

*British Columbia Montessori
Association*

Annual Fall Conference

Friday October 23 2009



...to unite...to educate...to inspire

New Location

*Executive Hotel and Conference
Centre*

4201 Lougheed Hwy, Burnaby, BC



*British Columbia
Montessori Association*
www.bcmontessori.com

2009 Fall Conference

Executive Hotel and Conference Centre

4201 Lougheed Highway, Burnaby, B.C.

Thursday, October 22nd: A Parent and Teacher Night with Tim Seldin

“DOES MONTESSORI PREPARE CHILDREN FOR THE REAL WORLD?”

Also at the Executive Hotel and Conference Center, Burnaby, B.C.

This evening is for everyone! Cost \$10

Friday, October 23rd: CONFERENCE

Friday's Schedule at a Glance:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 7:45 | Registration / Marketplace |
| 8:20 | Good Morning Welcome / Door Prizes |
| 8:30 – 10:00 | Keynote with Tim Seldin – <i>Clarifying the Montessori Message</i> |
| 10:00 – 10:45 | Coffee Break / Marketplace |
| 10:45 – 12:15 | Morning Workshop |
| 12:15 – 1:30 | Lunch Break / AGM / Door Prizes / Marketplace / Networking |
| 1:30 - 3:00 | Afternoon Workshop |
| 3:00 – 4:00 | Marketplace |

Friday Lunch: we will be holding a brief Annual General Meeting for BCMA members, your presence is requested. We can meet and eat! Please join us and elect your new B.C.M.A. Board Members!!

Workshop Selections

Workshop A.M.	Presenter	
Celebrations of Life (ages 3-12)	Tim Seldin	BCMA/BCPSA
Developing Curriculum: The Fundamental Needs of Humankind – Spiritual Renewal	Claudie Clark	BCMA
Personal Empowerment to be Joyful, Fascinated and Creative!	Cathy Goss	BCMA
Supporting Daily Physical Activity in Schools	Action BC	BCMA
Brain Gym		BCPSA
Global Awareness	Thelma Valle-Serrano	BCPSA
Primary Language	Linda Grueber	BCPSA
Choice Theory for Children	Choice Theory	BCMA
Workshop P.M.		
Workshop P.M.	Presenter	
The Child in the World of Nature	Tim Seldin	BCMA/BCPSA
Affirming Dr. Montessori's vision of <i>quality education</i> for our students <u>and</u> ourselves	Cathy Goss	BCMA
Talking so Parents Can Hear - How to Create Boundaries to Foster Home and School Partnership	Elizabeth Hart	BCMA
Action Schools! BC Classroom Healthy Eating Workshop	Action BC	BCMA
Biomes of the World	Sarita Sahota	BCPSA
Global Awareness	Thelma Valle-Serrano	BCPSA
Montessori Math and BC plos	Christine Johnson/Rosanna	BCPSA
Junior Great Books	Kirsty Gourlay	BCPSA

PAYMENT

SAVE with the EARLYBIRD SPECIAL!!! To avail of this rate, registration must be postmarked by September 20th. Members wishing to avail of the early bird members' fee MUST renew/sign up by September 20th. There will be no extensions.

Note: Conference fees include all workshops, morning coffee, and lunch. **Pay parking in effect (\$5.00 A DAY)**

Conference Fees	
Members' EARLYBIRD RATE (By Sept 20 th)	\$100.00
Members' REGULAR RATE	\$125.00
NON-MEMBERS' EARLYBIRD RATE (By Sept. 20 th)	\$125.00
NON-MEMBERS' REGULAR RATE	\$150.00

Certificates of attendance will be provided for completion of workshops and keynote address.

RECEIPT, CONFIRMATION, CANCELLATION

Your conference packet will be handed to you at the Conference; it will include, name tag, schedule, receipt and conference folder. The B.C.M.A. reserves the right to make changes they feel necessary to have the best day possible. Conference fees are non refundable, but you may have someone take your place.

HOSPITALITY PROGRAM Share the Montessori community spirit and open your home to our out-town guests! The Hospitality Program will allow out-of-towners a more comfortable way to enjoy the conference. Thank you for our generosity!

Yes, I can accommodate __ (number of guest/s) at my home for _____ (max number of) nights.

For our out-of-town guests:

Yes, please! I need accommodation for _____ (number) nights. (We will forward your name to the host members.)

HOTEL ACCOMODATION – A block of rooms will be held for conference delegates until September 20th, 2009 at the Executive Hotel and Conference centre in Burnaby. Reservations must be confirmed using a Visa or MasterCard at the time of booking. It is your responsibility to register and confirm your room. Be sure to identify yourself as a “British Columbia Montessori Association conference participant”. A special rate of \$115.00 per room per night is being offered. Rates are based on single or double occupancy.

For reservations please contact the hotel directly:

reservationsb@executivehotels.net
4201 Lougheed Hwy.
Burnaby, B.C. V5C 3Y6
Toll free 1-800-590-3932
Phone 604-298-2010

The BCMA reserves the right to make changes and or cancellations if needed .

We look forward to seeing you at the conference!!

2009 Fall Conference

to unite.... to inspire.... to educate

- this is the mission of your B.C.M.A.

We are delighted to announce the first Joint Montessori Conference between us the BC Montessori Association and BC Montessori PSA.

For too many years the Montessori community has been divided by real or perceived differences. It is difficult to see how we can be teachers of peace if we do not model that peacefulness in our own-shared community. We have much to learn from each other and much in common. To that end we are coming together to conference. Let's celebrate a new century of unity in our Montessori community.

Conference Speakers - 2009

Your workshop leader will be Tim Seldin...

*Tim is the President of (The) Montessori Foundation and Chair of the International Montessori Council. His more than thirty years of experience in Montessori education includes twenty-two years as Headmaster of the Barrie School in Silver Spring, MD, his own alma mater (age two through high school graduation). He has also served as the Director of the Institute for Advanced Montessori Studies and as Head of the New Gate School in Sarasota, Florida. He earned a B.A. in History and Philosophy from Georgetown University, an M.Ed. in Educational Administration and Supervision from The American University, and his Montessori certification from the American Montessori Society. Tim Seldin is the author of several books on Montessori Education, including his latest, *The Montessori Way* with Dr. Paul Epstein, *Building a World-class Montessori School*, *Finding the Perfect Match - Recruit and Retain Your Ideal Enrollment*, *Master Teachers - Model Programs*, *Starting a New Montessori School*, *Celebrations of Life*, and *The World in the Palm of Her Hand*.*

DOES MONTESSORI PREPARE CHILDREN FOR THE REAL WORLD with Tim Seldin **(PARENT/TEACHER EVENING, THURSDAY OCTOBER 22ND)**

Parents and educators not familiar with Dr. Montessori's research and the program that it inspired are often skeptical about whether or not Montessori graduates will have been adequately prepared to succeed in the real world. As Dr. John Stoops, Director of the Middle States Association for the Accreditation of Colleges and Schools writes:

"Maria Montessori's research and program have withstood the test of time, and I predict that within the next two decades the world of education will fully discover its debt to her. She was no will-of-the-wisp. She was an imaginative and rigorous student of child development who produced a vast number of original ideas and had both the enterprise and pragmatic courage to put them to work. Her gift to education is a much deeper appreciation and understanding of the child and the human potential."

Tim, who attended the Barrie School in Silver Spring, Maryland from age 2 through 12th grade, will share his own memories and experience, along with the accumulated experience and insights of scores of Montessori teachers, parents, and children around the world.

CLARIFYING THE MONTESSORI MESSAGE with Tim Seldin (Keynote Address)

Having reached its centennial, the public in most nations is both more aware of, and in general more confused about, Montessori than ever before. Distinctly different messages about Montessori practice and belief contradict the wide-spread impression that Montessori is a tightly organized and unified approach. There is a great need to clarify our message and public image at every level, from the individual Montessori teacher attempting to answer parent concerns, to our schools as they seek to recruit and retain supportive families, and to our national Montessori organizations. Tim Seldin will discuss how we can communicate both our message and the tangible benefits that Montessori contributes to children and families around the world.

Morning Workshop Selections - 10:45 - 12:15

CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE (Ages 3-12) with Tim Seldin

This well developed curriculum offers an integrated thematic approach to international studies, peace and moral education. History and cultural geography come alive, and your school develops a stronger sense of community. You'll see how you can readily plan and coordinate an exciting thematic unit of study that weaves together a wide-range of practical life, sensorial exercises, language, geography, science, history, art, music, drama, dance, and foreign language study.

DEVELOPING CURRICULUM: THE FUNDAMENTAL NEEDS OF HUMANKIND - SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

Your workshop leader will be Claudie Clark...

As a graduate of WMTC and a certified adult educator with over 17 years of experience in the Montessori method, Mrs. Clark currently teaches at the Foundation and Advanced levels as Managing Director for Western Montessori Teachers' College in British Columbia. Her work also includes parent education, professional development workshops and community outreach projects.

Claudie's passion for learning involves her in further studies in adult education and mediation. As mother of Natasha, her nineteen-year old daughter, her work has involved supporting Montessori alternatives in public education in Surrey, B.C. When time allows, her interests include reading, enjoying the great outdoors and gourmet cooking..

*"Education is not the filling of a pail,
but the lighting of a fire."*

(William Butler Yeats)

❖ Come and explore how to develop and present Fundamental Needs in your classroom. The Montessori classroom strives to help children be aware of life in a more global sense; studying the Fundamental Needs of Humankind helps us achieve this goal. This study serves as a backdrop to the elementary class geography curriculum, and the area of spiritual renewal - the five major religions of the world, has been chosen as the focus for this workshop.

Lessons learned while working with this material when combined with the template-handout, will supply you with the impetus to develop rich, all-encompassing, attractive materials for your classroom. The result will be an organized, sequential approach to the universal needs of the World's People.

PERSONAL EMPOWERMENT TO BE JOYFUL, FASCINATED AND CREATIVE!

Your workshop leader will be Cathy Goss...

Cathy Goss is an inspired and experienced Montessori directress who has been actively and joyfully involved in Montessori education as a parent, and preschool and elementary directress. She has presented successful workshops for the BCMA and school districts in this province and for the Canadian Association of Montessori Teachers in Ontario. She leads with the conviction that Montessori serves children, families and professionals in a rewarding, wonderful way. Cathy has given countless Parent Education Presentations to inspire and educate parents who discover what an opportunity Montessori is for their family. She is a Virtues Facilitator who meshes The Virtues Project with Montessori education at all age levels...yes, including adults! Trained in William Glasser's Choice Theory, Cathy has learned how to ask the right questions to get what you want. Cathy gives workshops that are lively, fun, informative, and easy to implement!

❖ Developing professionalism in Montessori Directresses and Directors is essential! This workshop is designed to build confidence in us as growing professionals. Cathy's interactive workshop allows us to take a look at our strengths and share what we do well. It is an opportunity to recognize a point of development in ourselves where we want to create strength and learn from others. We will define and declare our vision and commitment to our work. We will discuss how to take a stand for the wellbeing of all. Come to share your inspiration and be inspired. Generating excitement and fulfillment is our desired outcome! Join in with enthusiasm in your voice and heart!

SUPPORTING DAILY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN SCHOOLS - Action Schools! BC Classroom Action Workshop - Grades K to 3

Looking for ideas to support Daily Physical Activity in your school? Action Schools! BC is a best practices model designed to assist schools in creating individualized action plans to promote healthy living. Learn about the Classroom Action Zone and try out the popular "10 minute" classroom activities including Chair Aerobics, Fit Kids' Workouts, Head-to-Toe Stretches and Brain Dance. Participants will receive a complimentary copy of the Action Schools! BC Classroom Action Resource, Planning Guide, and Action Pages! - a guide to healthy living resources from British Columbia and across Canada. After the workshop your school may be eligible for Action Schools! BC Classroom Action Bins filled with playground balls, skipping ropes, beanbags, scarves, grippers and many valuable teaching resources such as posters, CDs, DVDs and books. Come and learn implementation ideas and action tips to provide more opportunities for more children to make healthy choices more often.

BRAIN GYM

"Educational Kinesiology" - learning through the science of movement: more info to follow!

GLOBAL AWARENESS: A Definition of Montessori Public with an example of a Whole Program Application (S. H. W. I. P.)

Your workshop leader will be Thelma Valle-Serrano..

Thelma Valle-Serrano has an Associate in Arts and Bachelor of Arts major in Psychology from the Pamantasan Ng Lungsod Ng Maynila (PLM). She received her 6 to 12 training in Bergamo, Italy with the Association Montessori International (AMI) in 1972. She did the Masters program in Educational Management at the De La Salle University in Manila. In BC, she completed the Provincial Instructor Diploma Program with VCC. She received her Masters of Education, focusing on Child Studies, from Simon Fraser University in 1999. This school year will be her eleventh year guiding a Montessori public school classroom.

❖ This workshop will be conducted in two sessions. Session One will be a dissertation on the speaker's perspective of what Montessori practice is in a public school setting to be followed by a discussion.

Session Two will be the whole program application portion, specifically condensing and demonstrating a three-year program called SHWIP - Sustaining a Healthy, Wealthy and Intelligent Planet.

PRIMARY LANGUAGE: MONTESSORI GRAMMAR SYMBOLS - Using the Classroom for your farm material

Your workshop leader will be Linda Grueber...

Linda first became interested in Montessori education in high school when her mom was researching to what pre-school to send her little sister. After she got her B.S. and M.S degrees in Elementary Education, she went on to take her AMS pre-school course, then her St Nicholas training, followed by her Elementary training from IAPM (Angela Martin). She began teaching in the BC Public Montessori Schools in 1985 in Surrey, BC. She then moved on to start a new classroom at Tyee, while advising the emerging Richmond Public Program in their start-up. Presently she has a 1-3 Montessori class in the Richmond School District.

❖ During this workshop, the presentation of the Montessori grammar symbols will be reviewed. Mrs. Grueber will be sharing the techniques and activities she uses during the Fall with her own elementary (1-2-3) class. The participant will see new ideas and lessons and receive handouts to implement activities in their own class.

CHOICE THEORY TO CHILDREN

Your workshop leaders will be Christine and Colleen of "Choice Theory to Children"

Christine is a Montessori teacher at Uplands Elementary School, in Langley, B.C. She is a graduate of the University of Victoria and Western Montessori Teacher's College. Christine has taught children in public and private Montessori schools from kindergarten to grade three. She is passionate about empowering both children and adults to become aware of meeting their needs in a socially responsible manner, and how to develop a consciousness of the virtues within themselves.

Colleen is a Montessori teacher at Lord Tweedsmuir Elementary School, in New Westminster, B.C. She completed her teaching degree at the University of Victoria and her Montessori training through Western Montessori Teacher's College. Over the past 5 years, Colleen has taught Grades 1 through 6 in the public Montessori program. She is currently working as a full time mom to her daughters Kennedy (4) and Addison (8 months). Colleen takes great pride in working with her students to discover the gifts within them and to uncover the human beings they want to be in the world. Colleen plans to return to teaching in the New Year!

❖ *A Series of 'Culture Lessons' on the Needs of Humans*

This interactive workshop will provide you with ways to foster self-esteem and character development through a series of culture lessons that ultimately create a basis for self-aware individuals who are socially responsible and effective communicators.

You will learn how to implement the basics of Choice Theory into your classroom community and how to recognize our 'behaviour needs' through directed discussions, student activities and artistic reflections suitable for children ages 6 through 12.

These lessons relate to the Ministry of Education's I.R.P.'s for oral and written language, visual arts, social responsibility and career and personal planning to name a few. You will leave with new perspective on yourself as well as the tools to empower your students to use a common language to express their needs and to become peaceful problem solvers.

Afternoon Workshop Selections - 1:30 - 3:00

THE CHILD IN THE WORLD OF NATURE with Tim Seldin

Drawn from over 30 years of experience both in Montessori schools and summer programs, Tim will introduce the rationale for why outdoor education—gardening, observation of wildlife, field botany, and even early camping experiences—should be a key element in our programs for children from the infant-toddler years through upper school. He will suggest loads of resources and fascinating year-round activities, and tackle practical concerns that often keep us from developing a strong nature program.

AFFIRMING DR. MONTESSORI'S VISION OF QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL OUR STUDENTS AND OURSELVES with Cathy Goss

Being creators and caretakers of quality Montessori education is our daily occupation, a purpose that we are compelled to do with devotion. We will look at the mindset of Montessori philosophy, the role of the directress, and the function of the prepared environment and program. The quality of Montessori programs is at risk - what can we do about it and thrive in our work? Come and tell what victories you have had and share your frustrations to enable support to flourish. Montessori philosophy and practice are the building blocks of this discussion. If you feel vague about this topic to start, you will finish with clarity and renewed purpose!

TALKING SO PARENTS CAN HEAR - HOW TO CREATE BOUNDARIES TO FOSTER HOME AND SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Your workshop leader will be *Elizabeth Hart...*

Montessori Directress (BBMH), Certified Advanced Choice Theory Counseling, Virtues Project Facilitator, Former Academic Director (Principal) Boundary Bay Montessori House (BBMH), Workshop Presenter, VSB - VTI Training Centre, BCMA, CAMT and Mother of five - four Montessori Graduates

❖ *Often we conduct meetings (or wish we had) to create a feeling of partnership with parents so that our students, the classroom and the teachers feel supported. It may feel like a daunting task and certainly one that can lead to escalated feelings or directions that we had no idea were there. These are not always positive. This workshop will help teachers of all children, preschool to elementary, navigate parent teacher meetings in a way that will create harmony and respectful dialogue.*

The components of this workshop will cover:

- ♦ *Establishing Boundaries - how we create boundaries so that the information we are sharing is being understood by parents*
- ♦ *Transcending the Personal - how to foster partnership so that the child remains the source of focus*
- ♦ *Sharing Responsibility - how to record and delegate so that the parents are taking their role seriously*
- ♦ *Framing the Questions - how to ask questions so that real problem solving occurs*
- ♦ *Creating a Plan - how to establish a plan that is a result of brainstorming and incorporates the team work of teachers and parents*

BC CLASSROOM HEALTHY EATING WORKSHOP - Grades K to 3 with Action Schools

Looking for ideas to incorporate healthy eating into your classroom and school? Action Schools! BC is a best practices model designed to assist schools in creating individualized action plans to promote healthy living. Learn about the new Healthy Eating component and find out how to become involved in this exciting initiative. The Classroom Action Zone will be highlighted with a focus on vegetable and fruit consumption. Participants will receive a complimentary copy of the Action Schools! BC Classroom Healthy Eating Action Resource, Planning Guide, and Action Pages! - a guide to healthy living resources from British Columbia and across Canada. After the workshop, your school may be sent complimentary Action Schools! BC Classroom Healthy Eating Action Packs filled with tools for food preparation, and other resources for classroom learning, tracking, tasting and snacking activities. Come and learn implementation ideas and action tips to provide more opportunities for more children to make healthy choices more often.

BIOMES OF THE WORLD Your workshop leader will be *Sarita Sahota...*

Originally a hematologist, Sarita was educated in India and England and then gave up her career in the lab to go back to school and become a teacher. After her family was transferred to Canada she volunteered in a Richmond dual-track school (Neighborhood and Montessori) where she first became interested in Montessori. After accepting a job at a

private school she soon saw she did not belong where children were seated in rows and completed workbook after workbook. Seeing an ad for Montessori training at VTI she took two other teachers with her to investigate, joined the training, left her private school job for a part time job in a Montessori public program and has not looked back since. She currently teaches in a grade 1-2-3 classroom in the Langley Public Montessori Program at Uplands Elementary.

❖ This workshop will show how to build an integrated study over 5 years that teaches the biomes and how they are interrelated. It covers the BC plo's and builds year by year to a full understanding of the geology, geography, biology, zoology of the earth, it's impact on human cultural development, as well as how humans impact their environment. Materials and student work will be shown.

GLOBAL AWARENESS: A Definition of Montessori Public with an example of a Whole Program Application (S. H. W. I. P.) - Session 2 with Thelma Valle-Serrano

Session Two will be the whole program application portion, specifically condensing and demonstrating a three-year program called SHWIP - Sustaining a Healthy, Wealthy and Intelligent Planet.

MONTESSORI MATH AND THE BC PLO'S with Christine Johnson and Rosanna Mastromonaco

This workshop is based on Michael Duffy's book *Math Works*. Written for parents, this presentation looks at how Montessori math materials develop children's brains as shown by recent brain research. It also looks at how the work of the materials meets the BC plo's (using Albanesi cards). This workshop provides an excellent summary for teachers, and a good base for parent education.

JUNIOR GREAT BOOKS Your workshop leader will be Kirsty Gourlay...

Kirsty originally trained as a high school teacher and became interested in Montessori when she was looking for a preschool for her own two children. She was involved in the growth and development of the Richmond Public Program and served on the board of the Richmond Association for Montessori. She always said she would take her training if a MACTE approved course became available in Vancouver. She received her Montessori training from VTI in Vancouver (AMS/MACTE) and has taught in both the Richmond and Langley Public Montessori Programs.

❖ This workshop will be useful for those who have never seen the Junior Great Books and those who are familiar with the program. There will be an opportunity to look at the Junior Great Books, see how Junior Great Books fits into the Language Arts curriculum and the BC plo's, and take part in a Shared Inquiry discussion.

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