



# MAY 2025

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## ECE Week 2025

ECE Week runs from May 25<sup>th</sup> - May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025. For a sneak peek into our ECE Week Plans, go to page 2

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## The Navigator

Who and What is the AECENL Navigator? Find out on page 3

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## Professional Learning

Explore our May Professional Learning Calendar and check out what's happening with Regional Travel on page 4

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## Spring Time Fun

Refresh your program with some Spring-time activities on page 5

Have you upgraded your certification? Have you gone back to school? We want to celebrate you this ECE Week!

Send your name, your hometown, a photo, and a short description of your journey as an ECE to [navigator@aecenl.ca](mailto:navigator@aecenl.ca) to be featured on the AECENL social media pages this ECE Week from May 25-31, 2025.



Advocating for yourself is Advocating for Quality Care

## AECENL Open House



Come join AECENL & Family and Child Care Connections to kick off ECE Week with an open house and ECE information session! Check out AECENL's office, the loose parts trading post, outdoor clothing swap, and learn more about who we are and what we offer - all while learning more about being an Early Childhood Educator in Newfoundland and Labrador!

May 25, 2025

2:00-4:00 PM NDT

In-person at the AECENL office:  
59 Pippy Place, Suite 2A, St. John's, NL

Please join us in welcoming AECENL's Navigator Hayley Grimes back after her Maternity Leave. We also want to send a huge thank you out to Melissa Backway for all her hard work in Hayley's absence.

## WHAT IS THE AECENL NAVIGATOR?

- Provides support and guidance to ECEs in the field
- Works directly with stakeholders and industry members
- Creates social media content and virtual resources for ECEs
- Facilitates workshops on a variety of topics important to the field of Early Childhood
- Assists the PL Coordinator in their role



[navigator@aecenl.ca](mailto:navigator@aecenl.ca)

(709) 579-3028

### Hayley Grimes is a Level IV Early Childhood Educator

- Hayley has worked in centre based care and as an Early Learning Specialist
- Hayley has a passion for improving professionalism and visibility in the field of Early Childhood
- Hayley has a degree in Early Childhood Studies from Toronto Metropolitan University



Upcoming

**Check out what AECENL is offering in May 2025!**

**3** **Regional Professional Learning - Burin**  
9:00 am-3:30 pm NDT. In-person at CNA Campus (105 Main St). Facilitated by AECENL's PL Coordinator Sandy Gow. Register via AECENL's Regional Professional Learning Collection on Eventbrite.

**5** **Returning Workshop: First Light's Indigenous Cultural Diversity Training**  
6:00 - 9:00 pm NDT. Online via Zoom. A prerequisite to attend Roots of Knowledge. Spaces are limited.

**12** **Administrators' Community of Practice (CoP): Spring Wrap Up and Next Steps!**  
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm NDT. Online via Zoom. Facilitated by AECENL's PL Coordinator Sandy Gow.

**22** **AECENL's Special Projects Information Session**  
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm NDT. Online via Zoom. Facilitated by AECENL's Board Chair Charlotte Warford. Not eligible for PL.

**24** **Regional Professional Learning - Happy-Valley Goose Bay**  
9:00 am-3:30 pm NDT. In-person at CNA Campus (219 Hamilton River Road). Facilitated by AECENL's PL Coordinator Sandy Gow. Register via AECENL's Regional Professional Learning Collection on Eventbrite.

We have moved to Eventbrite! To register for any of these PL opportunities, visit AECENL's Collection here:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/aecenls-live-workshop-series-3525889?aff=odclrmcfto>

**Check out what AECENL is offering in May 2025!**

**Happy ECE Week!**

**25** **AECENL Open House/ECE Information Session**  
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm NDT. In-person at 59 Pippy Place, Suite 2A.

**26** **Family Child Care Providers Community of Practice (CoP): Spring Wrap Up and Next Steps!**  
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm NDT. Online via Zoom. Facilitated by AECENL's PL Coordinator Sandy Gow.

**27** **Educator Wellbeing**  
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm NDT. Online via Zoom. Facilitated by Katy Bigsby from REIL Learning.

**28** **Inclusion Series: Creating and Implementing Visual Strategies**  
Repeat workshop from April 24, 2024. 7:00 pm-9:00 pm NDT. Online via Zoom. Facilitated by NL Health's Intervention Services.

**31** **Regional Professional Learning - St. John's**  
9:00 am-3:30 pm NDT. In-person at CNA Campus (1 Prince Philip Dr). Facilitated by AECENL's PL Coordinator Sandy Gow. Register via AECENL's Regional Professional Learning Collection on Eventbrite.

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Upcoming

Check out our May Professional Learning flyers to see what's coming up this month. Use the link below to visit our Eventbrite calendar and register for upcoming workshops.

AECENL's Live Workshop Series

ASSOCIATION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS NL  
BUILDING THE FOUNDATION

AECENL's Regional Travel Professional Learning

Regional Travel is underway! We had a blast in Corner Brook. Sandy will be in Burin on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Happy Valley Goose Bay on May 24<sup>th</sup>, and St Johns on May 31<sup>st</sup>, with a bonus stop at the Nunatsiavut ECE Conference in Hopedale on May 21<sup>st</sup>!

Use the link on the left to visit our Eventbrite calendar and register to join us for In-Person Professional Learning



### **BREAK OUT OF THOSE WINTER BLUES BY GOING ON A NEIGHBORHOOD WALK WITH THE CHILDREN IN YOUR PROGRAM**

#### **Community Clean-up**

Bring garbage bags and gloves (bonus points for tongs or a reacher grabber tool) and head out for a walk around your community picking up any litter spotted along the way! Not only is this the perfect spring time activity, but it also encourages children's ecological responsibility and community values.

#### **Turn your walk into a game**

Bring spring item checklists, pencils, and clipboards, keeping an eye out for signs of spring such as leaf buds on trees or spring flowers beginning to bloom, encouraging a deeper appreciation for nature while promoting motor skills.

[Follow this link for more Spring activities](#)



Looking for more ideas to enhance your program?

Join the AECENL Community Outreach and Ideas Sharing Page on Facebook

### **GREEN CHALLENGE**

#### **Plant something together!**

It could be a seed in a pot, a flower in your yard, or even herbs on the windowsill.

Growing and caring for plants encourages children to demonstrate responsibility and instills in them the value of nature and plant life.

Why not plant a small vegetable garden in your outdoor play space? Now is the perfect time to start growing indoors and transplant outside after the last frost.

