

# Winter Spring 2021 Professional Development Workshops For Early Childhood Educators

[www.msvu.ca/earlychildhoodworkshops](http://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 Childhood Development Services,  
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 — May

This program has been approved by the Early Years Branch of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development as an option to complete Action 10 of the *Affordable, Quality Child Care: A Great Place to Grow June 2016* [https://www.ednet.ns.ca/sites/default/files/affordable\\_child\\_care.pdf](https://www.ednet.ns.ca/sites/default/files/affordable_child_care.pdf) which requires all directors to have either a diploma or degree plus post-diploma training in leadership/management.

### 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*

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  
Curriculum Design Implementation & Evaluation  
Computer Application

## **Tentative Module Dates 2021-2022 Sessions**

### **Orientation Reception;**

Friday Sept. 10, 2021 9am-4pm

Sept. 17 & 18, 2021

Oct. 22 & 23, 2021

Nov. 19 & 20, 2021

Dec. 10 & 11, 2021

Jan. 21 & 22 2022

Feb. 18 & 19, 2022

March 18 & 19, 2022

April 22 & 23, 2022

May 13 & 14, 2022

Graduation TBA

Tuition is **\$1,200 plus \*\$170 for course materials**. (\*the amount for course materials is approximate only depending on any changes in book costs). 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](mailto:rhonda.rees@msvu.ca)

**Applications will be available late April 2021 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 Childhood Development Services, 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](http://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.

### 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>

### MEALS:

*A light lunch is included with all full day on site workshops*

Workshop information & online registration is on our website:  
[www.msvu.ca/earlychildhoodworkshops](http://www.msvu.ca/earlychildhoodworkshops)

## Capable, Confident and Curious – Nova Scotia's Early Learning Curriculum Framework workshops

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

**Registration is open to support the delivery of our Nova Scotia Early Learning Curriculum Framework to centre Leaders & Staff.**

For more information on available Early Learning Curriculum Framework workshops please visit the Early Years Professional Development Committee website [www.eypdc.ca](http://www.eypdc.ca)

**Registration:**

To register for any of the available ELCF workshops at any of the locations across Nova Scotia visit

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

**\*\*Please Note: We recommend that individuals complete the modules in sequence whenever possible. \*\***

[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>

## Winter /Spring 2021 Workshops at a Glance

- **Inclusion Strategies for Preschoolers with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)-Introduction** 5.5 PD hours  
Saturday March 20, 2021 (9am-12 noon) AND Tuesday March 30, 2021 (6:30pm-9pm)  
*Presenters: Heather Hiscock & Debbie Thompson*
- **Empowering Educators Series** 2 PD hours per session (7pm-9pm each session) *Presenter: Kathy Black*
  - ◇ Session 1 Friday March 26, 2021 Engaging with Young Children and Families
  - ◇ Session 2 Friday April 9, 2021- Using Observation Methods to Enhance Program Quality
  - ◇ Session 3 Friday April 23, 2021- Setting up the Indoor Learning Environment
  - ◇ Session 4 Friday May 7, 2021 Daily Routine and Programming for Young Children
  - ◇ Session 5 Friday May 21, 2021 Showcase Quality Improvements
- **Conflict Resolution with Caregivers** 6 PD hours *Presenters: Colin Morrison & Karen Carey*  
Saturday March 27, 2021 (9am-12 noon) AND Tuesday March 30, 2021 (6pm-9pm)
- **VIRTUAL Inspiring Environments & Spaces** bus tour 5 PD hours *Presenter: Liz Hicks*  
Wednesday April 14, 2021 (7pm-9pm) AND Saturday April 17, 2021 Time: (9 am - 12 noon)
- **Music & Movement in the Classroom** 5 PD hours *Presenter: Trena Gallant* Monday April 19 &  
Wednesday April 21, 2021 (6:30pm –9pm)
- **YES, Kids Can Have Stress Too!!** 6 PD hours *Presenters: Colin Morrison & Karen Carey*  
Saturday April 24, 2021 (9am-12 noon) AND Tuesday April 27, 2021 (6pm-9pm)
- **Inclusion Strategies for Preschoolers with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)-Advanced** 5.5 PD hours  
Saturday May 1, 2021 (9am-12 noon) AND Tuesday May 11, 2021 (6:30pm-9pm)  
*Presenters: Heather Hiscock & Debbie Thompson*
- **Culture & Diversity** 4 PD hours *Presenter: Trena Gallant*  
Monday May 3 & Wednesday May 5, 2021 (7pm –9pm)

## **Inclusion Strategies for Preschoolers with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)- Introduction**

**Date:** Saturday March 20 9am– 12 noon **AND** Tuesday March 30, 2021 6:30 pm– 9 pm **Cost:** \$65

**Total PD hours:** 5.5 hours **Location:** Online **Presenters:** Heather Hiscock & Debbie Thompson

**Description:** This two-part session will guide participants through an introduction to how Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) can present in different children, how to use information from observations to make adaptations to help engage and motivate children, particularly those who may not be motivated by the same materials as peers or who resist participating in various routines. We will examine our own attitudes toward inclusion and how those attitudes influence the culture of the entire classroom. We will also discuss the typical, current process for diagnosis and intervention for preschool children with ASD in Nova Scotia.

Three main goals  
1) to acquire strategies for discovering motivators to engage children with ASD  
2) to learn how to use children's interests to adapt materials and routines in the preschool environment.  
3) to gain familiarity with the diagnosis and intervention process

## **Inclusion Strategies for Preschoolers with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)- Advanced**

**Date:** Saturday May 1 9am– 12 noon **AND** Tuesday May 11, 2021 6:30 pm– 9 pm **Cost:** \$65

**Total PD hours:** 5.5 hours **Location:** Online **Presenters:** Heather Hiscock & Debbie Thompson

**Description:** **Prerequisite:** Participants registering for this session must have either taken the *Inclusion Strategies for Preschoolers with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)-Introduction* or have taken some previous introductory or basic ASD training.

This two-part session will build on skills of those who have an understanding of ASD and are comfortable using observations to increase motivation during free play and other routines throughout the day. Participants will be guided through various concrete teaching strategies to build skills in preschoolers with ASD, to reduce undesired behaviours and to facilitate interaction and relationship development with peers.

Three main goals  
1) to learn teaching strategies for building communication, play and social skills  
2) to gain skills on how to develop plans for reducing disruptive behaviours  
3) to acquire strategies to support peer interactions

**Presenter Biographies:** **Heather Hiscock** graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Arts (Child & Youth Study) & in the twenty plus years since then, has been working with preschoolers. 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 all of the children with identified special needs &, in particular, delivering programming to students with Autism Spectrum Disorder. She has developed & facilitated workshops on a variety of topics, most frequently relating to Inclusion. Heather has worked as a Program Implementer in Halifax's Early Intensive Behavioural Intervention program for the past fifteen years.

**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.

## Empowering Educators Workshop Series

**Date:** Fridays 7pm-9pm **Cost:** \$25 each session **Total PD hours:** 2 hours per session

**Location:** ONLINE **Presenter:** Kathy Black

### Description:

*This workshop will allow new early childhood educators the opportunity to implement their current knowledge and empower the long-term educators to showcase their years of experience and expertise.*

***\*If you register for all sessions, 1-4, there is no cost to attend the final May 21 session.***

As early childhood educators in Nova Scotia begin to implement the Nova Scotia Early Learning Curriculum Framework, it is important to reflect on our current practices. This workshop series will encourage participants to share their current practices and explore new tools and ideas to improve overall quality in their early learning environments.

### **Session 1 Friday March 26, 2021 Engaging with Young Children and Families 7pm-9pm**

Educators will discuss how to create meaningful interactions with children and families in the early childhood setting. Participants will explore strategies to implement throughout the daily routine and discuss effective ways to engage with parents.

### **Session 2 Friday April 9, 2021- Using Observation Methods to Enhance Program Quality 7pm-9pm**

Early childhood educators are responsible to plan daily activities and provide indoor and outdoor environments that meet the needs of all children. This workshop will provide participants with a variety of methods to observe and record important information to help make necessary changes to their early learning environments.

### **Session 3 Friday April 23, 2021- Setting up the Indoor Learning Environment 7pm-9pm**

Setting up enriched activity areas in the early childhood classroom is essential when offering a quality program. This workshop will discuss the important areas of the indoor classroom and how the organization of the areas can impact overall learning. A variety of before and after photos will be showcased to demonstrate how small changes can increase program quality.

### **Session 4 Friday May 7 Daily Routine and Programming for Young Children 7pm-9pm**

All children thrive in environments with consistent daily routines and child led learning opportunities. This workshop will discuss the importance of routines and the impact that consistency has on a young child's social emotional well being. Participants will discuss effective learning practices that take place throughout the day in a play-based learning environment.

### **Session 5 Friday May 21 Showcase Quality Improvements 7pm-9pm**

Throughout the four sessions, participants are encouraged to take information from the workshops and implement changes into their early childhood programs. Participants are invited to this session to showcase the changes and share the impact that it has had on the overall quality of their program.

***\*If you register for all sessions, 1-4, there is no cost to attend the final May 21 session.***

**Presenter Biography: Kathy Black** has been in the field of Early Childhood Education for over 33 years. In the beginning of Kathy's career, she enjoyed implementing programs for children 4 months – 12 years of age. After 15 years Kathy left the early childhood classroom to take on the role as Early Childhood Development Consultant and Licensing Officer with the Nova Scotia Provincial Government. Kathy began creating and facilitating curriculum workshops to early childhood educators throughout the province in 2005. In 2019 Kathy began another journey as faculty in the Early Childhood Education program at the Nova Scotia Community College. Kathy's purpose in life is to empower others to nurture and guide young children and families.



## Conflict Resolution with Caregivers

**Date:** Saturday March 27, 2021 9am-12 noon AND Tuesday March 30, 2021 6pm-9pm **Cost:** \$75  
**Total PD hours:** 6 hrs **Location:** ONLINE **Presenters:** Colin Morrison & Karen Carey

**Description:** Dealing with difficult people and having challenging conversations is something most people will encounter. As Early Child Care Workers, you encounter various challenging conversations on a regular basis, leading to additional stressors, both professional personally. Therefore, it's important to have valuable skills to resolve conflict and manage challenging conversations, should they arise. The purpose of this workshop is to support staff to prepare for high-stake conversations with parents and colleagues, addressing concerns early and consistently, before they become significant issues. The purpose is to also discuss workplace dynamics and the importance of self-care.

**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 AND families when they are provided education, strategies, guidance, empathy & support. They see effective communication & open collaboration as the key ingredients in supporting positive futures for the children & families under their care.

## YES, Kids Can Have Stress Too!!

**Date:** Saturday April 24, 2021 9am—12 noon AND Tuesday April 27, 2021 6pm– 9pm  
**Cost:** \$75 **Total PD hours:** 6 hrs **Location:** ONLINE **Presenters:** Colin Morrison & Karen Carey

**Description:** The purpose of this workshop is to help early childhood educators further their awareness into children's stress, & the impact high stress has on one's emotional well-being. Our goal is to explore the difference between stress, trauma; normal stress & over-stressed. We also plan on teaching strategies & coping skills that assist children with day-to-day struggles & high level of unrelieved stress.

**Presenter Biographies:** *see above*

## *All aboard for the* **VIRTUAL Inspiring Environments and Spaces Bus Tour**

Date: Wednesday April 14, 2021 7pm-9pm AND Saturday April 17, 2021 Time: 9am - 12noon Cost: \$65 Total PD hours: 5 hours Location: ONLINE Presenter: Liz Hicks

**Description:** In response to popular demand, we are offering a **virtual** bus tour/workshop visiting four (4) child care centres that have inspiring spaces and environments – inside and outside.

We will reflect, discuss, and look at ideas on ways in which learning environments could inspire ourselves, the children, and Families. We have a moral and ethical responsibility to maintain our values for children not just during the pandemic (I know this has been almost impossible!), but to also plan for the future.

There will be guest educators from Point Pleasant Child Care Centre, who will talk and show you their centres values and how they are practicing and maintaining these values during the pandemic. More information on PPCCC (non-profit child care centre serving 103 Families) can be found at <http://www.ppccc.ca/>. A quote from their web site:

*We educate, inspire and nurture children because we believe that through our work and care, we can all grow into people who contribute positively to the world around us. We bring everything we have to our work – our hearts and our minds – and provide your children with what they need to become their best selves.*

Annette Comeau, the new executive director of the Mount St. Vincent Child Study Centre (non-profit centre serving 40 Families) will tell and show us about how they are revisiting the values and approaches to their learning environment. More information on MSVCSC can be found at <https://www.msvu.ca/campus-life/campus-services/child-study-centre/>. A quote from their web site: *The focus of the program is to provide a nurturing home environment for the children with the goal of meeting the children's need for emotional security.*

And finally, we will go on virtual – **in real time tour** - of two inspiring centres – inside and out, these are:

ForestKids Early Learning Centre, in Hammonds Plains (a private center serving 82 children). <http://www.forestkids.ca/node/7> A quote from their website: *Our early childhood educators provide nurturing and stimulating environments based on developmentally and individually appropriate daily programs in a natural setting.*

and Fox Hollow Child Care Centre, in Upper Tantallon (a private center serving 50 children). <https://foxhollowfamily.ca/child-care-centre/> A quote from their web page: *We strongly believe in the power of learning whilst playing, allowing children to learn, develop and grow in a safe environment at their own pace both inside in the centre and also outside in our spacious grounds.*

There will be plenty of time to ask questions, and requests to revisit favourite areas of their programs!

Objectives:

- Increased understanding of what makes an environment inspiring
- Demonstrated how intentional design of environments are important to children's development
- Provide strategies to take & apply these ideas to your own environment

**Presenter Biography:** *Liz Hicks* has over 31 years working within the early childhood field, as an elementary school teacher, administrator of & teacher in a part –day program for 23 years, 5.5 years as an inclusion facilitator for Partnerships for Inclusion, part time faculty with NSCECE, & she is also a private consultant working with various Centres in H.R.M providing professional development in a variety of topics, environmental & inclusion rating scales, & program coordination. Her passion is to help educators (& administrators) find & develop their potential, so they can help children find & develop their potential.

## Music and Movement in the Classroom

**Date:** Monday April 19 **AND** Wednesday April 21, 2021 **Time:** 6:30 pm-9 pm **Cost:** \$65 **Total PD hours:** 5 hours  
**Location:** ONLINE **Presenter:** Trena Gallant

**Description:** Music and Movement are essential tools in the classroom, as they create physical and mental engagement, and help to integrate key messages about daily, weekly and seasonal transitions. Music and storytelling also provide a wonderful way to represent the vast cultural diversity in our community, and can introduce children to a variety of languages, festivals, and cultural traditions. Join Trena for a fun and interactive day of learning and sharing and leave feeling inspired and ready to incorporate new songs, stories, and activities into the rhythm of the day. Participants will be given an opportunity to practice and rehearse material, and to explore ways to make it their own. This class is appropriate for those working with children from infants up to preschool, as activities can be adapted to all ages.

This workshop will be appropriate for those working with children aged infant to preschool in any setting

Objectives:

- Participants will identify the importance of using songs, stories and rhymes to ease daily transitions for children
- Participants will create a list of activities and a sample lesson plan that they can incorporate into their curriculum
- Participants will identify ways in which they can adapt material for various ages and abilities

**Presenter Biography:** *Trena Gallant* is a DONA Approved Birth and Postpartum Doula Trainer, Lamaze Program Director, Infant Massage Instructor, and is trained in Parent-Child Mother Goose. Her passion for birth and babies began at a very young age, when she helped care for the many foster children who her parents welcomed into their home. Trena has worked in numerous childcare settings, and, after graduating with her B.A., moved to Hong Kong where she had the opportunity to train with a variety of international educators and worked in a Waldorf kindergarten. Since returning to Canada, Trena began pursuing her education in birth and postpartum, and has been offering support and education to families for the past 17 years. Her most influential teachers continue to be her partner and their four amazing children.

## Cultural Diversity

**Date:** Monday May 3, & Wednesday May 5, 2021 **Time:** 7pm– 9 pm **Cost:** \$50 **Total PD hours:** 4 hours  
**Location:** ONLINE **Presenter:** Trena Gallant

**Description:** Canada is rich with Cultural Diversity, represented by current residents as well as newcomers to the country. This diversity is also reflected within our classroom, and as such it is imperative that teachers have a sound understanding of how to create a culturally safe, accepting, and responsive space. Join Trena Gallant to discuss ways in which we can gain a deeper understanding of the families who we work with, how we can create classrooms that are supportive of cultural diversity, and how to address challenges that may arise due to cultural differences.

Level of presentation This session will be appropriate for anyone working with families in our community.

Objectives:

At the completion of this workshop, attendees will be able to:

List ways in which staff can gather important information from families which will help ease the child's transition into care

Describe several Cultural differences that may require specific accommodations on the part of the staff

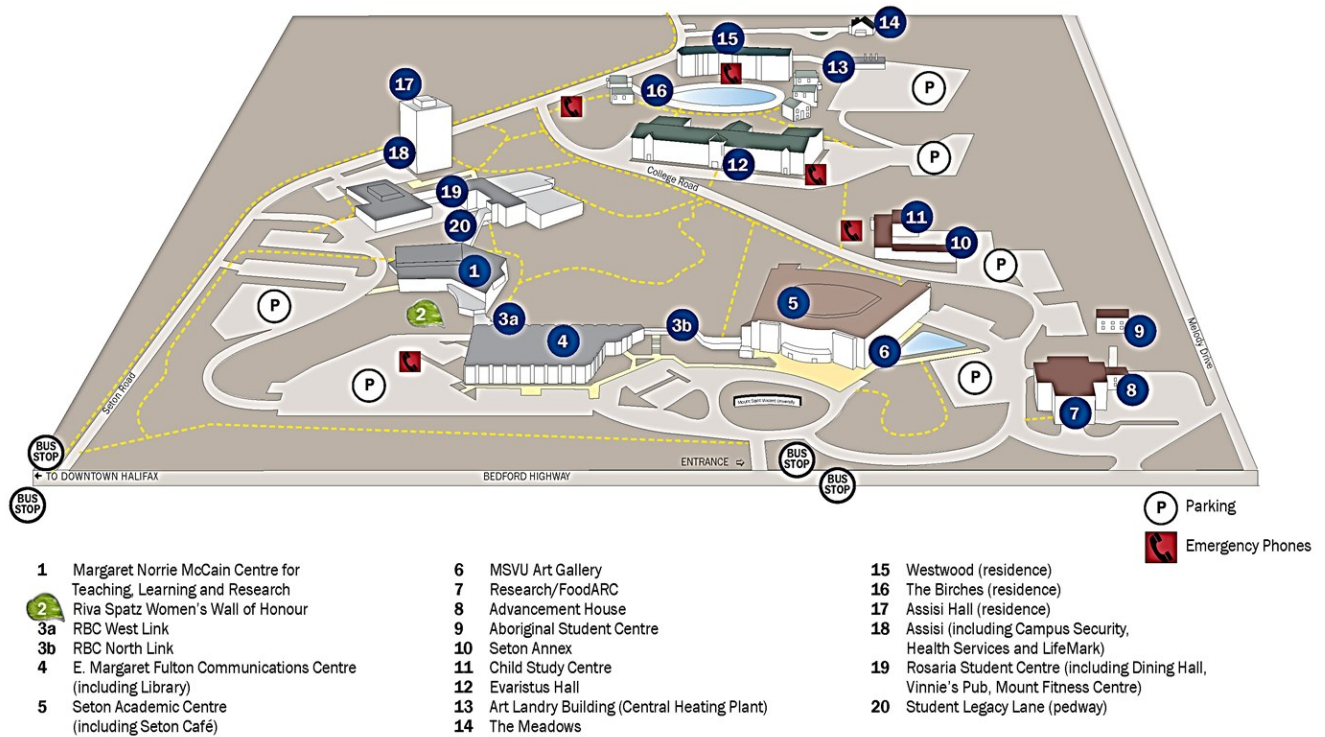
List ways in which staff can create a welcoming classroom environment that is supportive of culturally diverse families

**Presenter Biography:** *see above*

## CAMPUS MAP

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

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