



Board Nominees—2020

Name: Fowler-Massie, Laura
Lives In: Chelsea, QC
Current Job: Professor of Early Childhood Education, CEGEP Heritage College Gatineau QC
Area of Practice: College - Pre-service ECE training ECE

Education

Program	Educational Institution	Year
ECE	Algonquin College Ottawa ON	1996
BA Psychology	Carleton U - Ottawa ON	2006
Master of Education	U Sherbrooke QC	2013

Participation in Early Childhood Education Organizations

Position	Association/Organization	Date
Board Member	CCCF	2017-Present
Co-Chair	ECE Faculty Forum	2018-Present
Creator - Lead Trainer	Calm Kids Yoga ECE Training	2019-Present

Other Community Involvement

Position	Association/Organization	Date
Manager/Supervisor	Charlemagne Child Care Services Ottawa ON	2003-2006
Drop-in Coordinator/ Parent Educator	Preschool Resource Centre, Ottawa, ON	2002-2003
Teaching Director	Chelsea, QC Coop Nursery School QC	1996 - 2002

Nominee's Statement

I hold a diploma in ECE from Algonquin College, a B.A. in Psychology from Carleton University and a Master of Education with a specialization in college teaching, from the University of Sherbrooke. With more than thirty years in the field I have taught in licensed childcare, co-op nursery schools and family resource programs.

I am excited to meet and work with like-minded professionals who are as passionate about early child development as I am. I have a strong interest in supporting educators in best practices in play-based and nature-based learning. I am particularly curious about educators' perceptions of play in nature as a path to deep learning for children.

I am also passionate about promoting and advocating for all aspects of early learning and childcare with a particular interest in supporting ECE's knowledge of aboriginal early learning practices. Recently I completed a special project on behalf of my college, with a focus on strengthening reciprocal partnerships with aboriginal and first nations family support and early learning settings. I plan to facilitate fieldwork opportunities for our aboriginal and non-aboriginal ECE students in friendship centres, Head-start programs, family support programs and other programs providing services to indigenous peoples.

I am also a certified hatha yoga teacher with special training in teaching yoga to children. I have created a specialized training program for ECE's who would like to teach relaxation, mindfulness and stress reduction to children. In the last six months I have trained over 75 ECE's in mindfulness and yoga. In our new COVID reality it is even more important for educators to have the skills to support stress reduction and mental health for themselves and the children they work with.

Finally, I am very interested in early learning and childcare on a global level. I have been involved in taking ECE students to remote villages in Guatemala, Kenya and Ecuador for the past nine years. These two-week humanitarian trips expose the ECE students to the challenges families and children face when living in extreme poverty. It has been my experience that this kind of deep learning and subsequent reflection supports ECE students' world views and empowers them to excel in their own personal practice at educators of young children.