

Winter 2026 Publication

The Halton Resource Connection – October – December

Come Learn With Us Today

Professional Learning Opportunities

Contact us – 905-875-4600 ext. 101

Visit Us For More Information – www.thrc.ca

About The Halton Resource Connection

At The Halton Resource Connection (THRC) we are committed to supporting Early Learning and Child Care Professionals in their vital work with children, through on-going professional learning opportunities and resources. Learning is a lifelong journey - Let us walk alongside you as you enhance your skills, deepen your knowledge, and strengthen best practices and create meaningful learning experiences.

Our Vision

To empower Halton's Early Years Professionals to cultivate excellence and inspire lifelong growth.

Our Mission

Dedicated to fostering high quality early learning experiences for Early Years Professionals through resources, professional learning and mentorship that strengthens practice, nurtures leadership, and enhances the quality of experiences for children, families, and communities

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Milton Hours: Monday: 9:00am-5:00pm Tuesday: 11:00am – 7:00pm Wednesday: 9:00am-5:00pm Thursday: 11:00am-7:00pm Saturday: 10:00am-3:00pm (Open 2nd & 4th Saturday & closed on weekends) & CLOSED ON LONG WEEKENDS Address: 410 Bronte Street South, Milton Burlington Hours: Monday: 9:00am - 5:00pm Tuesday: 11:00am – 7:00pm Wednesday: 9:00am - 5:00pm Thursday: 11:00am – 7:00pm Address: 5195 Harvester Road, Unit #16, Burlington Sheridan Oakville Hours: Wednesday: 10:00am - 12:30pm Address: 1430 Trafalgar Road Oakville - Sheridan Child Care Please note: This location provides pick-up and drop-off services only.

How to Register Online for Professional Learning Sessions

- Visit THRC.ca and click the Professional Learning tab, scroll to find your session, and click the title to be directed to the registration page.
- Fill out the registration form using your information and your own email address
- If payment is required, follow the prompt to complete it.
- You're registered once you receive an automated confirmation email.
No more accounts! No more passwords!

Look for the icon, to identify sessions featuring a THRC Podcast for deeper insights on the topic. VIA ZOOM In-Person Contact us for other ways to Register Having issues registering for professional learning online? Email administrativeassistant@thrc.ca for support

Curriculum Supports and Program Practices

Learning Community for All Educators

Educator Learning Community: Connect, Share and Grow

This session is for all educators at all stages of your career, who are eager to connect with peers and expand your professional community. Bring your ideas, questions and collaborative spirit.

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors

January 20, 2026

7:00pm - 8:00pm

Learning Community for Preschool Educators

Preschool Learning Community: Connect, Share, and Grow

Join fellow Preschool professionals to collaborate, share insights, exchange and spark fresh ideas and explore best practices in Early Childhood Education.

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors

January 21, 2026

7:00pm - 8:00pm

Blended Standard First Aid & CPR-C

January 17, 2026

5195 Harvester Road Unit #16

Burlington, ON

L7L 6E9

Workplace Medical Corp.

Duty to Report

Keeping the most vulnerable members of our community safe is the responsibility of everyone. We all play a role in preventing child abuse and neglect. If you have any reason to believe that a child is in need of protection or is at risk of harm, make the call to Children's Aid.

Facilitated by: Children's Aid Society

January 22, 2026

7:00pm - 8:00pm

Memberships

Professional Memberships are available at no cost to those working in Halton Region who support the early year's sector.

Membership benefits include access to all of the equipment, resources and support that THRC's Resource Library has to offer.

For safety reasons, children under 16 years of age are not permitted in the resource library as some of the equipment could be harmful.

Functions of Behaviour

Explore, in depth, the various potential causes of behaviours, the language we should be using to speak about them, and

how we can prevent unexpected behaviours from occurring in the future. With a relationship-driven lens, participants will

discuss positive and negative reinforcement, and dive into the complexities of responding appropriately.

Facilitated by: Monica Maddison from Bloom Behaviour

January 28, 2026

6:30pm - 8:00pm

Caring and Responsive Relationships

Explore the power of caring and responsive relationships with children. This session dives into the importance of creating meaningful connections and how responsive interactions strengthen nurture and inspire growth.

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors

January 29, 2026

6:30pm - 8:00pm

Empowering Young Lives: An Introduction to Developmental Assets

Discover the power of small, intentional actions in shaping young people's growth and success through the Developmental Assets Framework. This interactive session will provide valuable insights and practical strategies to strengthen your impact.

During this session you will gain:

A deeper understanding of the 40 Developmental Assets and their significance.

Insight into the strong connection between assets and positive youth development.

Recognition of the key qualities of influential asset builders in children's lives.

Meaningful ways to nurture strengths and support young people.

A simple, actionable step to make a difference every day.

This session is designed for educators, caregivers, and professionals committed to fostering strong relationships and creating environments where young people thrive. Join us to connect, reflect, and be inspired!

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors

January 29, 2026
6:15pm - 8:15pm
The Halton Resource Connection
410 Bronte Street South, Milton
Tiffany Room

Learning Community for School Age Educators
Calling all School Age Educators: Connect, Share and Grow

Join us for an inspiring and interactive networking session designed to bring professional dedicated to supporting School Age Children. Come share ideas, resources and build connections with others.

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors
February 3, 2026
10:30am - 11:30am

Managing Big Emotions: An Educator's Guide to Emotional Coaching

Managing Big Emotions is an engaging workshop designed for educators seeking to better understand and support children through the ups and downs of emotional experiences. In today's fast-paced world, children often face overwhelming feelings that can be challenging to navigate, and these feelings can present themselves as difficult behaviours in early learning environments.

Facilitated by: Dr. Elena Merenda from Children Healing Studio
February 11, 2026
6:30pm - 8:00pm

Ask an Occupational Therapist

Do you have a burning question about the kids you support? Is there a reoccurring issue in your child care/classroom setting that you need strategies for? This session is for you. I am an Occupational Therapist with 23 years of experience and I'm here to answer your questions and problem solve with you. I have expertise in the following areas: sensory processing, motor planning (fine and gross motor), toileting, dressing, feeding, play, social engagement, self-regulation, autism, ADHD, and ARFID.

Facilitated by: Jessica Faith, Occupational Therapist
February 18, 2026
6:30pm - 8:00pm

Engaging Environments

An environment is more than just a backdrop—it's a powerful teaching partner. This session explores how thoughtful, intentional design of physical and emotional spaces can inspire curiosity, promote independence, and support meaningful interactions for children. Participants will reflect on their current environments and discover practical strategies to make spaces more inclusive, responsive, and engaging.

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors
February 19, 2026
6:30pm - 8:00pm

Sensory Processing

Explore "sensory processing", what it really means, and how this process may look different for neurodivergent children. Participants will learn the differences between hypo and hyper sensitivities, the 7 (not 5!) senses that we

use to explore and regulate our environment, as well as how to adapt the environment for potential sensory processing disorder.

Facilitated by: Monica Maddison from Bloom Behaviour
February 19, 2026
6:30pm - 8:00pm

When Big Behaviours Show Up: What Young Children Need Most From Us

This session is for every educator or caregiver who has ever asked, “Why is nothing working with this child?” Through the lens of Self-Reg, Susan Hopkins will show how stress—not defiance—is often behind the behaviours that challenge us most.

Facilitated by: Dr. Susan Hopkins, Executive Director of The MERHIT Centre
February 24, 2026
6:30pm - 8:00pm

Learning Community for Infant/Toddler Educators

Infant and Toddler Learning Community:
Connect, Share and Grow

Join fellow educators who share your passion for supporting the youngest learners. This interactive session is designed to share best practice strategies and resources to celebrate the impactful work you do everyday.

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors
February 26, 2026
7:00pm - 8:00pm

Introduction to Reflective Practice

What is reflective practice? How does reflection support you in your work? What is the benefit to being a reflective practitioner? Let’s come together in this interactive discussion to dig deeper into these questions.

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors
March 26, 2026
6:45pm - 8:15pm

Learning Community for Licensed Home Providers

Join other providers and celebrate your unique role in Early Childhood Education. This interactive session provides a supportive space to share ideas, resources and strategies with other professionals who share your passion for providing quality care in a home environment.

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors
March 31, 2026
7:00pm - 8:00pm

Pedagogical Documentation

Join other providers and celebrate your unique role in Early Childhood Education. This interactive session provides a supportive space to share ideas, resources and strategies with other professionals who share your passion for providing quality care in a home environment.

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors

March 31 & April 14, 2026

6:30pm - 8:00pm

The Halton Resource Connection

410 Bronte Street South, Milton

THRC Boardroom

Let's Talk: Self-Reg for Educators

Empowering growth through self-regulation. Discover how self-regulation serves the foundation for personal and professional growth. In this engaging and practical session, educators explore the five steps and five domains of self-regulation, what this looks like in practice and why it is so important to understand and support our own self-regulation.

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors

January 27, 2026

6:45pm - 8:15pm

The Halton Resource Connection

410 Bronte Street South, Milton

THRC Boardroom

Emotion Focused Educating

This session introduces educators to an emotion-focused approach to understanding and responding to children's behaviour. Participants will deepen their knowledge of children's emotional development, learn to recognize emotional cues, and understand the role of co-regulation in helping children return to a regulated state

Recommended for early years educators working with children aged 0 to 8.

Facilitated by: ROCK

February 5, 2026

6:30pm - 8:00pm

Resilience Learning Community

Are you seeking to cultivate resilience in your work with children and families—and within yourself? Whether you're a past participant of Reaching IN... Reaching OUT (RIRO) or are newly exploring the concept of resilience, this is your opportunity to reconnect, reflect, and recharge.

Join us as we strengthen our capacity for resilience—together.

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors

February 25, 2026

1:30pm - 2:30pm

Navigating Difficult Conversations

This interactive session is designed to equip you with practical strategies for navigating challenging conversations—whether you're speaking with colleagues, families, or administrators.

Discover how to communicate with clarity, empathy, and professionalism to build stronger relationships and create positive, supportive learning environments.

Join us as we dive into: What makes a conversation difficult? How to manage emotions—yours and others'

Tools for staying grounded and effective under pressure

Opportunities for reflection to deepen your understanding, growth and more!

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors

March 25, 2026

6:30pm – 8:00pm

Save the Dates!

THRC's Upcoming Events

Sharing these dates in advance help operators plan and prepare ahead of time.

March – Workforce Symposium 2026

May – Institute for Early Childhood Professional 2026

October – Leadership Forum 2026

Visit thrc.ca for more information!

Leadership and Operational Practices

Leadership Essentials: Core Skills For Emerging Leaders

Leadership can feel isolating, but it doesn't have to be. This session creates a space for leaders to come together, connect, and build a supportive community.

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors

February 11, 2026

11:00am - 12:30pm

Leadership Networks: Collaborative Leadership

Leadership can feel isolating, but it doesn't have to be. This session creates a space for leaders to come together, connect, and build a supportive community. In this interactive networking session, leaders will come together to explore innovative approaches to leadership and problem-solving.

Through guided discussions and activities, you will have the opportunity to share experiences, gain new perspectives, and expand your professional network.

Facilitated by: THRC Pedagogical Mentors

March 3, 2026

10:30am - 12:00pm

Empowering Neurodiversity

This interactive workshop will allow participants to embark on their journey of understanding Autism. Understanding and identifying the variety of strengths and needs of Autistic persons will empower participants to adapt their approach and ensure inclusivity.

Facilitated by: Kerry's Place

February 4, 2026

6:30pm - 8:00pm

EnAbling Inclusive Features

Creating a sense of belonging starts from a place of

Understanding and acceptance. EnAbling Inclusive Futures focuses on teaching organizations about creating accessible and inclusive spaces and programming for Autistic people. It helps address the unique needs of Autistic

individuals, thereby fostering environments that promote acceptance and support. It will support early learning and childcare professional in gaining an understanding of accessibility and inclusion for Autistic children, and best practices for designing programming.

Facilitated by: Kerry's Place
Participants are expected to attend both sessions
March 5 & 12, 2026
6:30pm - 8:00pm

Inclusive Environments

"When educators believe that all children have the right to participate and when they use inclusive approaches, they are more likely to find ways to reduce barriers, understand how each child learns, and create environments and experiences that are meaningful and engaging." How Does Learning Happen Pg. 36

Come together with other educators to share, reflect and discuss how diversity and inclusion is lived out in your program.

Facilitated by: THRC's Pedagogical Mentors
March 24, 2026
6:30pm - 8:00pm

Cost for all Professional Learning Sessions:

Professionals working in licensed programs in Halton in CWELCC: No Cost

Professionals working in licensed programs in Halton in CWELCC: \$15

Outside Halton Region and/or Non Licensed Programs: Cost \$25

Follow Us on Social Media

Follow us on Instagram

Follow us on Facebook

THRC Career Board

Halton's Early Years and Child Care Career Board

We support the recruitment of educators to work in Halton's vibrant Early Years and Child Care sector.

Employers can post full-time, part-time, summer, and volunteer opportunities on this site at no cost. Take advantage of this opportunity to connect with job seekers interested in working in Halton.

Visit us at thrc.ca/careerboard/

Build Your Skills All Winter Long – Self-Directed

Explore professional learning opportunities over the summer through our self-directed learning. A collection of resources designed to support you at your own pace in your own space.

Leadership and Operational Practices
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging
Ministry and Guiding Documents

Curriculum Supports and Program Practices
Mental Health and Well-Being
Ressources Françaises
visit us at www.thrc.ca for more information

Family Style Dining During Meal Times Inspiration Sheet & Information Sheet
The ECE Workforce Knowledge Hub
Child Care Early Years Act
Truth & Reconciliation

THRC Podcasts

**Let THRC's episodes inspire you
whether you're driving, or walking-inspiration is always within reach**

Click on the buttons below to listen now!

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Podcast

Spotify

Podbean

Have an idea for a podcast? We'd love to hear from you! Share your thoughts with us and help shape future episodes!

THRC Recent Podcasts

Who is THRC?- Introducing our Director

In this first episode, we sit down with Melanie Cunha, Director of THRC, to explore the organization's mission and core values. Melanie shares what fuels her passion for early learning, what she loves most about being part of THRC, and how the organization supports educators like you every day.

Whether you're new to THRC or have been connected for years, this series is your inside look at who we are!

Who is THRC? - Meet our Social Media, CCDIL and Admin Team

Get to know the passionate team behind the Resource Library at The Halton Resource Connection.

Discover the wide range of materials, tools, and supports available to early learning professionals, and learn how the Resource Library can enhance your practice. Whether you're new to the field or a seasoned educator, this conversation offers valuable insights into how THRC supports your journey in early learning and child care.

Who is THRC? Meet our Resource Library Team

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Who is THRC? Meet the Pedagogical Mentor Team

Pedagogical Mentor Team—a group dedicated to supporting educators through mentorship and professional growth. In this episode, they share insights on their role in the community and what makes their work so meaningful.

THRC Podcast

Melanie Cunha, Director of THRC listening to

✦✦ The ECE Backpack

Why I recommend it: “We all have something to bring to the work we do.”

This episode explores how collaboration in the field strengthens our growth—and how we can “clean out our backpacks” by updating our knowledge, refreshing our skills, and making space for new learning. A great listen for anyone wanting to reflect on how we evolve together as educators.

✦✦ Honouring Diane Kashin: A Tribute

Why I recommend it: “Powerful, inspiring, and a testament to the impact one person can have.”

Diane’s passion and dedication shone in every conversation. She made us feel seen, celebrated our talents, and inspired us to consider the legacy we leave in this field.

✦✦ Visuals in the Classroom: An Educator Shares Her Journey

Why I recommend it: “This educator’s passion and compassion are truly genuine. It made me reflect on the perspectives children bring to the environment, what we can learn from them, and how that shapes our work.”

This conversation offers beautiful insights into relationships and care. One of her many nuggets of wisdom: at the core of her why, she honours the children she works for.

Standard of Practice

The Standards of Practice serves as the foundational framework guiding professional conduct and practice for all Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECEs). Look for the icon that highlights the sessions corresponding to each standard. The Standards of Practice serves as the foundational framework guiding professional conduct and practice for all Registered Early Childhood Educators (RECEs). Look for the icon that highlights the sessions corresponding to each standard. Consider the Professional Learning experiences you've participated in and reflect on how they support or aligns with your Continuous Professional Learning (CPL).

College of ECE

Visit the College of ECE’s for More Information

About Us

The College of Early Childhood Educators regulates Ontario's early childhood educators in the public interest.

[Read about the history of the College.](#)

[Find out about the College's purpose and mandate.](#)

Register/Renew

- [Renew my membership online](#)
- [Update my contact information](#)
- [Check my application/renewal status](#)

CPL Program

The Continuous Professional Learning (CPL) Program is an ongoing professional learning program for RECEs that is grounded in self-reflection, self-directed learning and the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice [Opens in a new tab or window](#)

New Resources

[Professional Advisory: Practices that harm children](#)

FAQ

[Got Questions? You're Not Alone](#)

[See What Others Are Asking](#)