



IN THIS ISSUE...

Our Acting President's Column.....1

The Vice President for North America and the Caribbean's Column.....2

News...

... from Quebec.....3

... from the Prairies.....4

Events.....4

From our Bookshelf5

Our Acting President's Column

Dear members,

It is with great pride that I will represent the Canadian Committee of OMEP during the 68th World Assembly in Seoul, South Korea. The theme of the Conference "*Transforming Early Childhood Systems for Future Generations*" will be an occasion for multiple meetings, exchanges and reflections with the international community having at heart the innovative practices in the field of early childhood education.

While some are about implementing new programs for early childhood education, some bring changes or clarifications in order to better respond to the needs of children. I will be chairing a symposium, which will be presented in French, and which will attempt to respond to issues that are common to several countries:

- How the new curriculum of pre-schools respond to the needs of the French youth aged 2 to 5 years (FRANCE).
- How the educational program of the Early Childhood Education of Quebec responds to the needs of Quebec children aged 0-5 years (CANADA).
- How is the transition from pre-school education to the elementary school made for Japanese children? (JAPAN).
- How to develop a curriculum that meets the needs of children aged 4 years from disadvantaged backgrounds? (CANADA).

In conclusion, the representative of the OMEP to UNESCO will present the new 2015-2030 directions of the Incheon Declaration in order to allow participants to connect with some elements of the presentations.

I will also have the chance to visit schools and discuss curricula and policies with different players of the Korean school and university systems. In addition, a stopover in Hiroshima, Japan will allow me to visit Japanese pre-schools, and have exchanges with the pre-school and academic networks staff.

During the next General Assembly of OMEP-Canada, which will be held on November 24, 2016 in Montreal; it will be my pleasure to share with you my experiences, discoveries and meetings. I invite you to visit the omep-canada.org web site as well as our Facebook page to find all the details about this event.

I wish all of you a beautiful summer.

Christiane Bourdages Simpson
Acting President OMEP-Canada
Christianebsimpson@gmail.com



The Vice President for North America and the Caribbean's Column

UPDATE: 2016 CONFERENCE IN KOREA: The 2016 World Assembly and Conference in Seoul, Korea is just around the corner. The World Assembly will convene on July 4 and 5. The conference, entitled *Transforming Early Childhood Systems for Future Generations*, July 6 – 8 at Ewha Womans University.

The conference committee expects about 650 participants at the conference from more than 35 countries. The conference planners have promised some extraordinary site visits, cultural activities, and fun during the conference. The conference dinner will be held next to a Rainbow fountain!

All members from Canada, Haiti, and the United States are invited to attend our annual Regional Meeting on Tuesday, July 5 in Seoul. I also welcome any suggestions you have for the agenda. Just send your ideas to me at jwagner@whittier.edu.

If any of your university students or young adults will attend the conference, please have them contact Amber Eriksson at erikssonan@gmail.com. Amber is OMEP's Youth Representative at the UN. During the last two conferences she has organized special activities for a group called Next Gen – the next generation of early childhood advocates.

You can find more information about the World Assembly and Conference at <http://www.omep2016.org>.

Travel award for Haiti: One of the countries in our region, Haiti, received a special travel award its representative. Early childhood education institutions in Korea raised funds to help delegates from developing and struggling countries attend. It would be very thoughtful for all three national committees in our region to send thank-you notes to the conference planners and the early childhood institutions for making sponsoring participation by our OMEP committee in Haiti. And all of us who will be in Korea must remember to thank them in person.

ESD awards: Since 2010 World OMEP has sponsored travel awards for winners of the Education for Sustainable Development competition. This enables the winners to attend the World Conference, where they receive their awards at a general session and also present their work during a parallel session. This year's winning projects are

Greece

Title: *Children's curiosity finds solutions for energy: a project for renewable and non-renewable energy sources for early childhood children*

Kenya

Title: *Water conservation in Kenya*

Thailand

Title: *Education for Sustainable development in Thailand World Heritage site: Evidence based and Place based learning instructional model for enhancing environmentally responsible behaviour of kindergarteners.*

Uruguay

Title: *Building a sustainable school*

USA

Title: *ESD from cradle through College and Beyond: We're in this together!* Group

To elaborate on the USA award (OK, to brag a little bit...), this is the first time the award has gone to Americans (and maybe the first time for our region, but I am not certain about that). It is also the first time the award has gone to children and university students.

WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH A PROJECT: OMEP and UNICEF are working together to create an early childhood version of *Raising Even More Clean Hands*. You can download a PDF copy at [www.unicef.org/wash/schools/files/Raising_Even_More_Clean_Hands_Web_17_October_2012\(1\).pdf](http://www.unicef.org/wash/schools/files/Raising_Even_More_Clean_Hands_Web_17_October_2012(1).pdf)

Please help us by sending any of the following to Valene Martinez, Project Data Gatherer, at vmartinez@whittier.edu.

1. Research on the effectiveness of water, sanitation, and education projects with children younger than school entry age.

2. Information on water, sanitation, and hygiene-related projects and programs in child care centers.

Please note that many new and potential members of OMEP in various countries say they are looking for something *to do* for children and the field of ECD. Participating in this project gives your members and potential newcomers something *to do*.

Please announce it on your websites.

NEW BOOK AVAILABLE ON WORLD OMEP WEBSITE: A new book entitled, Education for Sustainable Development in the Early Years is available for in PDF form at this address:
http://www.worldomep.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/combined_ESD_book.pdf

OMEP-USA CONFERENCE IN ATLANTA NEXT FEBRUARY: OMEP-USA is planning a conference February 20 – 22, 2017 at the Atlanta Marriott Buckhead Hotel and Conference Center in Atlanta, Georgia. The theme will be *Sustainability at its Best: Case Studies from around the World*.

Members of OMEP Canada are cordially invited to attend and to submit proposals when that process opens on September 1, 2016. Conference registration will be \$275 for OMEP members and \$325 for non-members. Registration will include breakfast each day, snacks, a conference lunch and a formal reception. There will also be a no-host conference dinner.

Could this be a first-step in our long-time goal of having a regional conference jointly hosted by all three countries in our region?

Judith T. Wagner, Ph.D.
OMEP Regional Vice President,
North American and Caribbean

News

...from Quebec

Since a few months, I participate as a volunteer in helping with the learning French program for young Syrians aged 4 to 18 years, offered by the Montreal Hay Doun Organization. Each Saturday morning, I welcome the families of Abraham, Paleny and Perla, who leave their children with me for a few hours. I have taken the time to know these children newly arrived to Quebec, to listen to them, interact with them, and help them learn French through play and activities that kindle their interest. In June, 50 children registered in the Hay Doun program have each received an album, *Voyage dans la cité des mots-cadeaux*, published and offered by Omep-Canada.



This gesture shows the newly established collaboration between our agencies, both aware that language is a tool of social integration, and that its learning is one of the main components of children's success in school.

Ginette Beauséjour
Quebec Representative



... the Prairies

The Ministry of Education from Government of Saskatchewan recently sent a letter in a follow-up to the May 2015 announcement of its dual credit expansion in partnership with Saskatchewan Polytechnic to offer high school students three courses that will apply toward an Early Childhood Education I (ECEI) certification through the ministry of Education. The letter also explained that Child Guidance 1 (HUMD 183-3 credits) which experts recommend as a foundational course, would be a part of the high school dual credit offerings in the 2016-2017 calendar year.

Liliana Sulikowska-Klebec
Prairies' Representative

Events

November 24, 2016, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

OMEP-Canada General Meeting and dinner-conference under the theme: *Cultural Diversity: A Lever in the Classroom*

Information: <http://omep-canada.org>

November 25-26, 2016, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

35e congrès de l'AEPO under the theme: *Naviguer sur les différences*

Information: www.aepq.ca

OMEP-Canada will participate, especially in the exhibition.

January 8 - 10, 2017, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

The IAFOR International Conference on Language Learning

Call for papers: September 1, 2016

Information: <http://iafor.org/iiclhawaii2017-call-for-papers/>

May 9-12, 2017, Auckland, New Zealand

World Forum on Early Care and Education
worldforumfoundation.org

May 10-13, 2017, Leiden, the Netherlands

14th International Toy Library Conference

Information:

<http://itla-toylibraries.org/home/2016/05/08/14th-international-toy-library-conference-netherlands-2017/>

From our bookshelf

Colbert, Judith A. (2016) *Refugees: The modern context*. Guelph, ON: Fairmeadow. 48 pages. ISBN 0-98674638-X Available: www.volumesdirect.com 1-888-571-2665

Judith Colbert has published a new book, *Refugees: The modern context*, with background information about the current refugee crisis, identified as the "most urgent concern of our time." It may be of particular interest to OMEP members because it identifies the role of the UN in the shaping of the modern legal context for refugees in the years immediately after WWII, when OMEP was also formed. The book is the print version of an e-learning module with references to videos that readers can access as they progress through the book. It will be available on line as an e-learning tool at www.ecedu.ca along with other e-modules based on her book

Welcoming newcomer children.

Of interest, *Refugees: The modern context* was launched at the Welcoming Newcomer Children Conference, sponsored by Best Start in Ottawa in February 2016. The conference featured presentations by Judith, including a keynote, Three big ideas: Settlement, culture and readiness. At that event proceeds from the sale of her new book about refugees were donated to the local organization, {Refugee} 613. Anyone wishing to use the book as a local fund-raiser for refugees should contact Judith at judithcolbert@hotmail.com

Garnier, P., Brougère, G., Rayna, S. et Rupion, P. (2016). *À 2 ans, vivre dans un collectif d'enfants. Crèche, école maternelle, classe passerelle, jardin maternel.* Toulouse: Éditions érès, 380 pages, www.editions-eres.com

L'Institut de la statistique du Québec a publié le 29 février dernier, sur la Vitrine de la petite enfance, de nouvelles données sur l'environnement familial des enfants de 0-5 ans.

On y trouve un nouvel indicateur portant sur les enfants 0-4 ans vivant dans une famille monoparentale. De plus, les données ont été révisées et mises à jour pour trois indicateurs:

- Répartition des naissances selon la scolarité de la mère
- Taux d'activité des mères de 25-54 ans dont le plus jeune enfant a moins de 6 ans
- Taux de fécondité des femmes âgées de moins de 20 ans

Les ajouts récents à la Vitrine sont consultables sur le site : http://www.bdso.gouv.qc.ca/docs-ken/vitrine/0_5_ans/index.html

L'Institut de la statistique du Québec a publié le 9 mai dernier, première journée de la semaine québécoise des familles, le rapport de l'Enquête québécoise sur l'expérience des parents d'enfants de 0 à 5 ans 2015 (EQEPE).

Cette enquête a été réalisée à la demande de l'organisme Avenir d'enfants dans le cadre de l'Initiative [Perspectives Parents](#).

L'EQEPE est une enquête d'envergure menée auprès de plus de 14 900 parents répartis dans 16 régions administratives du Québec. Elle permet de produire des données fiables à propos de certains aspects de la vie des parents ayant de jeunes enfants. On y traite notamment du besoin en information des parents, de la relation entre conjoints, du soutien social, du sentiment d'efficacité parentale, du stress vécu, de la conciliation famille-travail et de l'utilisation des services offerts aux familles.

Le [rapport](#), disponible sur le site Web de l'Institut de la statistique du Québec, présente les principaux résultats pour l'ensemble du Québec et quelques résultats régionaux.

Ces résultats visent à fournir des informations aux différents acteurs, intervenants et chercheurs intéressés par la petite enfance et la famille afin de les aider dans leurs efforts de soutien aux parents.

Vous pouvez aussi accéder au [communiqué de presse de l'Institut](#).

Pagnossin, E., Armi, F. & Matei, A. (2016). *École infantine et compétences des jeunes romands : Quelques résultats des enquêtes PISA 2003, 2009 et 2012.* (Rapport no. 16.2). Neuchâtel (Suisse) : Institut de recherche et de documentation pédagogique (IRDp).

UNICEF REPORT CARD 13: Fairness for Children

www.unicef.ca/en/unicef-report-card-13-fairness-for-children

UNICEF, 2016, The Beginning of Life

www.thebeginningoflife.com

Université de Sherbrooke (2016)

Une formule unique au Québec depuis 40 ans
[Brin d'univers : accompagner les enfants entre la garderie et l'école](#)

Lien YouTube :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u2lc6cwKQ>

To know more about Rita Fortier' works, Hélène Larouche and others...

Childhood Education, Volume 92, Issue 3, 2016
www.tandfonline.com/toc/uced20/current

Childhood Explorer, Winter 2016, Vol. 3, Issue 1
acei.org/childhood-explorer

Early Childhood Education Journal, 44 (2) 2016
link.springer.com/journal/10643

Early Years Bulletin, Spring 2016, vol. 3, no. 3
www.acei.org/early-years-bulletin

Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education,
Volume 37, Issue 2, 2016
www.tandfonline.com/toc/ujec20/current

Revue préscolaire, Vol. 54, n° 2 / printemps
2016
Dossier: *La compétence 2:affirmer sa personnalité*
www.aepq.ca

Young Children, May 2016, Vol. 71, No. 2
Teaching and Learning with Children's Books



OMEP-Canada's Newsletter is published in March, June and November. We expect your news by the middle of September for the next issue. Please send them preferably by e-mail to: [Denise Doyon@uqac.ca](mailto:Denise.Doyon@uqac.ca) and in c.c. to omep-canada@videotron.ca

Thank you to Gabriella Vitos for English translations and revisions, to Madeleine Baillargeon for her great collaboration to the preparation of this issue. Thanks to Ariane Simpson for the page-setting.

Denise Doyon, chair of the Newsletter Committee.

OMEP-Canada's mailing address :

390 Grande Allée ouest, #33.

Québec, QC, G1S 1B6

E-mail: omep-canada@videotron.ca

Websites :

World OMEP : <http://www.worldomep.org>

(English, French, Spanish)

OMEP-Canada : www.omep-canada.org

Facebook (French & English)

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/OMEP-CANADA-Organisation-Mondiale-pour-l'Éducation-Préscolaire/16311904>