Month, but all year long?

We invite you to join the conversation. Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) to engage with the questions we're asking, the stories we're sharing, and the ongoing work of reimagining early childhood education in B.C. Join the conversations through sharing your own thoughts in the comments.

Let's keep the conversation going.



Early Childhood
Pedagogy Network

