

Best Start Resource Centre Announces 2013 Conference Line-up

CONTACT

Wendy McAllister

1-800-397-9567 x2279

w.mcallister@healthnexus.ca

LINKS

www.HealthyBabyHealthyBrain.ca

Learning to Play and Playing to Learn: Getting Ready for School

[PDF](#)

Why am I poor? First Nations Poverty in Ontario [PDF](#)

VIDEO



[View](#) Best Start Resource Centre Videos Online

Conference features mental and family health

TORONTO Oct. 24 – The Best Start Resource Centre, a key program of Health Nexus, has announced the speakers for their annual conference which gathers services providers, front line workers and educators working in the fields of preconceptions, maternal health and child development from across the province. Among other highlights, keynote addresses will be delivered by author, reporter and blogger Ann Douglas, and Sylvia Maracle, Executive Director of the Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres and Diamond Jubilee Medal recipient.

“We’re very pleased to have Ann Douglas and Sylvia Maracle as part of this year’s conference” said Executive Director of Health Nexus, Barb Willet. “Having such accomplished and strong supporters of maternal and child health, and equity be part of our dialogue reinforces the importance of the work we support in communities every day.”

The annual Best Start Resource Centre Conference draws over 300 guests each year. In addition to offering excellent peer sharing opportunities, the conference allows attendees to increase their knowledge and learn innovative strategies and programs relevant to their work. In years prior the provincial conference has drawn attendees from across Canada and beyond.

“Conference content reflects the needs identified by previous conference participants and includes the latest research and practices. This makes sessions relevant, and sessions provide participants with specific strategies that can be brought back to communities and implemented right away” said Wendy McAllister, Manager of the Best Start Resource Centre. “This conference is about ensuring optimal environments and outcomes for young children, and supporting the people who work to achieve this through early interventions.”

This year’s conference features over 20 conference sessions on topics such as supporting women with postpartum depression, helping parents promote resilience in their children, supporting families living with FASD and social media for public health. The conference runs from February 6th to 8th at the Hilton Suites Toronto/Markham Hotel.

[Registration](#) for the event is now open.

For a full listing of conference presenters and the program visit the Best Start Resource Centre website.

www.beststart.org/events/2013/bsannualconf13/index.htm

- 30 -

About Best Start Resource Centre

The Best Start Resource Centre is Ontario's Maternal Newborn and Early Child Development Resource Centre. The Best Start Resource Centre supports service providers across Ontario working to implement maternal, newborn and child health promotion programs and initiatives. In addition to their large collection of resources on 18 topics, Best Start provides training, consultation, networking and referrals. The Resource Centre also develops and leads social awareness campaigns to enhance the health of expectant and new parents, newborns and young children.

About Health Nexus

Health Nexus is a bilingually-designated non-profit health promotion organization. Their broad approach to health includes health equity, chronic disease prevention and early child development. Over the last 25 years they have been supporting health services workers and health promotion organizations develop and implement strategies to improve the health of their communities. Their services include training, consultations, workshops and a large collection of resources available in a variety of languages.