



THE DISTRICT OF THUNDER BAY
SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD

MEDIA RELEASE

Early Childhood Educators Coming to Thunder Bay

January 27th, 2012 – It is expected that over 200 early childhood educators from across the District will gather in Thunder Bay for the ‘Cherish the Children’ conference, being held at the Valhalla Inn from February 9 – 11th.

Participants will take part in a variety of professional development sessions aimed at enhancing the performance of practitioners working in the field of early learning and child care. The conference is co-sponsored by the Association of Early Childhood Educators Ontario and The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB).

Attendees will have a unique opportunity to engage with one of Canada’s top educational leaders. Jim Grieve, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Early Learning Division with the Ontario Ministry of Education will be the keynote speaker. “Leadership is essential—but often overlooked—in discussions about reflective practice in early learning,” Grieve says. “First and foremost, the leadership that professionals and parents provide to the young children in their care has a lifelong impact. It’s essential to understand how leadership skills can make a difference—both professionally and personally.”

Marnie Tarzia, Coordinator of Children’s Special Services for TBDSSAB notes “the goal of this conference is to support those professionals working directly with young children. It is a forum to educate staff in the latest research in best practices and trends in the field of early childhood education.” The years from 0-6 are widely recognized as critical for young children as they set a base for thinking, behaviour and health over the lifecycle. “The goal of early childhood education is to empower children to develop capabilities that will allow them to live in harmony with themselves, their family, and their global community,” says Tarzia.

For registration or for more information please contact Marnie Tarzia, Coordinator of Children’s Special Services, TBDSSAB at (807) 766-2111 ex. 4085.

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