

a place of mind



Developmental Disabilities Association
Overcoming Obstacles, Encouraging Abilities.



Cherishing Each



Psychoeducational Research and Training Centre



Infant Development Program of British Columbia



Supported Child
Development Program
Every Child Belongs



The Institute for
Early Childhood Education & Research

Thursday, April 30, 2015

**13th Annual Assessment Conference
Navigating the Assessment Process:**

**Supporting Families and Learning from
Their Perspectives**

**Neville Scarfe Building,
Faculty of Education,
The University of British Columbia**

Greetings from Dr Hillel Goelman

Once again the program committee has delivered an outstanding program for the annual assessment workshop. The special focus this year on parental perspectives and experiences will ensure that all participants will come away with new understandings of how parents advocate for their children with love, skill, knowledge, patience and wisdom. Their stories educate us and inspire us. Once again we have a range of professions represented at the workshop, ensuring that we are all exposed to the different kinds of expertise we can draw upon in our work with children and families. As one of my best teachers taught me, the key to all learning is the ability to “listen loudly.” It took me a while to understand what “listening loudly” is all about. A Zen teacher once explained “listening loudly” in this way: you can’t fill an already full teacup. It becomes necessary to empty our tea cups so that we can then fill it with new, hot and nourishing tea. I wish everyone a successful workshop this year, with where we can safely empty our teacups and come away with new, rich and deep understandings of what the world of assessment looks like to children, their parents and their families.

All the best,

H. Goelman

DAY PROGRAM

7:00 am | Registration

DISPLAY TABLES OPEN

Society for Children and Youth (SCY) of BC , BC Parent Child Mother Goose (PCMGP) Program and BC Council for Families (BCCF), and Kids on Wheels

Resources and Brochures from UBC early childhood education and community partner agencies and programs available: IDP and DDA, AIDP, SCDP, Aboriginal Head Start Programs

8:00 am | Introductions and Greetings

8:15 am | Opening Session: Parent Panel

Parent's experiences about their children and assessments, with **Cindy Packer** and **Jennifer Baumbusch**

9:30 am – 9:40 am SHORT BREAK ~ DISPLAY TABLES OPEN

9:40 am | Keynote Session 1

Through a different lens: what assessment means to vulnerable families, with **Barb Fitzgerald**

10:40 am | Expert Panel 1

Understanding the experiences of parents of children with exceptionalities as they navigate the school system and assessment process, with **Carla LeHouillier** and **Suretha Swart**

11:40 am – 12:35 pm LUNCH BREAK – on your own. DISPLAYS OPEN for you!

Please see the UBC map in your package with places for lunch 3-5 walking minutes from Scarfe

12:40 pm | Expert Panel 2

Keeping it Real! Effective assessments in practice with **Michaela Wooldridge** (authorship collaboration with Judie Sahadeo and Michele Tardif)

1:50 pm | Keynote Session 2

Parents and cross cultural beliefs, with **Veronica Smith**

2:55 pm | Closing Keynote

My Journey as a Parent, with **Denise Findlay**

PRESENTERS

Opening Session: Parent Panel

Jennifer Baumbusch is a mom to a fun and energetic 12-year old. Her daughter has a rare genetic difference (a 'one-and-only'). Jennifer's daughter has been undergoing assessments since birth, many of them twice. Jennifer is a faculty member at UBC's School of Nursing and her research focuses on improving vulnerable population's access to health services.

Cindy Packer is a former Executive who now focuses her energy to support her three adopted aboriginal children who have special needs. She is passionate about special needs, advocacy, community education, and striving to keep aboriginal families together or providing forever family environments that are culturally appropriate. Cindy is honoured to serve as the Parent Representative for the Aboriginal Infant Development/Supported Child Development Programs of BC Provincial Steering Committee.

Moderator: Andrea James, Supported Child Development Program of BC.

Keynote Session 1

Barbara Fitzgerald is a developmental pediatrician at Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children, Clinical Associate Professor at UBC and the founder of Mom to Mom Child Poverty Initiative. She worked for 17 years assessing children in inner city schools in Vancouver, teaches child development in the medical school and mentors many medical students. She is committed to advocating for families living in poverty to improve outcomes for children.

Expert Panel 1

Carla LeHouillier has an MA and PhD in School Psychology from UBC. She works in private practice at The Wishing Star, Lapointe Developmental Clinic, completing psychoeducational assessments for children, adolescents and young adults, and supporting parents and their children through therapy.

Suretha Swart, PhD, is a postdoctoral fellow in the Faculty of Education and the professional practice leader at the Psychoeducational Research and Training Centre Assessment Clinics at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. She has supported children with exceptionalities and their families through her work in mental health and educational contexts since 1996. She is also a parent of two school-aged children.

Moderator: **Dr. William McKee**, Psychoeducational Research Training Centre, Faculty of Education, UBC.

Expert Presenter 2 (formerly: Expert Panel 2)

Michaela Wooldridge, Ph. D. Candidate in the Human Development, Learning and Culture program at UBC, is the 2014 recipient award of the Dean of Education Scholarship at the UBC Faculty of Education. For 26 years, Michaela has been involved with the Infant Development Program in Surrey, B.C., as a home visitor, clinical supervisor, and peer mentor/educator with Sources Community Resource Society. In addition, Michaela has taught in ECE programs, in UBC's teacher education program, and to community practitioners related to assessments, play, and development.

Keynote Session 2

Veronica Smith is an Associate Professor of Educational Psychology at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada. She is interested in interventions for children at risk for developmental delay and supports for families who are challenged when parenting children with developmental disabilities.

Closing Keynote

Denise Findlay is a First Nations Facilitator who weaves together years of professional and personal experience working with people. Her education is an integration of various disciplines in the human development field. Denise's journey has led her to working in First Nations communities throughout Canada, including her own community, The Squamish Nation.

The Assessment Conference Steering Committee Members:

Dana Brynelsen, Community Member and Infant Development Program of BC

Diana Elliott, Aboriginal Infant Development Program of BC

Joan Gignac, Aboriginal Head Start Program of BC

Hillel Goelman, Faculty of Education, UBC

Andrea James, BC Centre for Ability

William McKee, Faculty of Education, UBC

Mari Pighini, Faculty of Education, UBC

In Partnership and Collaboration with:

Developmental Disabilities Association, Infant Development Program of BC

The Institute for Early Childhood Education and Research (IECER), UBC

Society for Children and Youth of BC

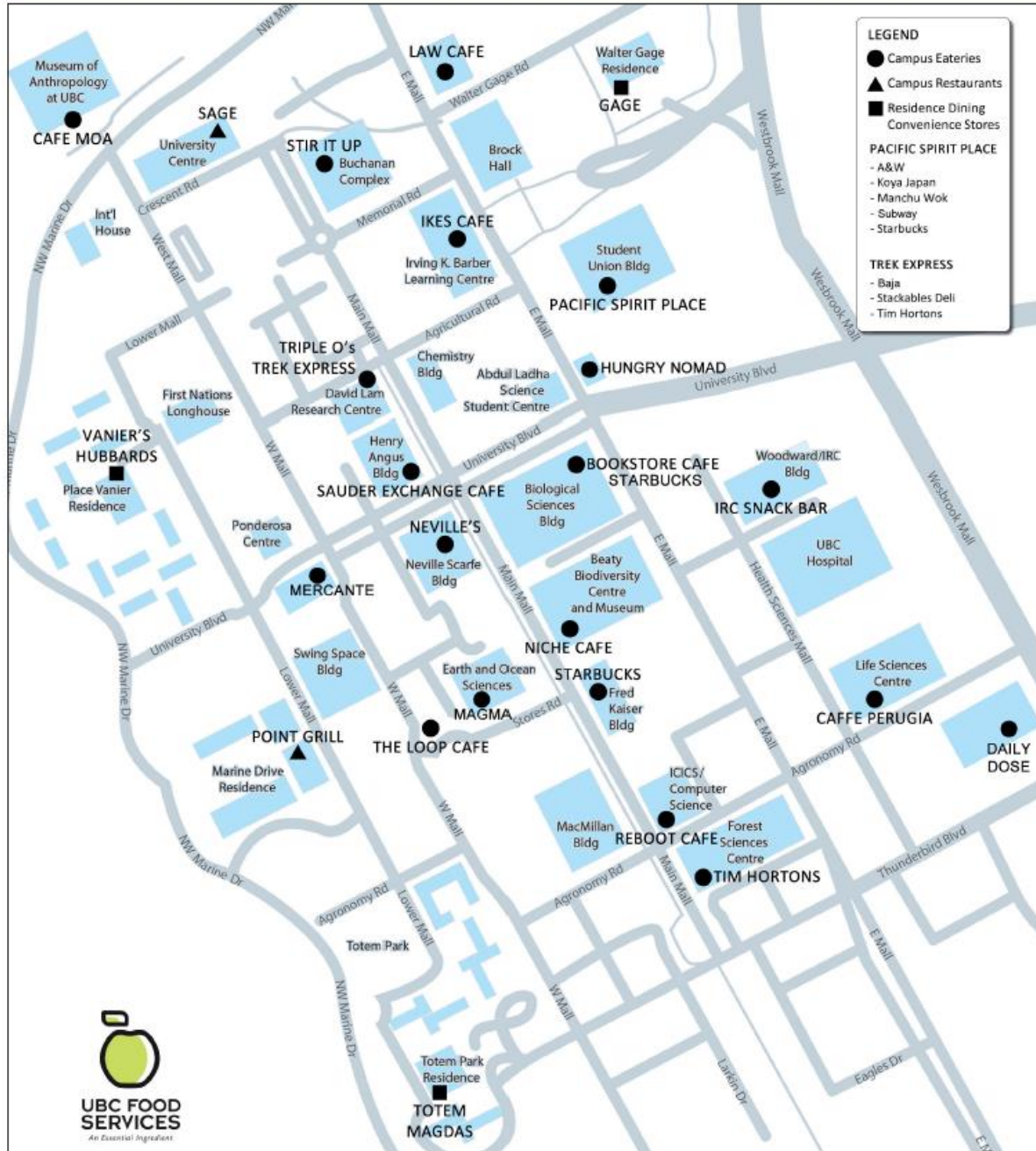
Welcome to all of the delegates for the 13th Assessment Conference at the Faculty of Education at UBC! Your attendance and contributions make of this one a unique and special day of knowledge sharing and translation for All.

Evaluation form: Assessment Conference April 30, 2015 Tell us with 😊 :- ☹	What I really liked 😊	What I liked less :- or ☹	Would prefer one session or break-up sessions?
MORNING SESSIONS			Y
1. Parent Panel: Cindy Packer, Parent Representative (AIDP and ASCDP) and Jennifer Baumbusch, UBC			
2. Expert Presenter: Barb Fitzgerald, Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children and UBC			
3. Expert Panel: Suretha Swart and Carla LeHouillier, UBC			
AFTERNOON SESSIONS			N
4. Expert Panel 2: Michaela Woodridge and Michele Tardif, IDP and UBC			
5. Expert Presenter 2: Veronica Smith, University of Alberta and UBC			
6. Parent Advocate Keynote: Denise Findlay, First Nations Facilitator, Squamish Nation			
Your Comments and or Ideas?			

Mercante at Ponderosa Common, **Niche** at Beaty Biodiversity, **Sauder Exchange Café**, **Point Grill** at Marine Drive, and inside **Trek Express** at David Lam Research Centre, In addition: **Triple O's**, **Tim Hortons**, **Bento Sushi** and **Qoola**.

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UBC Food Services Campus Dining Locations



Hours subject to change. please visit food.ubc.ca or m.ubc.ca for current hours of operation