

BEHAVIOUR IN THE EARLY YEARS INITIATIVE

Newsletter July 2023

Things might look a little different around here... We have a new initiative title!

What do you think of when you hear the word 'behaviour'? While that answer is different for everyone, our goal through this initiative is making 'behaviour' a neutral term. This is reflected in our new title, as all behaviours are an important communication tool in children's early years and beyond.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN WORKING ON?

- We are in the final stages of polishing the online training and have begun uploading the content onto the BC Early Years Professional Development Hub. It will be so exciting to see it take shape as we build out the interactive features.
- We are still producing some elements of media for the training such as graphics, videos, and audio quotes. Working with members of this community and getting the opportunity to share their voices has been such an honour. We can't wait for you to hear their wise words!



WHAT'S COMING UP?

In March we let you know that we had proposed additional deliverables to the ministry that would complement the position statement and the online training. For the remainder of this initiative, until March 2024, those deliverables will be our major focus. We are so excited to finally be able to announce these to you now! Here's what's to come:

DIGITAL TOOLKIT

The digital toolkit will contain posters, infographics, conversation guides, and more! The content will be simplified, visual reminders of what's covered in the Position Statement and the online training. These will make great resources to print and use in your programs! What visuals do you love from our materials so far?

WEBINAR SERIES

To accommodate different learning styles we wanted to offer some additional professional development options within this initiative beyond the online, self-paced training. We will be coordinating a webinar series that will be available on the BC EYPD Hub for 1 year between March 2024 and March 2025. Let us know who you want to see!

EXCELLENCE IN ACTION VIDEO SERIES

One of the major things we've learned over the course of this initiative is how much amazing knowledge the BC Child Care community has regarding supporting children and understanding their behaviours. We want to capture some of that magic and share it. This deliverable will feature 3 short videos showcasing early childhood professionals from across BC who can speak to their approaches around behaviour. We are especially interested in centres who approach behaviour through relationship building and adapting the environment. Do you know a program that we should connect with? Send us an email!

If you have any questions please reach out to Special Projects Team Lead, Nora Loyst at canassistsp@uvic.ca
We can't wait to hear from you!

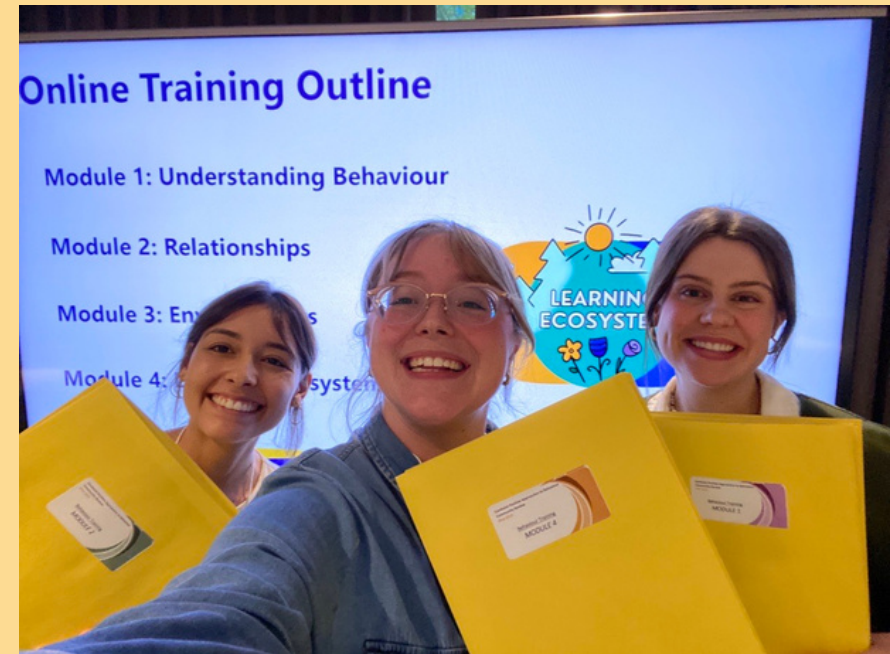
POSITIVE APPROACHES TO BEHAVIOUR INITIATIVE

Newsletter May 2023

We've been busy! The last couple of months have been full of opportunities to connect with the community and, most of all, WRITE! Alycia (our content writer) and the rest of the team have been diligently writing and editing the drafts of our online training. Each step gets us closer to our launch in Fall 2023!

WHAT WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ON

- We attended the ECEBC conference! Our project team had a great time learning and connecting with early childhood educators. We hosted a session where we briefed our community reviewers on the online training.
- The feedback from our Community Review is currently being analyzed and incorporated into our drafted training modules.



Here are some quotes from our reviewers:

I love the layered approach where there is not just one answer, and it is focused on behaviour as communication.

I cannot wait to promote this to others when the course launches! I appreciate you giving voice to what best practice could look like in our sector!

Not only is it clear and understandable, but what stands out for me is how respectful, inclusive, positive, and strength-based the language is.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED!



If you were given a billboard on the side of a busy highway and asked to broadcast one key message about understanding and supporting children's behaviours in the early years, what would you want the world to know?

1

We want to broadcast your message in an introductory video for our online training!

[Click here for instructions on how to submit your message!](#)

2

If you have parts of your space that are especially helpful for supporting children's behaviours, please send us your photos and we may feature them in the training (i.e., sensory caves, calm corners, visual schedules, etc.)

3

We are looking to connect with more family and in-home child care providers to understand the unique challenges that face educators who work alone. If you know anyone who may be willing to speak with us, please pass along our contact information and encourage them to reach out.

If you have any questions please reach out to
Special Projects Coordinator, Hannah Eilertsen at
canaspc@uvic.ca

We can't wait to hear from you!

POSITIVE APPROACHES TO BEHAVIOUR INITIATIVE

March 2023

Welcome to the first edition of the Positive Approaches to Behaviour Initiative Community Network newsletter!

The Special Projects team at CanAssist is feeling grateful to have connected with so many members of the BC childcare community since the outset of the project. Thank you to those of you who have welcomed members of our team into your centers, who have taken time to organize and/ or attend focus groups, who have had zoom meetings or phone calls with us, who have reviewed first drafts of materials– your contributions and insights are truly appreciated.

Given that this initiative will carry through to March 2024, we want to ensure that we are staying connected to the community network throughout the duration of the project. This newsletter will assist in keeping members of the community network up to date on project progress, and informing them of upcoming opportunities to get involved!

WHAT WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ON...

- We have completed a first draft of the Position Statement which outlines a collective vision for understanding and approaching children's behaviour in childcare settings. The statement has undergone a rigorous external review and we are working on integrating feedback and ideas. Kristin Weins has also designed us some custom graphics!
- Content development for the online training is well underway. The training will consist of 4 modules and will cover information on understanding children's behaviour, the importance of relationships, and how to design environments that best support children's behaviour.
- Our team has officially proposed the additional deliverables for this project. We are eager to produce additional resources that will make a meaningful impact for child care providers in supporting children's behaviour. We are looking forward to sharing more information soon!



OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED!

- 1 We are looking for people to review our draft materials as they become available. There will be multiple opportunities in coming months to review which will involve reading documents and providing written feedback to our team. Please contact Hannah Eilertsen at canaspc@uvic.ca to be added to our reviewer list!
- 2 We want to feature photos of BC childcare spaces in the online training. If you have a parts of your childcare environment that are especially helpful for supporting children's behaviour, please send us your photos and we may feature them in the training (Ex. sensory caves, calm corners, visual schedules, social emotional learning posters etc.)
- 3 We are looking to connect with more family and in-home child care providers to understand the unique challenges that face educators who work alone. If you know anyone who may be willing to speak with us, please pass along our contact information and encourage them to reach out.



If you have any questions about how you can get involved please reach out to Hannah Eilertsen at canaspc@uvic.ca. We can't wait to hear from you!