

The Bridge Educational Society introduces

THE EARLY YEARS CENTRE



THE PROBLEM

There is a critical need for childcare in the North Okanagan. The lack of childcare is challenging for existing families as well as employers who cannot attract skilled workers with families of their own.

THE SOLUTION

Thanks to a \$500,000 Major Capital Grant from the BC Ministry of Child & Family Development, and further supported by a \$250,000 Community Gaming Grant, the Bridge Educational Society has undertaken the task of building the Early Years Centre.

- Located in the North Okanagan, it will serve Lumby, Coldstream, Vernon, and beyond.
- 63 spaces will be created for infant, daycare, preschool and school-aged care. Serving children from birth to 12 years.
- Scheduled to open in Summer 2019, it will operate as a not-for-profit.

WHY US

The Bridge Educational Society is uniquely specialized to operate this facility. We have years of proven experience in early childhood education.

- Our focus is on providing a nurturing environment that fosters wonder and imagination, where children can connect with nature and are immersed in a culture of community and have daily farm to table experiences - all which will allow children to thrive and will build a solid foundation.
- We have designed a centre that will put our area on the map - a choice for quality child care that will make our region an even more desirable place to live.

WHY YOU

This is a community-wide endeavour. We need your support to make this happen. You can take us one step closer.

- You realize the importance in investing in the children today for the benefit of tomorrow.
- You are a parent, parent-to-be, community member, employer who knows that exceptional childcare is critical for our children and area to prosper.
- You want your investment to have a meaningful impact and know that this facility will serve many families for many years.

THE ASK

Invest in this important addition to the North Okanagan. Your financial support is needed to reach our \$750,000 fundraising goal and build the game-changing Early Years Centre.

THE EARLY YEARS CENTRE

Inventory of Naming Rights and Dedication Plaques

You can leave a lasting legacy by supporting our Capital Campaign for the Early Years Centre. Below is a list of naming opportunities and dedication plaques that will allow you to define a space in a way that is meaningful to you. Attach your name, a corporate name, the name of a loved one, or be creative and unique with a word, phrase or quote.

OPPORTUNITY

INVESTMENT

The Early Years Centre

\$750,000

Customize your legacy (2 opportunities)

\$250,000

Play-Yard

\$150,000

The second most prominent area, the Play-Yard will be accessed by all children each day. All families will walk through the Play-Yard to each child's outdoor classroom entrance.

Infant Care Room (birth to 30 months)

\$100,000

Daycare Room (30 months to 5 years)

\$100,000

Preschool Room (30 months to 5 years)

\$100,000

School-Aged Care Room (5 years and older)

\$100,000

Each of the classrooms has a separate outdoor entry; where parents & children would arrive each day for drop-off and pick-up.

Foyer

\$50,000

Administrative Office

\$20,000

Classroom Kitchen (4 opportunities)

\$15,000

Laundry Room

\$12,000

FOUNDERS WALL DEDICATION

Founder

\$10,000 and greater

Supporter

\$1,000 to \$10,000

If you are considering giving a substantial gift, we would love to discuss naming opportunities with you. The above list is suggested donation amounts for the current main areas within the Early Years Centre. To further explore these opportunities, and to get the communication started, please contact Roxanne Brierley, Capital Campaign Coordinator, at (250) 550-6429, or learn@bridgeeducational.org.

THE EARLY YEARS CENTRE FAQs

Here are the answers to some of questions we have been asked. This list will grow as we work to ensure that all questions are answered and any uncertain areas are clarified. If you don't learn what you wanted to know within our Early Years Centre overview, or below, please let us know (learn@bridgeeducational.org).

THE BRIDGE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY?...WHO? WHAT?

The Bridge Educational Society is the registered charity that is building the Early Years Centre.

The Society was established in 2006 for the purpose of acquiring, establishing, developing, and supporting educational institutions that promote an educational environment that balances physical education, humanities, sciences and the arts, while meeting the needs of children at each stage of their development.

The Society has successfully operated early childhood programs and has established the existing Okanagan Waldorf School.

WHO WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE CHILDCARE?

The Early Years Centre is accessible to all, just like all other BC licensed childcare facilities.

The Early Year's Centre is a BC Licensed childcare facility (regulated by the BC Childcare Act), enrolled in the affordable childcare benefit (approved for subsidized childcare), and opted into the childcare fee reduction initiative.

This means that the Centre is accessible to families who can, and who cannot, afford the program fees. This is very important to the directors of the Society, who strive to make their educational facilities accessible to any family, regardless of their financial ability to pay tuition and/or childcare program fees.

"Our vision and intention for this centre goes beyond its physical space and the children we will serve. We envision training programs, practicum students, and collaboration with other centres. We intend to enhance childcare beyond our geographical reach."

Erin Barry, ECE Manager

