

# Simcoe Community Services presents a full day conference on:

### Understanding and Intervening Effectively with Challenging Children at Home and in Schools



This presentation will focus on the emotional needs of children facing separation. Neuroscience and trauma research have changed the way we see challenging behaviour. The interventions that will be shared are developmentally based, trauma informed and attachment friendly and these are proving to be effective both at home and in schools.

Eva de Gosztonyi, psychologist, has worked for over 40 years in schools across Canada. She is the Coordinator of the Centre of Excellence



for Behaviour Management, a support to the ten English School Boards of Quebec, helping them to provide effective interventions for students with behavioural challenges. Eva bases her interventions on the newest brain research, trauma research and the most effective practices congruent with the attachment-based developmental paradigm of Dr. Gordon Neufeld. Eva is a member of the Faculty of the Neufeld Institute and an authorized presenter of the Neufeld paradigm. Her aim is to help all adults make sense of the children in their care so they can create the conditions in which their children can thrive.

#### **Morning Key Note**

#### Understanding and Intervening Effectively with Challenging Children, Eva de Gosztonyi

When children face disruptions in their attachment world, life becomes difficult for everyone. Children and adults alike experience alarm and frustration and these emotions result in challenging behaviours. This presentation will help those living and working with these children to understand how the brain works when it is dealing with a separation difficult to bear. We will then explore ways to intervene that respect the child's emotional and developmental needs. The ultimate goal is to create the conditions that allow the child to develop to his/her full potential while keeping everyone safe.

#### **Afternoon Presentations (Choose one)**

## Understanding and Intervening Effectively with Challenging Children in Schools, at Home and Child Care Settings, Eva de Gosztonyi

Using the framework presented in the morning session, this session will focus on helping those who work with children in schools or Child Care to apply the concepts in that setting. Schools/Child Cares often focus on managing symptoms but when the role of emotion is ignored, the symptoms tend to return. After 40 years of experience, it has become apparent that some of our "tried and true" interventions are not only ineffective, but they can, at times, make things worse, especially for children

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experiencing significant separation. Neuroscience and trauma research can help us to understand why practices may need to change. Alternate interventions will be proposed that have been implemented with success in schools in Quebec and Alberta.



Child Advocacy Centre: CAC will present on the topic of Human Trafficking, the grooming process and online Safety, Ashley LeClair: Ashley LeClair is the Youth & Human Trafficking Advocate with the Child Advocacy Centre of Simcoe Muskoka. As part of a multi-disciplinary team Ashley works closely with community partners, such as police and child protection, to improve the

community's response to child abuse and exploitation and minimize trauma to children, youth and their families. Many survivors of sexual abuse and their families do not recognize the grooming process as it is happening, nor do they recognize that this process of manipulation is part of the overall abuse process. Ashley's presentation will include an indepth explanation of the grooming process, warning signs to consider and what to do if you suspect child abuse or exploitation. Following the presentation, Ashley hopes you will feel more confident in keeping young people safe.

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