

MSVU Fall 2023 Professional Development Workshops For Early Childhood Educators

www.msvu.ca/earlychildhoodworkshops

***Child and Youth Study: Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, Early Childhood Administrator Certificate, Professional Development Workshops —
be part of something BIG!***

Intervention • Inclusion • Diversity. Our Children. Our Youth. Our Community.



Funding for these workshops is made possible through the
Early Childhood Development Agreement
coordinated by Early Learning and Child Care,
Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development



Mount Saint Vincent University
166 Bedford Highway
Halifax, NS, B3M 2J6
Child and Youth Study Department



Early Childhood Administrator - Continuing Education Course



September — June

Hear what participants are saying about the program:

“The overall programme exceeded my expectations because of the level of professionalism that was attained throughout the course”

“I have rekindled my commitment to the field of early childhood education and development and have a renewed determination to make a difference”

“I became more confident in my profession and myself”

“This program has allowed me to see where I am able to take my career.”

“I have always been a hard worker but this course showed me that I was able to accomplish a lot more than I ever thought myself capable of...”

“The skills we learned were not only relevant to a career in child and youth but to any field.”

“I feel more confident in my ability to manage groups of people “

“I would recommend this programme to any early childhood educator who wishes to aspire to a Directors position... I believe all of us should be required to take the course...”

“The exercises and assignments are not overly difficult and they are relevant to the field, which makes it much easier to work through.”

“The amount of growth I experienced personally and professionally during the past year because of the connections made with colleagues as well as the instructors and personal dedication to helping foster an even higher quality program for the children in my community could not have been accomplished in any other way during such a short amount of time.”

For more information Please visit our website;
<http://www.msvu.ca/administratorcourse>



Early Childhood Administrator - Continuing Education Course



Who: Early learning and childcare program administrators or educators.

What: Developing leadership skills, knowledge and competency in administering and managing early learning and childcare programs.

When: September - May (two days a month; Friday & Saturday, 9am-4pm)

Where: Mount Saint Vincent University.

Why: You will develop competence in leadership and management training. Through a mixture of lectures, presentations, guest speakers, discussions, workplace based assignments and individual and group work, participants will develop skills to effectively manage and lead early learning and childcare programs.

Modules Include:

Management & Leadership
Managerial Communication
Human Resource Management
ECE Policy Development
Financial Management
Marketing Child Care Programs
Advocacy & Professionalism
Strategic Planning
Risk Management
Innovation
Curriculum Design Implementation & Evaluation
Computer Application
Pedagogical Leadership
Collaboration & Mentoring Practices

Module Dates for 2023/2024 Sessions

Orientation Reception;

Friday Sept. 8 2023 9am-4pm

Sept. 15 & 16, 2023

Oct. 20 & 21, 2023

Nov. 17 & 18, 2023

Dec. 8 & 9, 2023

Jan. 26 & 27 2024

Feb. 23 & 24, 2024

March 22 & 23, 2024

April 19 & 20, 2024

May 10 & 11, 2024

June 7 & 8, 2024

Graduation TBA

2023/2024 Tuition is **\$1,350 plus \$170 for course materials**. A Continuing Education Certificate will be awarded upon successful completion of the course. For more information, please contact:

Rhonda Rees
Professional Development Coordinator
Department of Child and Youth Study, Mount Saint Vincent University
rhonda.rees@msvu.ca

Applications are available at
<http://www.msvu.ca/administratorcourse>

This course qualifies for the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development reimbursement Continuing Education Program.

Early Childhood Education Assistance & Continuing Education Programs

The Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Early Learning and Child Care, has a recruitment and retention strategy to encourage more individuals into the field, and to assist those already in the early child care sector to deliver quality licensed child care services in Nova Scotia.

They offer two programs to provide financial support; the Early Childhood Education Assistance program offers a debt reduction incentive, and the Continuing Education Program offers reimbursement for continuing education courses offered through the early childhood training institutions in Nova Scotia. For more information on these programs, please visit their website:

<http://www.ednet.ns.ca/earlyyears/pd/>

ALL REGISTRATION IS ONLINE

Please visit our website www.msvu.ca/earlychildhoodworkshops and follow the links to register for workshops.

CONFIRMATION & CANCELLATION POLICY:

Participation is not confirmed until payment is received. Confirmation receipt will be sent by email upon receipt of payment.

All fees are non-refundable but you may allow an alternate person to attend in your absence. Please allow 48 hours advance notice if making a substitution, otherwise a \$10.00 administration fee is required for a revised certificate of attendance.

If a participant misses a workshop, they forfeit all fees and there is no refund or credit.

CERTIFICATES:

A Certificate of Attendance (including number of workshops contact hours) is given out for all workshops or workshop series.

Participants must attend the **full scheduled workshop session** in order to receive a certificate.

PARKING: All campus parking is "paid" parking from Monday to Friday, including evenings. Please visit our website below for pricing and parking regulations.

<http://www.msvu.ca/en/home/aboutus/safety-security/parking/default.aspx>

Workshop information & online registration is on our website:
www.msvu.ca/earlychildhoodworkshops

**Registration for
Culturally Responsive Practice in Nova Scotia's Early Learning
and Child Care Settings
AND
Infant Quality Care: Building an Infant Program Where Care, Early
Learning & Relationships are Inextricably Connected**

There is no charge for these Nova Scotia's Early Learning Curriculum Framework workshops.

For more information on available sessions please visit the Early Years Professional Development Committee website www.eypdc.ca

Registration:

To register for any of the MSVU Nova Scotia Curriculum Framework Training sessions at any of the locations across Nova Scotia please click on the link below, or visit our online brochure and follow the registration links

<https://eypdc.ca/learning/early-learning-curriculum-framework/registration/>

[**www.msvu.ca/earlychildhoodworkshops**](http://www.msvu.ca/earlychildhoodworkshops)

Curriculum Resource Centre / Lending Library

Our Curriculum Resource Centre (CRC) is located in Seton Academic Centre and serves primarily Education and Child and Youth Study students at the Mount. In addition to a wide selection of books (including many indigenous titles, picture books and young adult novels), journals, DVDs and resource kits, students are also able to borrow a variety of audio visual equipment including iPads, Chromebooks, laptops, MP3 recorders and digital cameras/video cameras. A selection of paper, markers, foamies, paint, clay, folders, and glue guns are available for use. Access to laser printers, a photocopier, a laminator, binder and a die cut machine are available for a small fee to cover materials.

The CRC is now accessible to early childhood educators and the community, who are able to visit or borrow materials once they have approved access via the Mount main library. All resources except for audio visual equipment can be borrowed by the community.

Food and drinks are allowed, and the CRC has Wi-Fi, a charging station for electronic devices and earbuds available for purchase.

Please visit our link for more information <http://libguides.msvu.ca/crc>

Fall 2023 Workshops at a Glance

- **Promoting Language & Mathematic Skills in the Early Childhood Environment IN PERSON**
6 PD hours \$75 *Presenter: Kathy Black* Saturday October 14, 2023 9am-4pm
- **Creating a Sense of Belonging within an Early Learning Space ONLINE** 3 PD hours \$40
Presenter: Robyn Corbett Wednesday October 18th 6-9pm
- **If the Children are Playing, What do WE do? ONLINE & IN PERSON**
5 PD hours \$65 *Presenters: Liz Hicks & Terri Kottwitz* Wednesday October 25 (6:30 pm-8:30 pm) & Saturday October 28, 2023 (9am-12 noon)
- **Food Discovery in Early Childhood IN PERSON** 2 PD hours \$25 *Presenter: Jennifer Ferguson*
Wednesday Nov. 1, 2023 (6:30-8:30 pm)
- **Positive & Effective Teaming & Communication ONLINE & IN PERSON** 6 PD hours \$75
Presenters: Heather Bartholomew & Debbie Thompson Saturdays Nov 4 & November 18th, 9am – 12 noon
- **Socioemotional Development in Infancy & Childhood ONLINE** 5 PD hours \$65 *Presenter: Matthew Orr*
Monday November 6 & Monday November 13, 2023 6:30– 9pm
- **Building Resilience in Children ONLINE**
6 PD hours \$75 *Presenters: Colin Morrison & Karen Carey* Saturday November 25, 2023 (9am –12noon) & Tuesday November 28 2023 (6 pm-9 pm)
- **Leadership in Times of Change IN PERSON** 10.5 PD hours \$115 *Presenters: Shari Ridgewell & Denise Stone*
Thursday November 23 (6:30pm – 9pm), Saturday December 9 (9am-1pm), Saturday January 20, 2024 (9am-1pm).

Promoting Language and Mathematic Skills in the Early Childhood Environment

Date: Saturday October 14, 2023 **Time:** (9am—4pm) **Cost:** \$75 **Total PD hours:** 6 hours **Location:** **IN PERSON**
Presenter: Kathy Black

Description: Young children must explore play opportunities in all areas of development to understand their world. The role of the Early Childhood Educator is to plan & implement an enriched indoor & outdoor daily program for the children in their care. This workshop will discuss & explore several math & language activities that can be presented to young children throughout the daily routine. Participants will have an opportunity to create their own *work jobs* kit to take back to their early childhood classroom. The math & language activities will focus on the following learning concepts; Perception, Matching, Classification, Sounds & Letters, Sets, Number Sequences, Combining & Separating Groups & Relationships.

Objectives; Participants will discuss & explore a variety of math & language activities to plan & implement for young children.. Participants will understand when to incorporate math & language concepts into their early childhood curriculum throughout the day. Participants will create a *work jobs* kit to take back to their early childhood environments to share with the children.

Presenter Biography; Kathy Black has been supporting children, families, & educators for over 35 years. After graduating from MSVU she began working with infants & worked with children from infancy-school-age throughout her career. Kathy enjoys working with all ages, however, finds much enjoyment spending time with toddlers because of their energy, enthusiasm, & desire to learn & explore! Throughout her career she enjoyed various roles as educator, consultant, licensing officer, faculty, & facilitator. Kathy currently works at Edward Jost Childrens Centre, fulfilling the role as Inclusion Coordinator. *Meeting children, families, & educators where they are at* has been a practice that continues to guide Kathy throughout her career.

Creating a Sense of Belonging within an Early Learning Space

Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2023 6-9 pm **Cost:** \$40 **Total PD hours:** 3 PD hours
Location: **ONLINE** **Presenter:** Robyn Corbett

Description: In this workshop, ECEs will explore what it means to belong & the ways they can foster belonging for young children in an early learning space. Importance will be placed on creating a ‘classroom community’ where children feel seen & valued, contributing to positive learning experiences. ECEs will explore how their relationships with children & their families, as well as a children’s connections within the space contribute to children’s sense of belonging. ECEs will also look at ways they can adapt their learning environments to reflect their unique classroom community. Objectives:

- 1) Understand what it means to belong.
- 2) Develop an understanding of how relationships in the early setting contribute to sense of belonging.
- 3) Learn tools to adapt the early learning space to welcome children & increase connection.
- 4) Take part in engaging reflective exercises during workshop.

Presenter Biography: Robyn Corbett has a Bachelor of Arts (Child & Youth) from MSVU & has been working in early learning settings for a decade. As a certified yoga & mindfulness instructor, Robyn has encouraged young people to deepen their relationships with themselves, others, & their environment through engaging mindfulness programming. She currently is an ECE at the MSVU Child Study Centre. Her early learning practice is deeply influenced by contemplative practices, inspiring her to stay curious about her assumptions in order to continue her growth as an educator.

If the Children are Playing, What do We do?

Date: Wednesday October 25 **Online/Zoom** (2 hours 6:30-8:30 pm) & Saturday October 28 **In Person/ MSVU** (3 hours 9am-12 noon) **Cost:** \$65 **Total PD hours:** 5 PD hours **Location:** **ONLINE & IN PERSON**
Presenters Liz Hicks & Terri Kottwitz

Description: In this professional learning we will be focusing on outdoor play.

We often observe & listen to educators who are confused about what to do during outdoor play - they either sit around watching children for safety & behaviour guidance, or they provide activities that 'are giving them choices & play', but more often are teacher directed, or have little choice. We will focus on what is true play, & what our role is – what we can provide, how & when we interact (if at all!), & ideas of how to sustain play in the great outdoors!

We will dip into stewardship, risk taking &, of course!, our role in learning while children play. This presentation will be reflective, have discussion on ideas & pedagogy, & look at a few studies/documentation on practices in Nova Scotia.

Wednesday evening will be on zoom – discussing ideas, & reflecting on our practice, etc.

Saturday morning will be in person at the Mount. We will spend a little time indoors- reviewing ideas that arose on Wednesday, then explore the outdoor environment at the Mount to experience some ideas, & reflect on practices that enhance children's play experiences & learning.

Please dress appropriately as we will go outdoors. We will not go outdoors only if there is a strong wind, thunder-storm, or heavy rain.

Presenter Biographies: **Liz Hicks**, 41 years in early childhood, in various capacities, & at present a private consultant working in early childhood education in NS, providing consulting & professional development in a variety of topics.

'I believe children are capable, curious & have an innate need to connect with people & the world around them, which is also a belief I have for the educators that work with the children.' **Terri Kottwitz**, has been in childcare since 1989 when she worked for her mom at Delightful Times Daycare. Terri took that centre over in 2003 changing it into Hammonds Plains Children's Centre & then adding ForestKids Early Learning Forest School in 2011. She is a trained Cedarsong Teacher as well as a Canadian Forest & Nature School Practitioner, & obtained Nova Scotia Level 2 in July 2023 (just to show it is never too late to follow your dreams!).

'My passion for children is freedom. Having children running carefree through the tall grass with their hair blowing in the wind, not given choices by the educators but to have the children give the choices to the educators. To have educators listen, be compassionate, kind & understanding, nurturing, interested in the child's interest, wanting to see children succeed. Have children learn life skills through real life opportunities risky adventures.' Children should have as much free, unstructured time in nature as possible before being put into the school system"

Food Discovery in Early Childhood

Date: Wednesday November 1, 2023 **Time:** 6:30 pm-8:30 pm **Cost:** \$25 **Total PD hours:** 2 hours
Location: **IN PERSON** **Presenter:** Jennifer Ferguson

Description: Food Discovery in Early Childhood is a 2-hour workshop presented by a Registered Dietitian that promises to be engaging & educational. This session was designed for early childhood educators & directors working in settings attended by three to five-year olds.

Learn about the important role educators play in food discovery for young children. We will do this by discussing the roles in feeding of both the educator & the child & food literacy in children. Throughout the presentation, we will share how the free resources available to educators through Dairy Farmers of Canada can be used in your centre to build food literacy with children. Attendees will receive resources that can be used for food & nutrition activities & learn how to easily access all the free resources available from **Teach Nutrition**.

Presenter Biography; Jennifer Ferguson, RD has a Bachelor of Science in Human Ecology from MSVU & has been a passionate culinary Registered Dietitian for almost three decades. Jennifer's diverse career has taken her on a rewarding path. She has worked in the agriculture industry promoting local producers & commodities, with a non-profit society promoting breastfeeding & a family resource center delivering nutrition programming. She spent over 20 years in the retail environment where she combined her passion for food & health to guide clients in using their grocery carts to make the best choice for their needs. Jennifer now has a private practice where she provides employee wellness workshops & private counselling. She works with clients as they navigate their personal food journey, empowering them with practical food advice so they can eat for their health & enjoy every bite.

About Teach Nutrition's Maritime Nutrition Team

Our Registered Dietitians create resources that are free & easy to access for teachers, early childhood educators & parents. We strive to make food & nutrition education fun & engaging. Our dietitians provide credible, evidence-based information about all types of foods. Dairy farmers in the Maritimes care about the health of children & provide funding for our educational resources. Find more information & free resources at TeachNutrition.ca.

Positive and Effective Teaming and Communication

Date: Saturday November 4 & Saturday November 18, 2023 9am – 12 noon each day

Cost: \$75 **Total PD hours:** 6 hours **Location:** **ONLINE & IN PERSON**

Presenters: Heather Bartholomew & Debbie Thompson

Description: This two-part workshop will empower participants with tools & strategies to communicate with parents, co-workers & interdisciplinary team members, especially when conversations involve opposing opinions, high stakes & when emotions are strong. Debbie & Heather will provide opportunities to practice applying the five steps if having a difficult conversation to challenging scenarios often faced by Early Childhood Educators within their practice. This workshop will be presented in two formats. Morning 1, Saturday November 4 will be held in person at MSVU & morning 2, Saturday November 18 will occur online via Microsoft Teams.

Objectives of this training include; Understanding the value in curiosity over judgement.

Learning the five steps for having a difficult conversation. & Gaining ideas for tools to support communication with families & other team members.

Presenter Biographies: *Heather Bartholomew* graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Arts (Child & Youth Study) & in the twenty plus years since then, has been working with preschoolers. Additionally, she has recently begun working part-time with adults with developmental delays, giving her a broader, across the lifespan perspective on supporting diverse individuals at any age. She has worked as an Early Childhood Educator, one-to-one support staff & as a resource teacher. For five years, she served as Resource Teacher at the Mount's Child Study Centre, supporting children with identified special needs &, in particular, delivering programming to students with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Heather has worked as a Program Implementer in Halifax's Early Intensive Behavioural Intervention program for the past seventeen years. She has developed & facilitated workshops on a variety of topics, most frequently relating to Inclusion. Heather is passionate about facilitating positive inclusion experiences & finding effective & efficient strategies to support individual & classroom-wide learning.

Debbie Thompson is a graduate from Mount Saint Vincent University with the Degree in Child & Youth. Debbie started her journey in ECE at Wee Care Developmental centre working as a Developmental teacher in an integrated setting. It was there that she knew she wanted to focus her attention on working with children with special needs. Debbie also developed the Resource position at Wee Care & was responsible for developing & implementing plans for children with special needs. Debbie now works at the IWK as a Program Implementer for the Early Intensive Behaviour Intervention program (EIBI) working with children with Autism. Through her job at the IWK she continues to work closely with preschool teachers consulting & providing feedback in various programs. Debbie also teaches regularly at Nova Scotia College of Early Childhood Education & Mount Saint Vincent University on various topics including challenging behaviour & Inclusion.

Socioemotional Development in Infancy and Childhood

Date: Monday evenings, November 6 & November 13, 6:30- 9pm both evenings) **Cost:** \$65
Total PD hours: 5 PD hours **Location:** **ONLINE** **Presenter:** Matthew Orr

Description: The goal of this workshop is to provide an evidence-based context for the social & emotional development of infants & children. Social & emotional theories & research will be discussed along with their practical implications for early childhood education, including attachment, play, & evidence-based strategies for managing disruptive behaviour. Attendees will engage in short activities to develop a working understanding of how knowledge of social & emotional development can influence their teaching.

To understand & identify emotional expression during infancy & how to appropriately respond

To understand the importance of attachment during infancy & how to develop secure attachments

To understand the pathways of optimal & sub-optimal emotional development during infancy & how to support optimal pathways

To understand evidence-based strategies for intervening with disruptive classroom behaviour

Presenter Biography: *Matthew Orr PhD.* is an Assistant Professor in the department of Psychology at Acadia University. His research focuses on the intersection between education, mental health, & technology in child & youth populations. He has also developed eLearning & eHealth apps for teachers, youths, & parents to help manage the behaviour of children with disruptive behaviour, neurodevelopmental disorders, & sleep problems.

Building Resilience in Children

Date: Saturday November 25 (9am –12noon) & Tuesday ,November 28, 2023 (6-9 pm) **Cost:** \$75
Total PD hours: 6 PD hours **Location:** **ONLINE** **Presenters:** Karen Carey & Colin Morrison

Description: Emerging from growing hardships— caused by pandemics, mass shootings, wildfires, floods, hurricanes, inflation, poverty, racism, illness, & accidents, children's development can be impacted. Research shows early exposure to such stressors can alter brain development & have long-term consequences for learning, well-being, & health. As Early Childhood Educators, you play a significant role in young children's social, emotional, & cognitive development. Therefore, it is essential to understand resiliency & to build a toolbox that supports children through such challenging times.

Through open discussion, group discussion, videos, & a review of current research, we will look at adversity & discuss what reliance is & is not. We will review why teaching children resiliency is critical, especially for Early Childhood Educators. & finally, we will discuss evidence-based strategies to ensure Early Educators continue to develop & expand their toolkits. Objectives: To further understand how Early Educators can support the development of attachment relationships. To further explore how, why, & what programs Early Educators need to develop & promote childhood resiliency. To provide dedicated professionals with new knowledge, hands-on strategies, & practical techniques to ensure the children they work with thrive, despite ongoing crises.

Presenter Biographies: *Colin Morrison* has over 20 years' experience working with children, youth & families in the mental health field. Colin has served primarily as youth care worker & case coordinator for families & children in the Child & Family Day Treatment Program at the IWK. He has extensive experience in developing & implementing skill groups with children, particularly in the area of emotional regulation, & providing supportive counselling to families. Colin is currently completing a Master of Social Worker degree at Dalhousie University, & is working on a thesis related to male childhood sexual abuse, & the impacts of "toxic masculinity" on men's help seeking behaviours. He has a keen interest in trauma focused therapy, attachment theory, men's health, & issues affecting the LGBTQ+ community.

Karen Carey has over 15 years' experience working with children, youth & families as a social worker, youth care worker, case coordinator, in home support worker & direct care practitioner. Through evidence based & best practice methods, Karen is a strong advocate for the children, youth & families. Although Karen has strong roots in attachment theory, systems theory, positive parenting, trauma & resilience; her personal philosophy is to promote mental, physical & emotional health/wellbeing through a solution focused & social learning model. Together Colin & Karen have seen positive & long lasting benefits for children & families when they are provided education, strategies, guidance, empathy & support. They see effective communication & open collaboration as the key ingredients in

Leadership in Times of Change

Date: Thursday November 23 (6:30 – 9pm), Saturday December 9, 2023 (9am -1pm), Saturday January 20, 2024 (9am -1pm). *In person for all, (with online possible if stormy weather).*

Cost: \$115 **Total PD hours:** 10.5 hrs **Location:** **IN PERSON** **Presenters:** Shari Ridgewell & Denise Stone

Description: This workshop series will provide program leaders (e.g., pedagogical, Directors, Board Members, etc.) the opportunity to understand & implement change within their organization. Given the current context of early learning & child care, managing the realities of change can be challenging, especially with so many competing priorities.

Through reflection, facilitated discussion & activities, participants will explore concepts of leadership, identify actions to create hospitable environments for change, & assess their organizational readiness for implementing evidence-based change.

Participants will create a plan that includes their next steps in facilitating change within the context of their own early learning environments.

Participants will Gain an understanding of the concept of leadership in today's changing early childhood systems, Identify actions that will create a positive environment for achieving change; & Develop a next step plan for realizing their vision for children & families

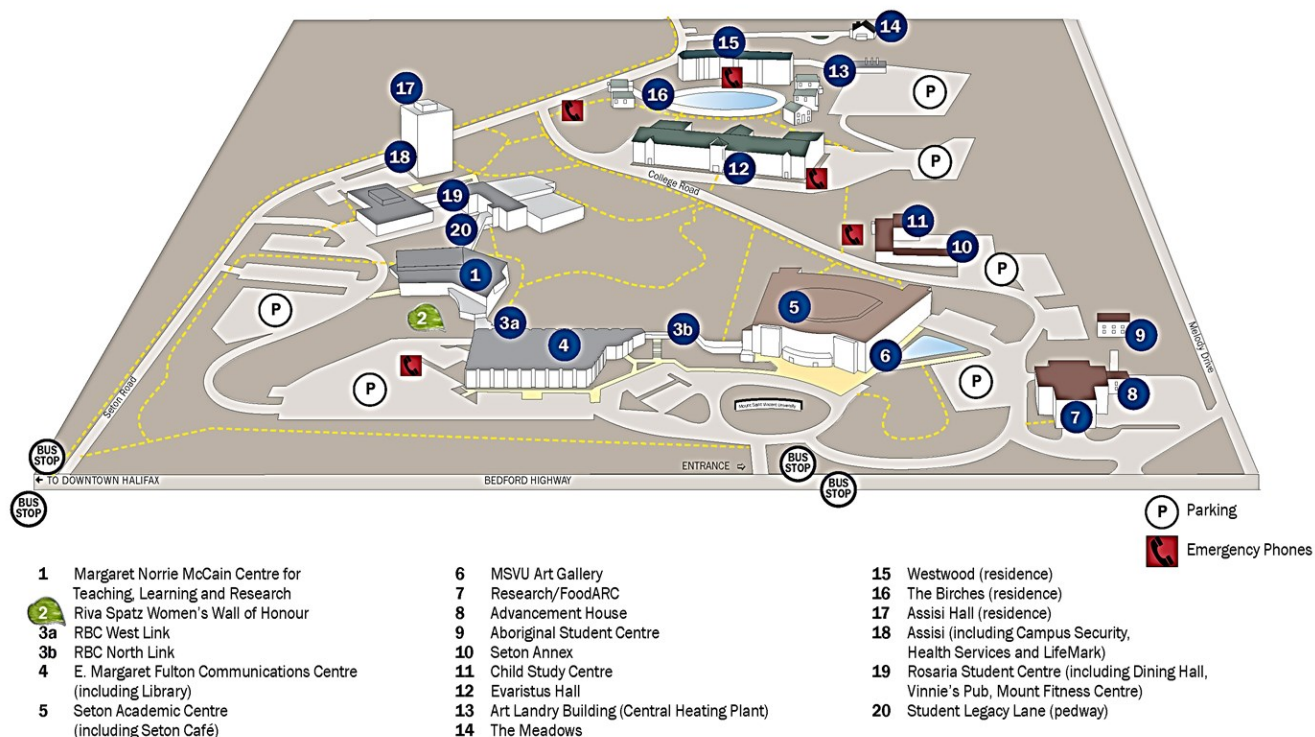
Presenter Biographies: *Shari Ridgewell, M.Ed.* is an early childhood educator with 40+ years' experience in the field. She has worked with all age groups; as child care administrator; an early childhood education consultant; a trainer of early childhood students; professional development provider & as an advocate for high quality inclusive child care. She recently retired from the Nova Scotia Government after 22 years working in licensing, program consulting, & policy development. In her last 5 years of public service, she coordinated the initial implementation of the Pyramid Model in Nova Scotia & continues as a member of the Provincial Pyramid Model Leadership Team. Shari continues to support the social emotional development & well-being of all young children in her consulting work with the Pyramid Model Consortium.

Denise Stone is an early childhood professional with over 40 years of experience working in the early learning & child care sector. Some of her experiences include, early intervention, child care management, licensing, & post secondary course delivery & workshop facilitation. Prior to her retirement from the provincial government in 2021, Denise held several positions during her 20 years as a civil servant. Over the course of her career, Denise's focus has always been to ensure the provision of high quality early learning & child care experiences for children & their families, & supporting professionalism within the sector.

CAMPUS MAP

166 Bedford Highway
Halifax, NS B3M 2J6
Canada | msvu.ca
Phone: 902.457.6788

 @MSVU_Halifax
 MountSaintVincentUniversity



ALL REGISTRATION IS NOW ONLINE

Please visit our website
www.msvu.ca/earlychildhoodworkshops
and follow the links
to register for workshops

For additional information or to receive a copy of
our electronic brochure please contact:

Rhonda Rees
Professional Development Coordinator
Department of Child and Youth Study
(902) 457-6313
rhonda.rees@msvu.ca

<http://www.msvu.ca/earlychildhoodworkshops>