

Adenike O.

Adenike is an RECE with a year of work experience at Park Lawn Preschool (Inc.) where she currently works with junior school-age children. Her professional values align with those of the AECEO which undergirds her decision not only to be a member of the association but also to become an active supporter of its advocacy initiatives. She enlisted to be a member of the planning committee in order to network with colleagues in the field and put her skills to work.

Anisah R.

Anisah is an RECE and trained Instructor Therapist. She is a recent ECL degree graduate from GBC and is also a MA in Early Childhood Studies Candidate at Toronto Metropolitan University. Anisah is interested in contributing to the committee to expand her network and contribute to the sector in diverse ways. She is also interested in learning new strengths and is eager to learn more about advocacy in the field Early Childhood Education.

Ashley G.

Ashley is an RECE working in the kindergarten program for Hastings and Prince Edward District School Board. Outside of her role with the school board she has been participating in the Toronto community of practice as an AECEO member. She was excited to join the conference committee to gain more experience working alongside other RECEs in the province while continuing to advocate for our role.

Carolyn F.

Carolyn is Public Policy and Government Relations Coordinator at the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care. Carolyn has a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and a Master's degree in Early Childhood Studies from Toronto Metropolitan University. She is a member of the Board of Directors of both Child Care Now and the Childcare Resource and Research Unit.

Charlotte P.

Charlotte is a Registered Early Childhood Educator working in London Ontario in a preschool classroom. As a pedagogical leader Charlotte spends her days studying and rethinking our traditional practices alongside young children. She also enjoys mentoring new educators, facilitating professional learning experiences, and supporting others in their growth. Charlotte is so excited to be part of this amazing conference planning team, and is looking forward to bringing exciting and important learning opportunities to our community!

Claudia G.

Claudia is a DECE and BASc student living and working on the traditional land of the Anishinabewaki, Haudenosaunee, Mississauga, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and Neutral peoples, also known as Kitchener-Waterloo. With a background in human rights and women's and gender studies, Claudia brings a healing-centered, antiracist, and culturally sustaining perspective into her work with children and families. She is passionate about advocating for ECEs and is pleased to extend this work as a member of the AECEO's Conference Planning Committee. She is excited about collaborating with her fellow ECEs to

create a conference experience that continues to support, inspire, and empower our transformative work with children and families.

Emma K.

Emma has been working with children and families for about 20 years. She started working with at-risk youth painting murals over graffiti in downtown Toronto in her early 20s, then spent 6 years living and working in Asia. Emma grew passionate about working with children as she discovered gifts within herself that had never been nurtured in traditional education, and found a safe place where she could sing, dance, and be wonderfully weird without constantly defending herself. Children understand the importance of a safe space. Since coming back to Canada 10 years ago, Emma has become an ECE and done a Masters in Early Childhood Studies at Toronto Metropolitan University. She has worked in traditional care with all ages, ran a part-time community based parent cooperative preschool for five years, worked as a nanny, and has finally landed her dream job working as an ECE at College Montrose Children's Place, an EarlyOn center in Toronto. She is part of this committee because she wants to learn alongside other ECE's about how to move our profession from this idea of "women's work" to the idea that we are helping scaffold our futures.

Jeannette H.

Jeannette is an Early Childhood Educator working in London Ontario. She has worked for London Bridge Childcare Services for over 15 years now and has the pleasure of working both with the pedagogical leadership team, as well as in the classroom. Her work with children has been such a journey of discovery for her, which she has loved tremendously. What drew Jeannette to the idea of the Conference committee was her love of inviting people into deep conversations about our field and hearing others perspectives. This committee will allow her to expand her network of colleagues so she can gain a better understanding of what is impacting our field and how to grow it alongside a group of wonderful dedicated educators. Jeannette is looking forward to all of the work that we will do together.

Jenn W.

Jenn has been an Early Childhood Educator since graduating from the ECE Diploma program at Conestoga College over 20 years ago. From Conestoga she went to Toronto Metropolitan (previously Ryerson Polytechnic) University, graduating with her Bachelor of Applied Arts in Early Childhood Education. While there, she earned her designation in Special Needs, as well as a minor in Public Administration. Throughout the various roles in the early childhood sector that Jenn has held, she has been a strong advocate for the profession of Early Childhood Education. She has worked in various capacities, including classroom educator, Ontario Early Years programs, Resource Consultant and is currently employed with a school board as a Designated Early Childhood Educator. Although, Jenn is currently holding a position outside of the Kindergarten classroom – as a Union Local President representing over 800 DECEs. Jenn is very involved at the Local and Provincial levels with her Union. This involvement is what has led Jenn Wallage to become involved with the AECEO, collaborating and advocating for the profession of Early Childhood Education. Jenn unconditionally feels that we, as RECEs, are all part of the same entity, regardless of what setting our career places us in. She would love to see

the work of the AECEO continue to advocate for the profession, recognizing the unique concerns and issues in the various settings RECEs work. Jenn wholeheartedly believes that growing support from all areas would benefit the Early Childhood Education profession as we are all on the same side, no matter the setting our career as an RECE places us in.

Meike V.

As an ECE, Meike has been doing the hokey pokey (among other things) in the early learning sector for over 12 years. She joined the conference committee eager to collaborate with fellow educators to create a conference celebrating the strength of our community and share knowledge that will directly impact the work we do with tiny humans.

Melanie JT.

Melanie is currently in her third term of the ECE program in Seneca College. Also, she is working for the after school program at Enjoy Learning Center! She loves collaborating with peers and children and hopes to be able to catch a conversation with you in this amazing community of AECEO.

Niluka P.J.

Niluka, also known as Nilu, has been a registered Early Childhood Educator for over 20 years. She currently works for Seneca ECE Lab School as a RECE. However, her role as an educator changed when the doors were closed to the Lab during the pandemic. Currently, Niluka works as a field mentor and a Liaison for the School of ECE at Seneca College both at the Newnham and King Campus. Each day she is blessed with new learning and new opportunities in this field. This journey has challenged her beliefs and values and supported her growth professionally and personally. Niluka is currently completing her Bachelors of child Development degree at Seneca, where she continues to learn and grow. She has had many opportunities to work with many influential educators and leaders in the field throughout her years, which has shaped her to be the educator she is today. In this field, we are continuously growing each day and Niluka is honored to be able to share and inspire others as a mentor and an educator.

Simone H.

Simone is an RECE who graduated from Conestoga College and has been in the field for eight years. At this time she is working with preschoolers for a non-for profit organization. Simone chose to participate on this committee to lend her voice and hand to do something that honors and recognizes the great work that we in this profession do every day.

Sue T.

Sue is an RECE, AECEO.C, who has been in the Early Learning Sector for 30 years. She is currently a Designated Early Childhood Educator with the York Region District School Board, a Part-time Faculty with Centennial College, and a student in the Bachelor of Child Development Program at Seneca College. Sue joined the committee because she is passionate about advocacy, has lots to learn and lots to offer, and wants to think about mentoring other colleagues and pushing the profession forward.

AECEO professional learning & connections

seasonal pedagogy part 2/4 movement:

walking together on mother earth through the four seasons in early childhood education