

Protecting Play: Building Quality Early Learning Through Meaningful Play Experiences

October 6, 2026

1:30-2:30pm MT

Play is far more than fun—it is the foundation for children's learning, wellbeing, identity, and lifelong success. In this engaging session, participants will explore what quality early childhood education looks like through a play-based lens, discover why play is essential for healthy development, and leave with practical ideas to advocate for and strengthen play experiences within their own communities.



Learning Outcomes:

- Develop an early understanding of the relationship between play and quality of early childhood education
- Recognize how meaningful play supports children's cognitive, social, emotional, physical, and cultural development
- Explore practical ways to create environments that nurture curiosity, belonging, and learning through play

Speakers:

Tina Geers, BA (Hons) Educational Studies - Early Childhood Studies, Founder & Play Advocate, Inspired Minds ECC Consulting - Tina is an early childhood educator, consultant, and passionate play advocate with more than 23 years of experience supporting children, educators, and families across Canada and internationally. As the founder of Inspired Minds ECC Consulting and President of The Play Connection Network, Tina provides professional learning focused on play-based pedagogy, child development, and creating meaningful learning environments that honour children's curiosity, relationships, and rights



Target Audience: Early Childhood Educators, family support workers, parents, caregivers and anyone working/caring for young children

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