

# 2016 Assessment Workshop

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For a preview of the video recorded session of the Assessment Conference, please click here:

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/videoseries?list=PLiB8ndupvqVC9JgzR0ImxHHRZqiAn-plG>

-Special thanks to Emily Weldon, UBC Co-Op student at ETS for her integration and editing of the first ever recorded Assessment Conference

## **Greetings from Dr Hillel Goelman**

It's my great pleasure to welcome you to the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Assessment Conference. Over these 14 years we have offered many workshops and presentations on a range of topics related to early childhood assessment. These presentations have

covered a wide range of assessment practices in a wide range of settings. We have been lucky to have hosted a wide range of excellent presenters in a wide range of areas. We have had parents, teachers, and child and youth care staff, academics, physicians, nurses, researchers. And this is the real core and strength of the Annual Assessment Workshop: YOU! The participants and presenters continue to ensure a conference that is high quality, relevant and responsive to the needs of different fields and professions. Without YOU the conference would not have continued for these 14 years.

As always, the planning committee this year has identified a powerful and meaningful theme: **Navigating the Assessment Process: Assessment and Family Centered Practices in Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Early Intervention Programs.** “Navigating” is an excellent way to refer to the many different approaches, methods and styles of formal and informal assessment practices in the world of early child development. It is often easy to feel swamped by the multiplicity of methods and practices and it is our sincere hope that the conference will help all of us to navigate and to negotiate through these many different styles of assessment.

We have seen successful models of family-centered practices and the ways in which they support child development, family dynamics and community capacity building. It is also wonderful that this conference explicitly addresses the needs and strengths of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal early intervention programs. Some years ago one of our powerful teachers, Chief Willie Charley, shared with us this perspective on child development. He said that when we look at a child today, we are also looking seven generations into the future. Our hard work today will help to build the foundation for sustainable programs practices that will enhance early childhood and family development in the years to come.

*Dr Hillel Goelman, UBC Faculty of Education and Head, Interdisciplinary Studies Graduate Programs (ISGP) is currently on sabbatical. We owe to Dr Goelman the*

*conception of the Assessment Conference (14 years ago!) working with our interdisciplinary community-academic steering committee.*

Vancouver, May 5, 2016

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