

PLH | PROFESSIONAL
LEARNING HUB
FOR EARLY LEARNING PROFESSIONALS IN BRANT

Newsletter
January to June 2026



**Professional Learning Hub
for Early Learning Professionals in Brant
30 Bell Lane, Brantford ON**

519-759-3833

info@professionallearninghub.ca

registration@eycbrant.ca



Barb Vanry

As you retire, we want to express our deepest gratitude for the incredible leadership and compassion you've shown throughout your time with EarlyON. You've been more than a Manager—you've been a mentor, a guide, and an advocate for families and children in our community.

Your dedication to creating welcoming spaces where children can learn, play, and grow has touched countless lives. You've inspired us with your vision, your patience, and your unwavering belief in the power of early learning. Because of you, our team has thrived, and families have felt supported and valued.

While we'll miss your wisdom and warmth, we know you're stepping into a new chapter filled with joy, relaxation, and well-deserved time for yourself. Thank you for everything you've done to make EarlyON a place of connection and care.

Wishing you happiness, health, and all the wonderful adventures that await!

Your CLB EarlyON Family



We are thrilled to welcome Patty Bester as our new Professional Learning Hub Interim Manager!

Her passion for early childhood development and commitment to supporting Early Learning Professionals will bring fresh energy and vision to the Professional Learning Hub. With a wealth of experience and recent professional learning training about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Patty is ready to lead us into an exciting new chapter.

We look forward to working together to strengthen our programs, foster meaningful connections, and continue building a community of Early Learning Professionals. Please join us in giving Patty a warm welcome in her new role as Interim Manager!





Supervisors & Fostering Brant's Growth Network

Networking is vital for childcare supervisors because it helps them build strong professional connections, share best practices, and stay updated on industry standards. By engaging with other supervisors, educators, and community organizations, they gain access to new ideas, resources and support systems that improve the quality of care. Networking also strengthens leadership skills, fosters collaboration, and creates opportunities for professional growth, ultimately benefiting both staff and children in their care.

In Person Networking - 30 Bell Lane

11:00 am-12:30 pm

Supervisors Network

Wednesday, January 14th

Wednesday, March 18th

Wednesday, May 20th

Fostering Brant's Growth Network

Wednesday, February 18th

Wednesday, April 15th

Wednesday, June 17th

Save the Date

Supervisors Symposium

Friday May 29th

9:00 am -3:00 pm

Dine & Learn: Balancing Free Play and Guided Play in Early Childhood Education

Location: Virtual Workshop on Teams

Date: Wednesday, January 28th

Time: 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Play is a cornerstone of early childhood development. It fosters creativity, problem solving, and cognitive growth. This workshop will delve into two key types of play -free play and guided play -and how each contributes uniquely to a child's learning journey.



To register for Professional Learning Workshops please scan the QR code or email registration@eycbrant.ca



Create to Learn: The Magic of Science...Let Your Little Explorers Discover

Location: 30 Bell Lane

Date: Saturday, January 31st

Time: 9:00 am – 11:00 am

The Magic of Science...Let Your Little Explorers Discover

Get ready for a hands-on adventure where curiosity leads the way! "Little Explorers" is a science workshop designed especially for your scientists. A science shelf isn't just a corner filled with jars and gadgets — it's a launchpad for lifelong curiosity. In our workshop, we highlight the importance of creating a dedicated space where children can explore, tinker, and wonder every day as well as creating activities that you will take back to the children in your care.

Let's discover — one bubbling potion, glowing light, and squishy experiment at a time!



To register for Professional Learning Workshops please scan the QR code or email registration@eycbrant.ca



The Curious Caper, an Escape Room for Early Learning Professionals

Location: 30 Bell Lane

Date: Saturday, February 21st

Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Step into a world where learning meets adventure, and teamwork unlocks the magic of play-based programming. This escape room will mirror the skills educators want to nurture in children—collaboration, curiosity, persistence, and creativity—while giving you a chance to practice yourself. Solve puzzles and challenges to “unlock” the secrets to providing these experiences to the children in care.

Leave feeling rejuvenated and ready to bring fun into our classrooms! Each participant will receive resources to enhance their classroom.

A light continental breakfast will be available from 8:30 am- 9:00 am



To register for Professional Learning Workshops please scan the QR code or email registration@eycbrant.ca



Standard First Aid, Level C CPR

Location: In Person Training at 30 Bell Lane Brantford

Date: March 17th, 18th 24th & 25th

Time: 5:30 pm -8:30 pm

Date: Saturday, May 23rd

Time: 8:30 am -3:00 pm



The online 8-hour portion must be completed before the date of the in-person class. Once you register an email will be sent to you, to start your online portion of the course.

***All in-person classes must be attended in their entirety.**

This course is for individuals who require more comprehensive information on first aid and CPR for the workplace, educational institution or personal interest reasons. This course meets Canadian Labour Code and Ontario First Aid Regulation 1101 for workplaces with more than 5 employees. It also meets CCEYA requirements. This interactive program includes CPR training for adults, infants and children, 2 person CPR as well as automated external defibrillation (AED). Certificates valid for three years are issued upon successful completion. CPR C deals with managing infant, child and adult casualties. *Instructor is certified through St. John Ambulance.*

Cancellation Policy

To better meet the needs of educators, we have developed a policy that you must give a minimum 2 week notice if you must cancel your registered CPR/First Aid training. If we do not get 2-week minimum notice and there is insufficient reason for the cancellation, we will be charging the CPR/First Aid training fee of \$65

To register for Professional Learning Workshops please scan the QR code or email registration@eycbrant.ca



Dine & Learn: No Tears, Just Cheers: Transitioning Like a Pro in Child Care

Location: Virtual Workshop on Teams

Date: Thursday March 26th

Time: 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

In childcare, transitions refer to the changes or shifts that children experience during the day or across different stages of care. These can be small, daily changes or big developmental moves. Transitions in childcare can feel like trying to leave a party where everyone's having too much fun—there will be resistance, maybe a few tears, and some negotiation. Sometimes transitions in childcare can feel a bit like herding cats—adorable, energetic cats with strong opinions. But with the right strategies (and a good sense of humor), you can turn chaos into calm.



To register for Professional Learning Workshops please scan the QR code or email registration@eycbrant.ca

Every Child is Unique: Moving Beyond the Cookie Cutter Approach

Location: 30 Bell Lane

Date: Monday March 30th

Time: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Children are not one-size-fits-all. Each child brings a unique blend of personality, background, interests, and developmental pace. This workshop challenges the “cookie cutter” mindset and encourages a shift toward child-centered care.



To register for Professional Learning Workshops please scan the QR code or email registration@eycbrant.ca

Building Bridges – Practical Skills for Effective Conflict Resolution

Location: 30 Bell Lane

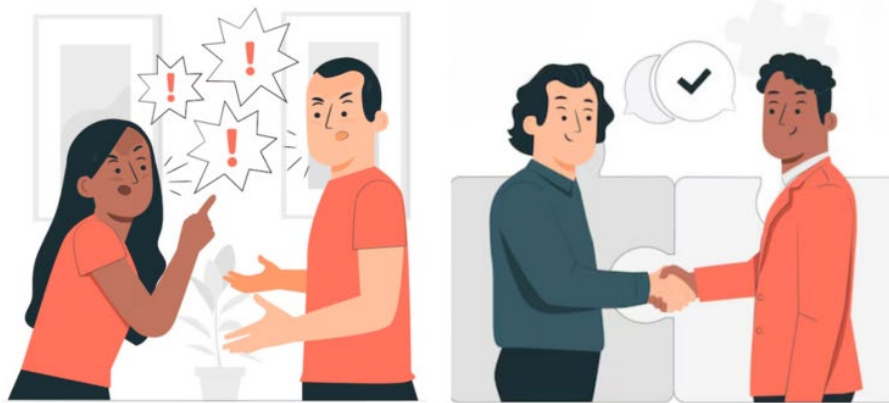
Date: Tuesday April 21st

Time: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Conflict resolution involves addressing and managing issues through respectful ways and constructive outcomes.

This workshop will provide you with clear strategies and communication skills to turn conflict into opportunities for collaboration.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION



To register for Professional Learning Workshops please scan the QR code or email registration@eycbrant.ca

Signed English

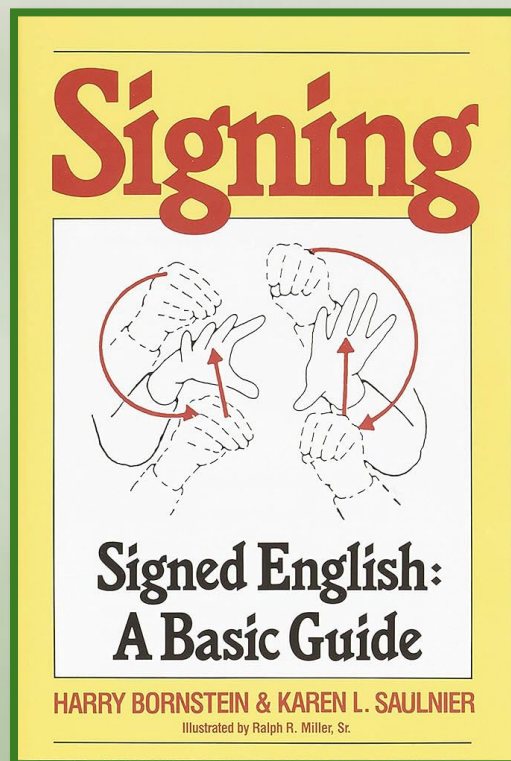
Location: 30 Bell Lane

Date: Wednesday April 29th May 6th, 13th, 20th, & 27th (5-week series)

Time: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Learn how to incorporate Signed English sign language into everyday interactions with children. This workshop series provides emphasis on functional vocabulary for preschool children. All participants receive a free Signed English Starter Dictionary Book.

This is a certificate course



To register for Professional Learning Workshops please scan the QR code or email registration@eycbrant.ca

Create to Learn: Tabletop Treasures: Learning Through Play

Location: 30 Bell Lane

Date: Saturday, May 2nd

Time: 9:00: am-11:00 am

Join us for a hands-on, high-energy workshop designed to spark creativity and elevate your tabletop learning experiences!

This create to learn session is perfect for Early Learning Professionals looking to enrich their learning environments with engaging, developmentally appropriate activities that children can explore right at the table. Participants will leave with activities ready to set up in their learning environments.



To register for Professional Learning Workshops please scan the QR code or email registration@eycbrant.ca

Understanding ADHD: Strategies, Strengths, and Support

Location: Virtual Workshop on Teams

Date: Thursday June 4th

Time: 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

We are thrilled to be facilitating an upcoming workshop focused on **ADHD—what it is, what it *isn't*, and how we can better support children, youth, and individuals who live with it every day.**

We are excited to share, reflect, and learn together as we build our collective confidence in supporting children with ADHD.



To register for Professional Learning Workshops please scan the QR code or email registration@eycbrant.ca



This is an exciting full team opportunity for your centre

Empowering Change: Diversity and Inclusion at Work

Join us on this self-reflective journey where your team can examine current practices of EDI (Equity, Diversity, Inclusion), and explore new ideas through the lens of Equity Diversity and Inclusion.

EDI guides our practices by ensuring fair access to opportunities, celebrating the uniqueness of each child, and creating spaces where differences are embraced.

During this 3-week series, your team will delve into our biases, current practices and how to honour all families.

A light dinner will be provided.

**To register your team please contact us at registration@eycbrant.ca
Or call 519-759-3833**





Brant Learn is an online platform to complete your professional development at your leisure.

How to Access Brant Learn

- Please log on to our Professional Learning Hub website:
professionallearninghub.ca
- Click the Brant Learn tab
- Click first time user
- Fill out a request form
- Wait for a confirmation email to complete the registration process

Brant Learn Tips

When you register for Brant Learn your registration is good as long as you remain active on the platform.

If you forget your password, click forgot password and if you require further assistance, you can call 519-759-3833.

Happy Learning!

Available Brant Learn Online Workshops

- Dealing with Challenging People
- Infant Development Skills
- Math in the Early Years
- Music
- Mindfulness
- Energy Busters
- Self Regulation
- Not Just a House Centre
- Supporting the Busy Child
- Mental Health and Well Being
- The Value of Risky Play
- Loose Parts
- Physical Literacy
- What do we do with all these Emotions
- The Reflective Teacher
- Why Play Based Learning
- What's all this talk about Relationships
- Professionalism in Child Care
- Infection, Prevention and Control
- Relationship Building is the Child's Emotional Glue
- Bringing Science to Life
- Active Listening
- Menu Planning for Child Care Settings
- Environment as the Third Teacher
- Schema Play
- How to make the learning Visible
- Just One Bite
- Back to the Basics: Infant/Toddler
- Reflective Practice
- Supervisor's Tool Kit
- Haudenosaunee People
- Back to the Basics: Preschool
- Teaching Kids to Care
- Why is this room so loud
- Back to the Basics: School-age
- Introduction to How Does Learning Happen
- Breaking Down the Four Foundations

Available Brant Learn Online Workshops

- Following the Professional Path
- What Does all this Lingo Mean?
- Active Activities for the Active Toddler
- Addressing Feeding Needs in the Classroom
- Block Play
- Building Resilience in Young Children
- Calming Kits
- Children and Stress
- Children are capable and competent
- Cooking in the Classroom
- Creating Social Beings
- Creative Art Area
- Curriculum Options
- Designing your Classroom
- Energy Busters
- Enhancing your play space
- Environmental Print
- Following the child's Lead
- Gardening with children
- Heavy Work for Children
- How to Let your Strengths Show
- Incorporating Nature into the Classroom
- It's all about Play
- Mud Kitchens
- ROSIE for inspiring environments
- Reading Together
- Pedagogical Documentation
- Schema Play #2
- Standards of Practice
- Supporting Emotional Development
- Taking Care of ourselves through changing times
- The Five Love Languages
- The Importance of Routines in Child Care
- Tips and Tricks for Toddlers
- What Makes a Good Team
- Why Pretend?