

# PRE-CONFERENCE INSTITUTE



## EARLY YEARS CONFERENCE 2016

### ***The Infant and Early Childhood Court Team Model***

*How the Courts, Child Welfare Agencies, and Related  
Child-serving Organizations can Work  
Together to Meet the Developmental and Mental Health  
Needs of Infants and Young Children in Foster Care*

January 28, 2016

The Hyatt Regency  
Vancouver, BC

**This workshop will be of interest to family lawyers, judges, child protection and child development experts who wish to explore an alternative model for the delivery of child protection and court services to children under five.**

Participants in this workshop will learn:

1. The state of our knowledge regarding the developmental consequences of early neglect and abuse and how this research can be introduced as evidence;
2. A description of an Infant and Early Childhood Court Team model that is showing significant improvement in reducing the time to permanency and risk of re-entry into care for infants and toddlers.

Participants attending will be given a certificate stating 6 hours of educational instruction and The Law Society of BC has approved the session titled "Impact of Disrupted Attachment, Trauma and Toxic Stress on Infant and Child Development" for one CPD credit.



### **Early Bird Registration:**

(on or before Dec 4)

**\$200 (incl. tax)**

(\$25 discount if also attending main conference)

### **Regular Registration:**

(after Dec 4)

**\$225 (incl. tax)**

(\$25 discount if also attending main conference)

### **Full Day Schedule**

8:30 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:15	Opening - <i>Dr. Sonya Vellet</i>
9:15 - 9:30	Introductory Remarks - <i>Grand Chief Ed John</i>
9:30 - 10:45	Impact of Disrupted Attachment, Trauma and Toxic Stress on Infant and Child Development - <i>Dr. Neil Boris</i>
10:45 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:00	BC Experience - <i>Dr. Vanessa Lapointe, Dr. Joanne Crandall, Dr. Sonya Vellet</i>
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch (on your own)
1:00 - 2:30	Examples of Canadian Models - <i>Judge Lynn Cook-Stanhope, Evelyn Wotherspoon</i>
2:30 - 3:00	Break
3:00 - 4:30	Panel Discussion - <i>Dr. Vanessa Lapointe, Dr. Joanne Crandall, Dr. Sonya Vellet, Grand Chief Ed John</i>
4:30 - 5:00	Closing Remarks - <i>TBA</i>

**To Register Please go to: [www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/EarlyYears2016](http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/EarlyYears2016)**

*Our goal is to inform practice and create systemic change in British Columbia*

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#### Presenter Information

**Dr. Neil W. Boris** became chief of the Nemours Children's Hospital Division of Behavioral Health in January 2013. He came to Nemours from Tulane University Medical Center, New Orleans, where he was professor of psychiatry and served in a variety of clinical settings as a clinician and teacher. An expert in conditions such as attachment disorders, autism spectrum disorders and depression in children, Dr. Boris has consistently been named among the Best Doctors in America and regularly listed in the Guide to America's Top Psychiatrists. He has authored more than 60 articles, has more than 20 book chapters in print and has presented his expertise and research at hundreds of annual meetings, workshops and symposia around the world. Dr. Boris is certified in child and adolescent psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology.

**Honorable Judge Lynn TL Cook-Stanhope** has presided almost exclusively in the Family and Youth Court division of the Provincial Court of Alberta since her appointment more than 30 years ago. She has presided over countless cases focusing on family and child protection law and youth law, and written extensively in these areas. Throughout her legal and judicial careers she has participated in a broad range of educational and mentorship programmes for the benefit of members of the public, school students and educators, and members of the judiciary on such diverse topics as domestic law, child protection, youth and adult criminal law. She has a special interest in addictions in young people, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and its devastating effects on children and parents diagnosed with exposure to alcohol in utero. Her other area of focus is on childhood attachment disruption, exposure to other negative childhood experiences and their effects on early brain development of children.

**Dr. Joanne Crandall** Joanne provides supervision, consultation, and promotion of best practice regarding Infant Mental Health to the various Child and Youth Mental Health teams throughout Northern BC. She is passionate about the Safe Babies Court Team Initiative and how it can be implemented in rural and remote communities.

**Grand Chief Edward John** is a Hereditary Chief of Tl'azt'en Nation located on the banks of the Nak'ál Bun (Stuart Lake) in Northern BC. He is an Indigenous leader who has dedicated his life to the pursuit of social and economic justice for Canada's Indigenous people, having worked as a leader in Indigenous politics, business and community development. Chief John has been a lawyer for more than 30 years. He holds a B.A. from the University of Victoria, an LL.B from the University of British Columbia and an Honorary Doctor of Laws degrees from the University of Northern British Columbia and the University of Victoria.

Chief John has served in many leadership roles at the local, provincial, national and international levels. Chief John is currently serving his tenth consecutive term on the First Nations Summit Task Group (political executive), which is mandated to carry out specific tasks related to Aboriginal Title and Rights negotiations with British Columbia and Canada and other issues of common concern to First Nations in British Columbia. He is a former Co-Chair of the North American Indigenous Peoples' Caucus and participated in the development of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2007. He was recently re-appointed for a second three-year term as a North American Representative to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (January 2014 – December 2016).

**Dr. Vanessa Lapointe** is a registered psychologist (#1856), speaker, and author of *Discipline without Damage: How to get your kids to behave without messing them up!* She has been supporting families and children for over 15 years. Her passion is in walking alongside parents, teachers, care providers, educators, and other big people to really see the world through the child's eyes so we are ideally positioned to grow up our children in the best possible way.

**Evelyn Wotherspoon** is a social worker and Zero To Three fellow who has devoted her career to high-risk children and families. For the last decade she has been providing infant mental health training and consultations to divorcing parents, health care professionals, mental health professionals, child welfare workers, lawyers, and judges throughout Alberta, BC and the Northwest Territories. Evelyn has authored papers on the needs of vulnerable infants and toddlers for a variety of publications. She has 25 years of experience working with high-risk children and families in mental health, child development and child protection settings. She is currently in private practice.

**Dr. Sonya Vellet** is a Psychologist who is currently in private practice in Vancouver, Victoria, and Calgary. She has specialized in the areas of infant and early childhood mental health and caregiver-infant/child attachment. Dr. Vellet provides assessment and intervention for caregivers and infants/children with disrupted attachment relationships, consultation, training, and supervision to professionals, and is a court-appointed expert in these two areas in Alberta. Dr. Vellet also collaborates with professionals from various systems to address developmental and mental health needs of young children who have been placed in foster care. Dr. Vellet has taught at University of British Columbia and is a Clinical Associate at Simon Fraser University. Dr. Vellet is also an organic gardener and potter.

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For Registration and More Information Please go to: [www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/EarlyYears2016](http://www.interprofessional.ubc.ca/EarlyYears2016)