

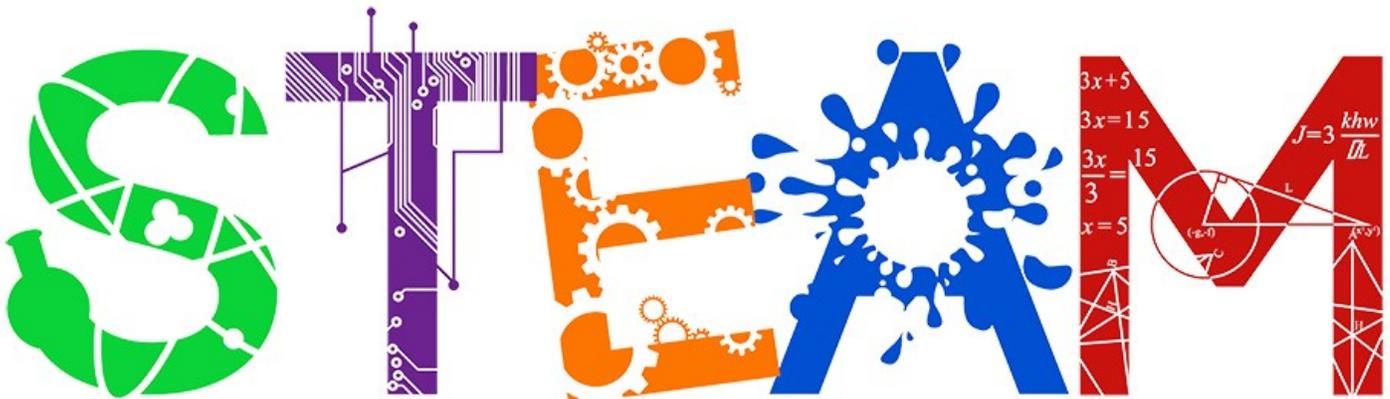
30th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

# EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE

CONFERENCE

Saturday, May 5, 2018

Half day conference from 9 AM - 1 PM



SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING ART MATHEMATICS

**Register Now!**  
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CONESTOGA COLLEGE, DOON CAMPUS  
299 Doon Valley Drive, Kitchener, Ontario N2G 4M4

# 2018 Early Learning & Child Care Conference Program

Saturday, May 5th, 2018

## Sponsored by:



CONESTOGA  
Connect Life and Learning



CONESTOGA  
Alumni & Development



Region of Waterloo

## This Year's Focus:

This year our focus will be on Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics (STEAM), and the powerful connection and potential they play in early learning experiences. As an educational approach that supports thoughtful risks, experiential learning, creative problem solving and collaboration, STEAM education is a perfect fit for today's early learning environments. It allows us to build on our image of young children as innovators, leaders and learners of the 21st century by weaving science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics throughout our programs and guiding children's inquiry, dialogue, and critical thinking.

Continuous professional learning is an essential component for educators to remain knowledgeable and relevant in their field of study and practice. For over 29 years, the early learning community has supported an annual conference that attracts hundreds of professionals with diverse experiences and ranges of roles within our sector. We look forward to having you join us for this very special morning!

**8:15 AM - 9:00 AM:** Registration and Morning Refreshments

Resource / Retail Displays\*

**9:00 AM - 10:00 AM:** Panel: STEAM in the Early Years

**10:00 AM - 11:00 AM:** STEAM Expo & Interactive Displays

Resource / Retail Displays\*

**11:00 AM - 12:50 PM:** Workshop Session (1.5 Hours) + Summary

## Panel Presentation

Start the morning with a panel discussion on STEAM education in the early years moderated by Dr. Goranka Vukelich. The panel will offer insightful perspectives about the importance of STEAM education, and how the early years' sector is embracing this educational approach.

Through stimulating dialogue, they will arouse interest, inspire ideas, and motivate action.

This panel will consist of:

- ◆ Ignac Kolenko, *Director of the Centre for Smart Manufacturing (CSM) and Chair, School of Engineering and Information Technology at Conestoga College*
- ◆ Jill Soyka, *Professor, Early Childhood Education, Conestoga College*
- ◆ Samantha Burns, *Manager of the Early Childhood Professional Resource Centre*
- ◆ Jill Snider, *Education Program Consultant, Let's Talk Science*

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## Showcase and Expo

This year, we are excited to include a new and innovative element to our conference, a showcase and expo! Participants will have numerous opportunities to wonder through multiple interactive displays created by Conestoga's engineering students, community partners, educators, and organizations that bring STEAM education to life. They will be able to actively engage and explore the concepts to science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics with their hands, minds and senses.

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**\*There will be an exclusive Resource/Retail Display available throughout the morning and during the Expo. Many items will be available for purchase, so bring your cash, cheques, or credit cards.**



### A. Natural Born Investigators

*Harmony Simard, RECE*

STEAM concepts are often associated with older children or school years, but all children are born with a natural curiosity that allows them to interpret and make sense of the world around them. How do we continue to support the scientific mindset of infants and toddlers? This session will focus on fostering early concepts of STEAM through natural exploration, play and inquiry for infant and toddler programming.

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*Harmony Simard is an educator with Conestoga College's Child Development Centres. For the past two years Harmony has been engaged in the Regional Pedagogical Project as a consultant, working with various community partners. She has developed and delivered over forty workshops while in this role and her experience as an educator, mother and dreamer has kept her passionate, curious and ready to rediscover the world around her.*

### B. Environments and Design that Promote STEAM

*Cindy Bernier, BA, RECE & Chris Hunt, RECE*

Early learning programs are rich in opportunities to naturally engage and expand concepts of science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics (STEAM). Explore how the environment, materials and pedagogical documentation can be used to promote STEAM through inquiry and play while making children's learning visible.

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*Cindy Bernier and Chris Hunt are educators with Conestoga College's Child Development Centres. Together they have over 50 years experience in the sector, and continue to be passionate and inspired about their daily work and their relationships with children and families.*

*Cindy was part of the original team to plan and implement a pilot project with the Region of Waterloo, Conestoga College and the PRC as a community pedagogical consultant. Chris joined the project in it's second term and both continue to support the work with current teams engaged in the project. They are respected guest lecturers and have developed and delivered a wide variety of training and education opportunities for our field of practice.*



"Grow your professional network and join other likeminded professionals for a morning of inquiry, reflection, collaboration and interest!  
We look forward to seeing you there."

## Workshops 11:00 AM — 12:30 PM

### **C. Fostering Innovation through Tinkering**

*Cameron Turner, B.Math*

The “maker” movement and “tinkering” are hot concepts through the Nation. Join Cam Turner from Tinker Truck as he shares what he has learned from nearly 8 years of trial and error in the field of kid’s “maker Education”. Participants will explore how to implement hands-on, project-based learning in their environment and the benefits that come from engaging in opportunities that promote innovation and creativity.

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*For nearly two decades of entrepreneurial executive management experience in Waterloo’s high-tech industry, Cam has provided his mission towards expanding availability, scope, and accessibility of extracurricular science and engineering education in Waterloo Region. Through Tinker Truck, Cam aims to empower both kids and their families with the confidence to work with the basic tools of fabrication and computer science.*

### **D. From STEM to STEAM: The Integration of Arts**

*Sarah Andrade, RECE*

From infancy all the way through school, children crave opportunities to express their learning in new and exciting ways. Integrating arts into STEM is a trend that is taking hold as educators recognize the important role the arts play in bringing learning to life. In this collaborative session, we will unpack the power of arts in relationship to learning that supports higher engagement through creativity and collaboration. Get ready for some art inspiration for both you and the children!

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*Sarah Andrade, is the owner and creator of Exploring Senses. She is a proud mother and truly found her passion for sensory play through getting messy with her children. Sarah has immense passion for learning alongside children through hands on experiences and has created a business that truly puts the child first, through hands on learning materials, and classes that foster children's natural curiosities.*

### **E. Getting STEAM-ed!**

*Jill Snider, BA, BEd, MEd*

This hands-on minds-on workshop will explore learning in science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics (STEAM) through play/ inquiry and technological problem solving (design and build). Using literature and everyday events as provocations, we will discover how to enhance children’s natural curiosity and sense of wonder about the world around them.

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*Jill has worked as a program consultant with the Waterloo Region District School Board for much of her career. In 2005 she was seconded to the Ministry to lead the review of the Ontario science and technology curriculum and in 2008 became involved in plans for the implementation of full-day Kindergarten. She has been part of the development of the Kindergarten document as well as served on the advisory committee for creation of How Does Learning Happen and the Ontario Early Years Policy Framework. Jill currently works for Let’s Talk Science and is all STEAMed up to share her passion for learning!*

## Workshops 11:00 AM — 12:30 PM

### F. Math: More than Numbers

Louise Humphreys, BAsc Early Childhood, RECE

Mathematical concepts are all around us, in fact, we use math every day and many do not even realize it. Math is more than just numbers! In this session, we will identify key mathematical concepts and consider ways of supporting mathematical experiences that are important in the early years, and help children develop skills, deepening their understanding.

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*With 30+years experience working and learning in the Early Years field, Louise Humphreys has a wide and varied background. In the UK, Louise worked with children and families within social service centres and as a home visitor for children with special needs, before teaching at the local college and within the community. Since arriving in Canada in 2006, Louise has completed her degree at Guelph Humber, as well as worked with a children's mental health agency and currently as a Child Care Services Manager with the Toronto District School Board.*

## Conference Registration Packages

|                                               |                      |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Full Conference Fee.....                      | \$50.00              |
| PRC Member Discount .....                     | \$40.00 (save \$10!) |
| Special Offer (Membership + Conference) ..... | \$60.00 (save \$25!) |

## Why Become a Member of the Professional Resource Centre?



### Stay Connected

Join a network of hundreds of professionals in our sector. Keep informed of trends, impacts and regulations that shape our field of practice.

Build professional relationships while expanding your portfolio.



### Keep Up to Date

As a member receive a significant discount to training and special events that will advance your practice and support your continuous professional learning. The more you engage, the more you save!



### Access Quality Resources

From hands on curriculum enhancements to literature our lending library holds over 5,000 resources that support your professional learning and growth.

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

### CONFERENCE LOCATION:

Map on Page 8

Conestoga College  
Doon Campus (Main Bldg., Door 6)  
299 Doon Valley Drive  
Kitchener, Ontario N2G 4M4

### REGISTRATION FEE:

The \$50.00 registration fee includes all conference events, and morning refreshments. Members of the Professional Resource Centre receive a \$10.00 discount.

**Please note:** One dollar from each conference registration will go to the ECE Student Award of Excellence, an annual award given to a deserving ECE student from Conestoga College.

### WAYS TO REGISTER:

**Register Now!**  
*Click Here* 

There are three ways to register for the 2018 Early Learning & Child Care Conference:

1. **ONLINE:** If you are paying by VISA or MasterCard, log on to [www.eceprc.ca](http://www.eceprc.ca) or click on the “Register Now” icon to directly link to online registration.
2. **MAIL:** Download forms from our website. We strongly suggest online registration for prompt workshop selections. Mail-in registrations are not guaranteed as choices selected may not be available.
3. Call or email the ECE Professional Resource Centre for direct support and registration at 519-748-5220 ext. 3388 or [PRCregistration@conestogac.on.ca](mailto:PRCregistration@conestogac.on.ca)

### CONFIRMATION OF REGISTRATION:

An automatic confirmation will be sent upon completion of online registration. Mail-in registrations will be confirmed by email by April 27, 2018. If you have not received confirmation by that date, please call the PRC at 519-748-5220 ext. 3388.

### PAYMENT:

All registrations must be accompanied by payment. If payment is not submitted with your registration form, you will NOT be registered. If you are registering as a group by mail, please enclose all cheques and attach all registration forms. ***Please make cheques and money orders payable to “Conestoga College.”***

### REFUNDS/CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION:

All fees are non-refundable however you may transfer the name of the participant attending until April 27, 2018. Afterwards changes will not be permitted. Please send any registration inquiries or requests to: [PRCregistration@conestogac.on.ca](mailto:PRCregistration@conestogac.on.ca). A confirmation regarding changes will be sent. If you do not receive confirmation within 48 hours, please call the PRC directly at 519-748-5220 ext. 3388. Thank you for your support.

# Conestoga College – 299 Doon Valley Drive, Kitchener ON

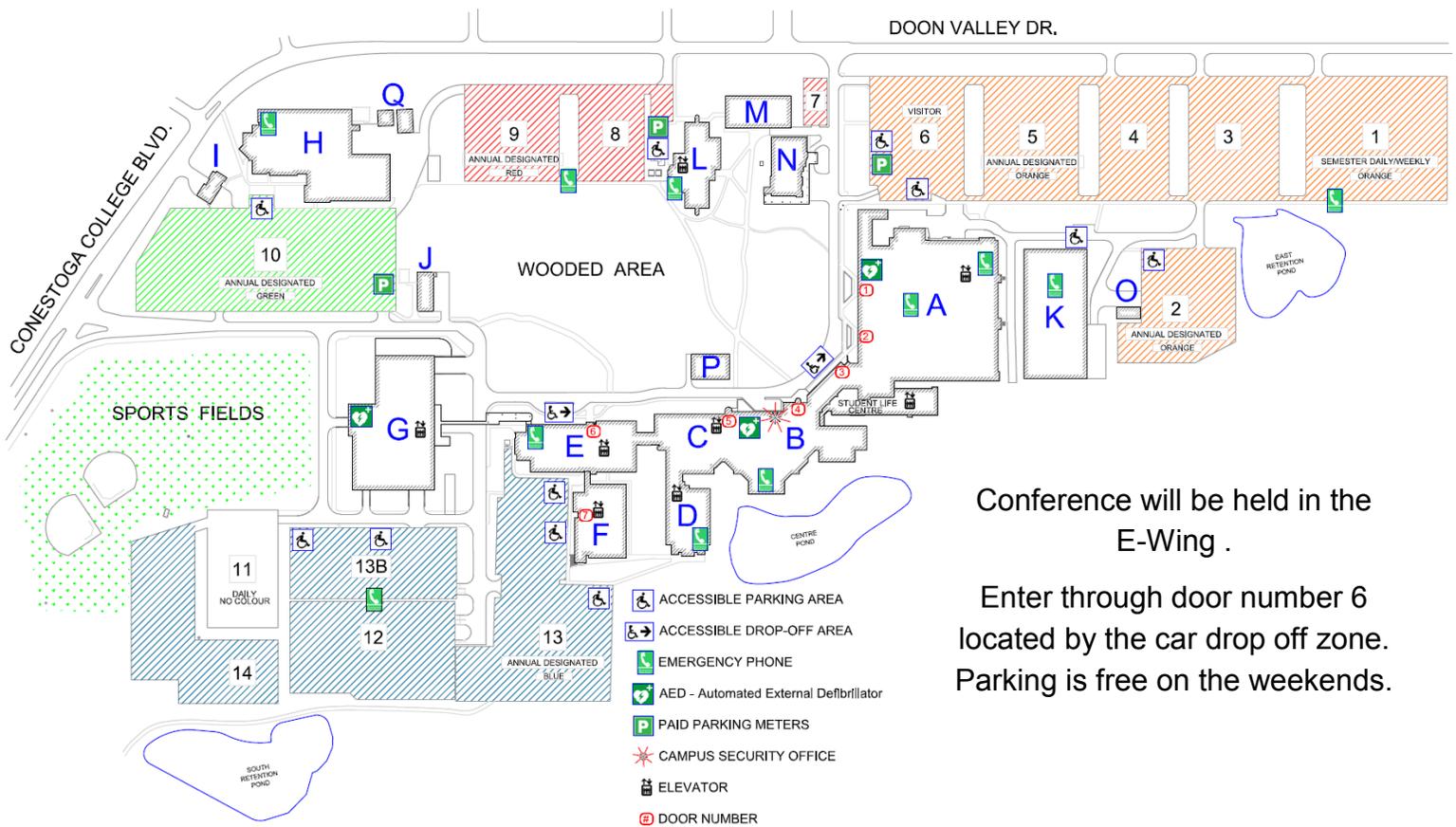


How to get to Conestoga College:

If coming from Toronto, take 401 to exit #275 Homer Watson Blvd. and keep to the right.

If coming from London, take 401 to exit #275 Homer Watson Blvd. Turn left at the lights onto Homer Watson. Cross over the 401 then turn right onto Conestoga College Blvd.

Keep to the right onto Conestoga College Blvd. Take the first right into the campus. Parking is available in lots 10 or 13.



Conference will be held in the E-Wing .

Enter through door number 6 located by the car drop off zone. Parking is free on the weekends.

Registration and refreshments will start at 8:15 am.

Panel discussion will begin at 9:00 am.

We look forward to seeing you at this year's Early Learning and Child Care Conference!

Visit the Professional Resource Centre website for updates and easy links to registration!

Visit us on the web at [www.eceprc.ca](http://www.eceprc.ca) for presenter biographies and more.

**Register Now!**  
*Click Here*