

 ZOOM MEETINGS
& TRAININGS.....1

 AUTISM
CANADA.....2

 MOTHERS WITH
EATING
DISORDERS.....2

STFC – SUPPORTING FOSTER FAMILIES

WEEKLY *Communiqué*

LET'S CONNECT...

IN PERSON KAMLOOPS

Foster Parent Drop-In
Wed: 9:00am – 11:00am (PST)

Location: The Loft - 290 Maple Street
(2nd Floor of the grey building)

EAST KOOTENAY Welcome back Gerri!!

We missed you.

Gerri returns on **Monday, Jan 16.**

Gerri can be reached at:
(250) 426-6013 or via email:

gburleigh@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca

REPORT: The Hunt for Disrupted Brain Signals Behind Autism

"Studies in mice suggest circuitry role for missing gene." "Part of understanding the underlying causes of autism spectrum disorder relies on figuring out which cells' signaling patterns in the brain are disrupted, and when during nervous system development the disruption occurs. New research findings in mouse models of one genetic risk for autism support the idea that loss of a specific gene interferes with cells in the brain whose role is to inhibit signaling."

"We hoped to provide clues for whether or not we might consider therapies for autism that could be fixable across the whole brain if we tweaked a single gene," he said. "Unfortunately, we found it's not likely. Autism risk genes are not concentrated in a specific group. But we did find many among inhibitory neurons, suggesting they are potentially key targets for therapeutics."

To read the full report, visit:

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2022/11/221115114125.htm>

COMING SOON...

FOR LOVE

Wed Jan 25 6:30pm (PST) or
Wed Feb 15 11:00am (PST)

FOR LOVE is a film of resilience and resurgence. Colonization has led to many adverse impacts on the Indigenous population of Canada - most significantly on familial and societal structures. Due to colonial regimes, Indigenous children are vastly overrepresented in the child welfare system. In 2018, the Minister of Indigenous Affairs deemed the issue "a humanitarian crisis."

WHITE HATTER

Online Porn, Radicalization,
Shaming & Disinformation

KERI ISHAM (Power Up Education)
Sexual Health Education
For Children/Youth with Support Needs K - 7

STFC VIRTUAL TRAINING

Alternate Safe Babies

Tues, Jan 24 AND
Thurs, Jan 26

5:30pm – 8:30pm (PST)
The Alternate Safe Babies Caregiver training is a 6-hour educational program for those providing daytime relief to Safe Babies homes.

Please register via the
following link by **Mon. Jan 23:**
<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZYkd-2urD8uEtFf5rp1VTyxkDSjklyZomRM>

Safe Babies Full Course

February 7 – March 7
(Tuesdays AND Thursdays)
6:00pm – 8:00pm (PST)

The Safe Babies Foster Parent training is an educational program for those interested in becoming caregivers of children under the age of 3 who have been exposed prenatally to drugs and/or alcohol. Foster Parents, Caregivers, MCFD/Delegated Aboriginal Agency staff and community partners who work with Safe Babies homes are welcome.

Please register via the following link by no
later than **Mon, Feb 6:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZYkce6sqjssGNPzfYBLfVbilrzPDKqS3tA->

UNDERSTANDING AUTISM:

AUTISM CANADA

A great place to start learning about Autism is Autism Canada. They provide: "education, advocacy, support and an unwavering dedication to improving the lives of individuals on the autism spectrum and their families. In 2015, two of Canada's largest, leading autism organizations — Autism Society Canada (established in 1976) and Autism Canada Foundation (established in 2002) – amalgamated to form Autism Canada."

Be sure to check out their resource page which includes:

- **ASD Central** This is a Canadian Facebook forum for adults living with autism. It is a place to share, learn, ask questions and get advice. The Forum is moderated by adults on the spectrum and is intended to be a safe place where there is no judgement.
- **YouTube Free Videos** This is a showcase for a wide range of creative work produced by people living with autism. ASD Arts! features individuals who are painters, photographers, authors, performers and more. They offer a creative entry point into understanding ASD.
- **Autism Junction** "the most comprehensive database of its kind in Canada. Autism Canada strives to offer credible and reliable resources to people across the nation. Whether you are a parent, a caregiver, a health professional or an individual looking for resources, we hope to have the information you need."
- **Sharing the Spectrum**, An Autism Canada Podcast is an online production celebrating the diversity of people on the autism spectrum. The podcast is an entertaining and engaging series of recordings by various experts and friends of the Autism Canada community sharing relevant topics about the spectrum including parenting, employment, education, nutrition and more.
- **ASD Art** This is a showcase for a wide range of creative work produced by people living with autism. ASD Arts! features individuals who are painters, photographers, authors, performers and more. They offer a creative entry point into understanding ASD.
- **Publications**
- **FAQ**

To learn more, visit: <https://autismcanada.org/resources/>

REPORT: Analysis of Neurodevelopmental Disorders in Offspring of Mothers With Eating Disorders in Sweden

Question: Are children of mothers with eating disorders at increased risk of developing neuropsychiatric diseases?

In this population-based prospective cohort study, we observed an increased risk of ADHD and ASD among children of mothers with eating disorders, regardless of subtype, compared with children of mothers free of eating disorder diagnoses. Furthermore, we observed a tendency to a higher risk among children of mothers with ongoing eating disorders that was most prominent among children to mothers with anorexia nervosa.

Findings: In this nationwide cohort study of 52,878 children, including 8,813 children born to women with an eating disorder and 44,065 matched children born to women without an eating disorder, maternal eating disorder was significantly associated with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and autism-spectrum disorder in offspring.

Meaning: These findings highlight the importance of clinical awareness and intensified support to women with eating disorders and their children and for future research efforts to identify underlying mechanisms of the association.

To read the full report, visit:

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2788173>

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

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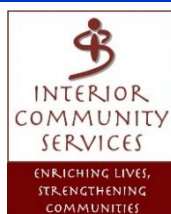
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WELCOME TO FED CONNECTS!

Fed Connects is a virtual space where the Fed Family can come together, share their experiences, stay well and learn new things!

WORKSHOPS • LIVE EVENTS • DISCUSSIONS • INFO SHARING
AND LOTS MORE!

BY COMING TOGETHER, WE'RE NOT ALONE

Have a youth in care? Be sure to check out our website or Facebook page!

**Need resources or information?
Check out our website!**

Are you wanting more information about upcoming training in your area, helpful resources or information about our program? Find all this and much more at our website:

www.icsfp.info



Find us on Facebook!

Connect with us on our

'ICS Support To Family Care Network' Facebook page and our agency's 'Interior Community Services' Facebook page.

"Being able to feel safe with other people is probably the single most important aspect of mental health; safe connections are fundamental to meaningful and satisfying lives." *Bessel van der Kolk*