



# EARLY LEARNING *Quality Initiative*

## **2024 ELQI Professional Learning Opportunities**

**#DiscoverandInspire**

## ELQI Year at a Glance

This annual calendar will allow you to see the tentative dates planned for all ELQI opportunities; dates will be confirmed as able. Each monthly calendar is set up with the week being: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday (Sundays will not be captured on these calendars). Dates could be adjusted around Stat holidays, summer months and other dates based on availability of things needed for each session. For more information and available details, you can refer to the additional pages in this document. Don't forget to keep an eye on the blog ([www.elqi.ca](http://www.elqi.ca)) to register for these opportunities.

	Infant and Toddler Monthly Gathering (evening)
	Preschool Monthly Gathering (evening)
	School Age Monthly Gathering (daytime)
	Leadership Monthly Gathering
	ELQI Book Study (evening)
	Travelling Tales Book Study – children's books (evening) <i>*dates are bolded for visibility</i>
	Special Event (see specific dates for each event)
	Library Open House (Weekdays: 2-7 pm, Saturdays: 10 am – 1 pm)
	Building Your Bounce (4 part series)
	Bridges Out of Poverty (full training)
	ELQI Closed

### January 2024

1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31			

### February 2024

			1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10
12	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24
26	27	28	29		

### March 2024

				1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30

### April 2024

1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30				

### May 2024

		1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31	

### June 2024

					1
3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29

**July 2024** \*summer dates to be confirmed.

1	2	3	4	5	6
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15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31			

**August 2024** \*summer dates to be confirmed.

			1	2	3
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12	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24
26	27	28	29	30	31

**September 2024** \*note change of conference date

2	3	4	5	6	7
9	10	11	12	13	14
16	17	18	19	20	21
23	24	25	26	27	28
30					

### October 2024

	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	12
14	15	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24	25	26
28	29	30	31		

### November 2024

				1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30

### December 2024

2	3	4	5	6	7
9	10	11	12	13	14
16	17	18	19	20	21
23	24	25	26	27	28
30	31				

## **New for 2024: Monthly Gatherings**

The purpose of the Monthly Gatherings is to offer a time to come together and connect, where we can discuss and reflect on things by creating a group to learn together. Each month will help shape the next month by what is offered for the group to reflect on and discuss based on the discussions, reflections and questions shared by the group. While educators are encouraged to attend as often as possible to be a part of the planning for future gatherings, educators are also welcome to attend as they can.

At the gatherings, there will be opportunities to reflect on things relevant to the group. We will take the time to read and reflect on articles and documentation (as relevant and as available). We will also ensure that we continue to include the thread of diversity and inclusion throughout our gatherings as we understand the importance of including this lens in our work. When relevant, we will explore materials and resources together.

Educators will have the opportunity to join any of the following monthly gatherings (each one will meet at a different time) and can join any number of gatherings that are of interest:

- Infant and Toddler Gathering
- Preschool Gathering
- School Age Gathering
- Leadership Gathering

\*the Leadership Gathering will focus on supporting educators to inspire and mentor others; this gathering is **not** limited to those in a supervisory/administrative role

Registration will be required for these gatherings. At this time, a hybrid option to join the meeting will be available so educators have the opportunity to join in person or virtually. If there is a time that joining only in-person or virtually is available, it will be shared with as much notice as possible.

The tentative plan for when these gatherings will be as follows (dates and times will be confirmed closer to each quarter):

\*each gathering will occur once per month on a separate week, but on the same day for the quarter;— for example in Quarter 1 (January, February, March), the first Monday will be Infant and Toddler, the second Monday will be Preschool, the third Monday will be School Age and the fourth Monday will be Leadership.

- Quarter 1 (January – March): Mondays
- Quarter 2 (April – June): Wednesdays
- Quarter 3 (July to September): Thursdays
- Quarter 4 (October to December): Tuesdays

## Book Studies

For 2024, ELQI will offer 2 different types of book studies each quarter:

- a book study 5 weeks in length focused on one book from the ELQI Library. We will read the book (or specific reading portion of the book) ahead of time, then come together to not only discuss and reflect on what we read, but to also make connections to the impact it can/does have on our work. There will be a number of copies available to borrow from the ELQI Library.
- a children's book study will be offered at least twice per quarter where we will read a couple of titles from the Travelling Tales Library. There is no reading needed to be done ahead of time, as we will do that in the group together. The children's book study discussions will also give us the opportunity to reflect on how the books read can have an impact on our work.

Educators participating in any of the book studies will have the choice to join the discussion either virtually or in-person.

### Planned book study titles for ELQI books:

- Quarter 1 – “In Praise of Slowness” by Carl Honore  
Wednesdays: January 31, February 7, 14, 21, 28  
\*registration will close January 12
- Quarter 2 – “The Importance of Being Little: What Young Children Really Need From Grownups” by Erika Christakis  
Thursdays: April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2  
\*registration will close: March 15
- Quarter 3 – “It’s Okay Not to Share” by Heather Shumaker  
Wednesdays: September 18, 25, October 2, 9, 16  
\*registration will close September 5
- Quarter 4 - "A More Just Future" by Dolly Chugh  
Thursdays: November 7, 14, 21, 28  
\*registration will close October 18

### Planned Travelling Tales Book Topics:

- Quarter 1 (January to March)  
January 18: Mental & Physical Health  
March 6: Environment
- Quarter 2 (April to June)  
May 7: Self Esteem  
June 10: 2SLGBTQIA+
- Quarter 3 (July to September)  
July 17: Family  
August 13: Friendship  
September 23: Indigenous
- Quarter 4 (October to December)  
October 24: Activism  
December 2: Emotions

## ELQI Special Events

These special events will often be a one day conference taking place each quarter on a Saturday. Each of these special events will focus on a specific topic. Tentative dates are shared below with the focus for each of these special events. More details about each event will be shared in the registration link once everything is confirmed.

- Quarter 1 (January – March)  
Focus: Guest facilitator Susan MacDonald will host 3 virtual sessions for ELQI. Susan MacDonald (author of “Inspiring Professional Growth” and “Inspiring Early Childhood Leadership”) will be facilitating 3 different virtual sessions for us (these dates are confirmed):  
January 16, 2024 – Illuminating the Magic  
February 20, 2024 – Building Positive Strength Based Teams  
March 19, 2024 – Inspiring Professional Growth
- Quarter 2 (April – June)  
Focus: Indigenous Perspectives (Guest Facilitator)  
tentative date: Saturday, April 13, 2024
- Quarter 3 (July – September)  
Focus: Importance of Inclusion and Diversity (Guest Facilitator)  
tentative date: Saturday, September 14, 2024
- Quarter 4 (October – November)  
Focus: Appreciation  
tentative date: Saturday, November 2, 2024

## **Other Opportunities Offered on the ELQI Calendar**

There are 3 other opportunities you will find on the calendar at a glance. The Library Open Houses will take place in person only; if you are looking to set up something different please send me an email. The Building Your Bounce series and Bridges Out of Poverty series can have a hybrid option to attend either in-person or virtually.

### **Library Open Houses**

Educators and staff are invited to come visit the ELQI and Travelling Tales Libraries during any of the scheduled open house times. During these open house times, educators can explore the over 1500 materials and resources available, become a registered Librarian member, sign materials/resources out to take with you and engage with invitations set up. During the library open house times, there are also opportunities for conversation about what types of resources you are looking for or topics you are interested in learning more about.

- Weekday dates will be from 2 to 7 pm  
Thursday, January 25 - Wednesday, March 20 - Monday, April 22 - Thursday, May 30 -  
Tuesday, June 4 - Tuesday, September 17 - Monday, October 28
- Saturday dates will be from 10 am to 1 pm  
January 20 – February 10 – March 2 – April 27 – October 19 – November 16

### **Building Your Bounce**

The critical connection between children's resilience and the health and wellness of the adults in those children's lives cannot be underestimated.

This workshop is designed to meet you where you are and help you focus on your own health, happiness and overall well-being. Together, we will learn about resilience and how important it is that you learn to promote your social-emotional health; how your social and emotional well-being can impact the children and families you serve, in both positive and negative ways; and specific, simple and inexpensive strategies to reduce stress and promote your social-emotional health. The Devereux Adult Resilience Survey (DARS), a self-reflective tool, will be shared to help you gain insights into your resilience. Participants are sure to leave this workshop with energy, enthusiasm, and a commitment to make a few positive changes that will lead to greater happiness, fulfillment, and that will undoubtedly resonate in the work you do every day with children, families, teams and communities!

- Thursdays in March (7, 14, 21, 28) from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
- Fridays in May (3, 10, 17, 24) from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Mondays in November (4, 11, 18, 25) from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

## **Bridges Out of Poverty**

Bridges out of Poverty is a framework for understanding poverty. This training will help educators start to understand the hardships that families living in poverty face every day. There is a big misconception that poverty is caused by poor individual behaviours or choices, but so many other factors can contribute to a family experiencing poverty. We will discuss the individual circumstances, community conditions, exploitation and social/economic structures that can lead to life in poverty as well as how we can support these families without adding extra stress to their already stressful lives.

Participants will review poverty research, examine a theory of change, and analyze poverty through the prism of the hidden rules of class, resources, family structure, and language. The focus of the workshop is to provide a broad overview of concepts. This training assists employers, community organizations, social service agencies, and individuals gain insight and strategies.

- Tuesdays in April: 9, 16, 23, 30 (4 part series, 2 hours each session)
- Saturday, November 23 (full day – up to 8 hours)

## Additional ELQI Opportunities

ELQI is also available to support centres/programs with offering professional learning opportunities upon request. These could include:

- Building Your Bounce training (approximately 6-8 hours in total)
- Interactive Library Visits
- Library Visits for individuals/groups (outside of the scheduled open houses)
- Professional development created for your centre/program interests/needs
- Sharing of previously created professional development opportunities

You can get in touch with me directly to set any of these additional opportunities up.

## Important information to know:

- You can find all ELQI information on the blog ([www.elqi.ca](http://www.elqi.ca)). This is where you will find more details (including registration) for all professional learning opportunities.
- ELQI opportunities are available at no cost to educators and staff working in licensed childcare (home and centre based), EarlyON, Special Needs Resourcing and Authorized Recreation programs in the City of Kawartha Lakes and County of Haliburton.
- To ensure ELQI can plan accordingly for professional learning opportunities, we will be following the cancellation and non-attendance procedure. More information can be found in this blog post: <http://elqi.ca/2023/08/22/procedures-for-cancellations-non-attendance-and-overdue-books/>
- Whenever visiting our office (CLTH Lindsay office at 205 McLaughlin Road), please know we are a **scent sensitive building**. There is also a **scent allergy to cinnamon and all citrus**. Please do not bring or use any scented products prior to visiting our office that contain these scents (such as: food, drinks, candy/gum, scented lotions/hand sanitizer, essential oils, etc.).
- Contact information for ELQI:  
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