



NOV 16
NOV 17
NOV 18

14TH NATIONAL CHILD DAY CONFERENCE

CELEBRATING ARTICLE 4
*Children Reaching
Their Full Potential*

inspiring
creating
inquiring





As we prepare for our 14th annual National Child Day Conference, we are excited about this year's theme engaging participants on a journey of reflection on how we as educators inquire, create, and inspire, and honor children's rights as global citizens.

As such we are pleased to announce the focus of this year's event celebrating **Children Reaching Their Full Potential**, *The Convention On The Rights Of The Child: In child friendly language*, Article 04. Leading off this year's conferences in thought-provoking reflection, insight, and conversations on early learning pedagogy, ARCQE is pleased to share the engagement of two dynamic keynote speakers! These sessions will feature Nicole Cromartie and Dr.Lori Ryan, both of Colorado!

Relative to this year's format, ARCQE is pleased once again to be supporting a virtual format on the Accevents platform as a means of engaging broader early learning communities provincially, nationally and internationally!

Looking forward, we embrace the opportunity to be in a learning community with all of you as we celebrate National Child Day together November 16 - 18, 2023!

We welcome early learning educators working in child care, out-of-school care, family child care, preschool, and recreational programs; administrators, advocates; and students.

YOUR 'AT A GLANCE' SCHEDULE

Over 3 days this conference will have 2 keynote speakers & 14 feature speakers appearing in break out sessions.

All sessions will be streamed with live session facilitation and discussions.

All session recordings will be available for 30 days after the event.

DAY 1 *inquiring*

16TH

9 - 10:30am	OPENING KEYNOTE - Nicole Cromartie Cultivating Young Minds: an amazing co-curated exhibition with children
11 - 12n	SESSION A2 - Therese Wiart-Jenkinson + Julie Hay Promoting Sustainable Futures Across Global ECE Communities by Engaging Children's Inquiring Minds
1 - 2pm	SESSION A3 - Kim Stewart & Sherry Rose Virtual Tour - UNB Child Care Centre
2:30 - 3:30pm	SESSION A4 - Laura Brown Who are we?: An Exploration of Identity and Community Through Play

DAY 2 *creating*

17TH

9:30 - 10:30am	SESSION B1 - Alex Morgan & Kirsten Zimbelman Collaborating with Children to Co-Create a Contextual Curriculum
11 - 12n	SESSION B2 - Dr. Christine McLean Sharing the Power: Including Children's Voice in Pedagogical Documentation
1 - 2pm	SESSION B3 - Mary Lynne Matheson Virtual Tour - Building Culturally Responsive Practice at Intercultural Child and Family Centers
2:30 - 3:30pm	SESSION B4 - Jennifer Sibbald + Noah Kenneally A World Fit for Children: Creating spaces that invite children's rights to be explored

DAY 3 *inspiring*

18TH

9:30 - 10:30am	SESSION C1 - Dr. Christine McLean Reflections on Reggio Emilia (Long time fan; first time visitor)
11 - 12n	SESSION C2 - ELM Educators: Erica Farris & Jennifer Sibbald Reigniting Your Practice: Nurturing Joy & Wonder Through Co-Inquiry
1 - 2pm	SESSION C3 - Annette Comeau Virtual Tour - Mt St Vincent Child Care Centre
2:30 - 4:00pm	CLOSING KEYNOTE - Dr. Lori Ryan Educators as Change Agents Nurturing Children's Potential

DAY 1

16TH

OPENING KEYNOTE

Cultivating Young Minds: Sharing Authority with Children in Museums

In 2019, the Clyfford Still Museum (CSM) embarked on an ambitious project. CSM staff sought to understand children's perspectives of the collection of Abstract Expressionist works by Still and present them to our community. The 3-year development process, collaborating with over 250 young children and educators across Colorado's Front Range, resulted in an exhibition at the *Museum, Clyfford Still, Art, and the Young Mind* (on view March-August 2022). Young children ranging in age from 6 months to 8 years old took the curatorial reins in selecting and arranging paintings, sharing their perspectives for wall text and audio guides, shaping exhibition design, leading exhibition tours, and giving press interviews.

This collaborative development process represented a bold departure for the Museum, pushing the boundaries of conventional museum practice. The exhibition emerged as a joyful celebration of children's competence and engagement with art. In this keynote, Nicole will present a behind-the-scenes look at the exhibition's development, evaluation findings, and what we learned from our young co-curators and their true potential!

9 - 10:30am

Nicole Cromartie

SESSION A2

Promoting sustainable futures across global ECE communities by engaging children's inquiring minds

Join Therese & Julie as they reflect on children's potential and contributions as global citizens in supporting strategies in relation to sustainable futures. Julie will share how Singakwenza uses recycled materials to engage children's learning. Through pedagogical leadership, mentors inspire educators and families to intentionally use recycled materials in the ELCC environments. Therese visited South Africa and will share perspectives on how the impact of materials used in early childhood environments could promote more sustainable futures.

11 - 12n

Therese Wiart-Jenkinson
Julie Hay

SESSION A3

UNB Children's Centre: Inventing, Creating, and Re-Imagining`

UNB Children's Centre is a pedagogical meeting space for early childhood educators, classroom teachers, university/college instructors, families, and child support services. This classroom site is a meeting space for encounters that encourage inventing, creating and reimagining educational possibilities. Join us for a virtual tour where we will share transformative learning encounters.

1 - 2 pm

Kim Stewart &
Sherry Rose

VIRTUAL
TOUR!

SESSION A4

Who are we?: An Exploration of Identity & Community Through Play

How do we come to know and understand our identities? How do we form our relationships to others while forming our relationships to ourselves? How does the physical environment facilitate the identity formation of both the individual and the collective? Follow a class of prekindergarten children (4 - 5 years old) as they explore these topics through the language of small worlds.

2:30 - 3:30pm

Laura Brown

Inquiring

DAY 2

SESSION B1

Collaborating with Children to Co-Create a Contextual Curriculum

Something happens when we start working on a creative endeavor - it starts to gain its own life. It develops its own self propelling momentum - we reach a point where it becomes clear it is going to happen. Children willingly embrace this momentum, flowing from moment to moment, day to day, even year to year. Using pedagogical documentation, we will examine strategies for supporting children as they process and build understanding of their personal contexts.

9:30 - 10:30am

Alex Morgan &
Kirsten Zimbelman

SESSION B2

Including the Child's Voice in Pedagogical Documentation

This session takes a look at co-construction of pedagogical documentation by educators and children together. It will examine why this might be a good approach to use in your practice as well as some practical considerations to keep in mind when co-constructing documentation with children. As well, we will look at how educators, parents, and children respond to and reflect upon this approach.

11 - 12n

Dr. Christine McLean

SESSION B3

Building Culturally Responsive Practice at Intercultural Child and Family Centers

In this session we'll look at the evolution of culturally-responsive practice at Intercultural Child and Family Centre's two locations: a diverse inner-city program and a college demonstration site. Ideas and projects that educators have undertaken to transform environments, document children's learning, and engage families will be shared. Regardless of your program's context - centre-based, home-based, or school-aged care -- it is hoped that you will come away with possibilities for using the strengths of educators and families in your own program to live cultural

**VIRTUAL
TOUR!**

responsiveness in a way that is unique and meaningful to your practice and celebrates Flight's principles, values, and core concepts. Join us for a virtual tour where we will share transformative learning encounters

1 - 2pm

Mary Lynne
Matheson

SESSION B4

A World Fit for Children: Creating Spaces That Invite Children's Right to be Explored

At Early Learning MacEwan (ELM) we have invited children, families, educators, students, and faculty to critically examine the ways we can put children's rights and an ethics of care into practice. Throughout the daily happenings within the playrooms, educators were attuned to wondering about care and care practices alongside children by creating spaces for children to explore their rights.

2:30 - 3:30pm

Jennifer Sibbald
Noah Kenneally

17TH

creating

DAY 3

18TH

CLOSING KEYNOTE

SESSION C1

Reflections on Reggio Emilia (Long time fan; first time visitor)

This session will take a look at learnings and insights garnered as a long time ECE, returning from a first trip to Reggio Emilia less of an expert than the ECE I was when I left. Experiencing the realized potential of young children made visible in a Reggio Emilia environment leaves one rethinking many things, including how we create early learning environments in a Canadian context. I look forward to sharing these thoughts, questions, and reflections with other educators.

9:30 - 10:30am

Dr. Christine McLean

SESSION C2

Reigniting Your Practice: Nurturing Joy and Wonder Through Co-Inquiry

At Early Learning MacEwan (ELM) we want you to discover how using the co-inquiry model can reignite your passion for planning and curriculum. Through heartwarming anecdotes and thought provoking insights, this presentation aims to empower early learning professionals to rekindle the spark in their practice. Whether you're a seasoned educator or just beginning your journey in Early Learning, you'll find inspiration and renewed enthusiasm to create meaningful and joy-filled experiences for the children you engage with.

11 - 12n

Erica & Jennifer

Educators as Change Agents Nurturing Children's Potential

Before we can be influential educators and collaborate with children and community, we must first allow ourselves to live in the role of observer and immerse ourselves in reflection where deep reflection and thinking can occur. These practices of inquiry, reflection, dialogue and action enriches our understanding of teaching and learning and then leads us to opportunities to work alongside children to meaningfully reach their full potential. This keynote presentation will offer insight and inspiration for journeying a process of change as educators in collaboration with colleagues and children. Examples will encourage participants to contextualize how a theory of change can look in early learning practice in multiple contexts worldwide.

2:30 - 4:00pm

Dr. Lori Ryan

SESSION C3

Mount Saint Vincent University Child Study Centre

Please join us for a tour of our Child Care Centre located on the east coast, in Halifax Nova Scotia. Join us for a virtual tour where we will share transformative learning encounters.

1 - 2pm

Annette Comeau

VIRTUAL
TOUR!

inspiring

SPEAKERS



NICOLE CROMARTIE

Clyfford Still Museum

Cultivating Young Minds: Sharing Authority with Children in Museums

Nicole Cromartie is a seasoned museum professional and the director of learning and engagement at the Clyfford Still Museum in Denver, Colorado. With over fifteen years of dedicated experience in museum education, she has cultivated expertise across various domains, including museum interpretation, public programming, evaluation, research, and curation. Fuelled by a passion for early learning and collaborative museum experiences, Nicole's philosophy revolves around creating meaningful, relevant, inclusive, and enjoyable museum journeys for all visitors. In 2021, Cromartie's first book, *Evaluating Early Learning in Museums: Planning for Our Youngest Visitors*, presented developmentally appropriate and culturally relevant practices for engaging young children in museums. Cromartie is currently

enrolled in the University of Colorado Denver's EdD program in Leadership for Educational Equity, Early Childhood Education, and holds an MA in Curatorial Practice from California College of the Arts and a BA in Art History from the University of Florida.

Nov.16 Opening Keynote, Session



JULIE HAY + THERESE WIART JENKINSON

Singakwenza Early Childhood Education and Mount Royal University

Promoting Sustainable Futures Across Global ECE Communities by Engaging Children's Inquiring Minds

Julie Hay is an early childhood professional and founder of Singakwenza, a not-for-profit organization in South Africa that provides mentorship and educational opportunities for children, families and early childhood educators.

Therese Wiart Jenkinson is an associate professor for the Bachelor of Child Studies at Mount Royal University. She is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Toronto, and her areas of interest are reflective practice and co-constructed curriculum development in early learning and childcare.

Nov.16 Session A2



KIM STEWART + SHERRY ROSE

University of New Brunswick, CA

UNB Children's Centre: Inventing, Creating, and Re-Imagining

Kim Stewart is an Associate Professor at the UNB. Through the theoretical frameworks of new materialism, posthumanism, and critical feminism, Kim's re-search investigates ways to re-conceptualize literacies and early childhood teaching/learning. Sherry Rose is an Associate Professor at UNB. She teaches in the areas of critical studies, early literacies, feminist theories, assessment and curriculum.

Kim and Sherry are founding and continuing members of University of New Brunswick's (UNB) committee who developed and orchestrated the birth of the online, asynchronous Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood Education.

Nov.16 Session A3





LAURA BROWN

Boulder Journey School

Who are we?: An exploration of identity and community through play

Laura completed the Boulder Journey School residency program in the 2021/2022 school year. She is beginning her third year teaching at the school. Before joining the Boulder Journey School faculty, she spent several years as a teacher of early childhood and first grade in the Denver Public Schools. Before moving to Colorado, she spent time teaching abroad in The Gambia and Russia. Prior to that she taught kindergarten and ECE in New York City and Washington D.C. Her qualifications include 20 years of experience in education, a Masters of Arts in Early Childhood General and Special Education for Teachers College, Columbia University and a Masters of Arts in Learning, Development, and Family Sciences from University of Colorado, Denver. Outside of school, she enjoys spending time with her partner, Nate and their two young children.

Nov.17 Session A4



KIRSTEN ZIMBELMAN & ALEX MORGAN

University of Colorado Denver

Collaborating with Children to Co-Create a Contextual Curriculum

Kirsten Zimbelman is a Mentor Advisor here at Boulder Journey School, and currently work with toddlers. She has been a part of the Boulder Journey School team for nine years, and have worked with every age from infants through prekindergarten (5yo). Working with young children has given me the lens to see how capable children under the age of three really are. In recent years, Kirsten has been taking opportunities to share the children's work through workshops and conferences. It is one of her goals to bring this level of awareness around young children's competencies into a much brighter spotlight, hopefully elevating the role of Early Learning Educators.

Alex Morgan (she/her) is the Community Outreach Specialist at Boulder Journey School. In this position, she works with teachers and children to support investigations in the classroom. In addition to supporting classroom work, she designs and coordinates professional development opportunities to encourage adult

learning, both locally in Colorado and at conferences and workshops around the country. Alex is also an instructor and course designer in the Boulder Journey School Teacher Education Program. Alex is passionate about weaving inspirations from Boulder-based educators, Frances and David Hawkins, and the educators from Reggio Emilia, Italy into her work with adults and children as they discover, uncover, and mess about. She has shared this work through articles, conferences, and presentations, including TEDxBoulder.

Nov.18 Session B1



CHRISTINE MCLEAN

Mount Saint Vincent University

Including the Child's Voice in Pedagogical Documentation

This session will examine the 'how tos' and 'whys' of including children in the co-construction of pedagogical documentation.

Nov.17 Session B1



MARY LYNNE MATHESON

Intercultural Child & Family Centre

Building Culturally-Responsive Practice at Intercultural Child and Family Centres

Mary Lynne taught in the Early Learning and Child Care program at MacEwan University for over 25 years and in the Bridging Program for Immigrant Child Care Workers. She has been learning about Flight since 2014 when she began work as a pedagogical mentor with Intercultural Child & Family Centre and was subsequently hired as ICFC's Education Coordinator to support educators' understanding and integration of framework concepts into their practice while being culturally responsive. More recently she has been involved in the Possibilities for Practice, Supporting Curriculum Practice, and Leading Through a Pedagogical Lens learning series. Along with Carole Massing, Mary Lynne is the co-author of the textbook, *Introduction to Early Childhood Education and Care: An Intercultural Perspective* (2021).

Nov.17 Session B3



JENNIFER SIBBALD + NOAH KENNEALLY

Early Learning at MacEwan CA

A World Fit for Children: Creating Spaces That Invite Children's Rights to be Explored

Jennifer Sibbald is the Family and Community Liaison for Early Learning at MacEwan and has been in the field of early learning and child care for over 10 years. She is completing a Master of Arts in Innovative Early Childhood Education from the University of Colorado. Jennifer's pursuits in the field have invited her to take risks in the spirit of learning, something she hopes you all challenge yourselves to do during the conference.

Dr. Noah Kenneally is an Assistant Professor in the Bachelor of Early Childhood Curriculum Studies at MacEwan University. His research interests include exploring the enormous potential of early childhood communities as sites of social change; the practical applications of a relational framework of children's rights in early learning contexts; children's understandings of social life; and creative research methodologies. A new Albertan, Dr. Kenneally worked as an advocate for children and families in Ontario for over two decades in Ontario, where he completed his doctoral studies in Social Justice Education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto.

Nov.17 Session B4



CHRISTINE MCLEAN

Mount Saint Vincent University

Reflections on Reggio Emilia (Long time fan; first time visitor)

Dr. Christine McLean is Associate Professor and Department Chair of Child and Youth Study at Mount Saint Vincent University (MSVU) in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Prior to her position at the Mount, Christine was active in the ECE field in Newfoundland and Labrador for 28 years and has presented at many provincial and national conferences across Canada. She has been involved with various child care provincial and national organizations and is currently on the National Advisory Council for Early Learning and Child Care; the Nova Scotia ELCC Minister's Engagement Table and the Board of Directors of Canadian Association for Young Children (CAYC). Christine has a Bachelor of Child Study from MSVU, a Bachelor of Education from Acadia University, a Master of Education from University of Cincinnati, and a PhD in Early Learning from OISE, University of Toronto.

Nov.18 Session C1



ERICA FARRIES WITH JENNIFER SIBBALD

Early Learning at MacEwan University

Reigniting Your Practice: Nurturing Joy and Wonder Through Co-Inquiry

Erica Farries is an early learning educator at Early Learning at MacEwan. She graduated from MacEwan’s Early Learning and Child Care diploma program in 2014. Erica strongly believes and asserts that co-playing with children is one of the many ways we care for children and learn from children. She is empowered by reflective moments in her daily practice where she can be in tune with her values and philosophy in early learning and care.

Jennifer Sibbald is the Family and Community Liaison for Early Learning at MacEwan and has been in the field of early learning and child care for over 10 years. She is completing a Master of Arts in Innovative Early Childhood Education from the University of Colorado. Jennifer’s pursuits in the field have invited her to take risks in the spirit of learning, something she hopes you all challenge yourselves to do during the conference.

Nov.18 Session C2



ANNETTE COMEAU

Mount Saint Vincent University Child Study Centre

Virtual Tour: Mount Saint Vincent University Child Study Centre

Annette Comeau is the Director of the Mount Saint Vincent University Child Study Centre. Annette has been an Early Childhood Educator for 26 years. In addition to her training in Early Childhood Education she hold’s bachelor’s degrees in Fine Art, Design and Art Education. Her particular interests are supporting children’s creativity and designing the learning environment.

Nov.18 Session C3



DR. LORI RYAN PH.D.

University of Colorado Denver, USA

Educators as Change Agents Nurturing Children’s Potential

Lori Ryan, Ph.D., is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Colorado’s School of Education and Human Development. Lori centers her work within early childhood contexts and educational leadership environments, with a commitment to equitable and inclusive practices that promote, in partnership with early childhood communities, a strong image of children, families, and professionals as co-constructors of their own learning stories. Within each unique context, Lori’s teaching, research, and coaching are focused on building the capacity of her students, early childhood professionals, and the children with whom they work. As lead faculty partner with Boulder Journey School, Lori co-teaches and learns with other instructors and students across 15 time zones within an online global MA in Innovative Early Childhood Education.

Nov.18 Closing Keynote



REGISTRATION INFO

Early bird

Individual	\$130+GST
Individual PTL Member	\$105+GST
Group of 5	\$585+GST
Group of 10	\$1,170+GST

Early bird deadline: Midnight (MST), Sunday, Oct 29 2023

*(buy 4 get the 5th half off!)
(buy 9 get the 10th free!)*

Regular

Individual	\$180+GST
Individual PTL Member	\$145+GST
Group of 5	\$810+GST
Group of 10	\$1,620+GST

Registration deadline: Midnight (MST), Sunday, Nov 12 2023

*(buy 4 get the 5th half off!)
(buy 9 get the 10th free!)*

PTL Program Information

Not a PTL cardholder? You can join our PTL program and be eligi-

ble for conference discounted rates quickly and easily. Visit [http://](http://arcqe.ca/ptl-information/)

arcqe.ca/ptl-information/ for more information and online application.

Registration

All registration MUST be completed online, **HERE**.

Registration is based on a first come, first serve basis and subject to capacity. In order to avoid disappointment please register early. ARCQE reserves the right to restrict enrollment or to cancel any activity for which there is insufficient registration. We will make every effort to inform you prior to the start date.

Payment Options

Online with MasterCard, Visa, **HERE**

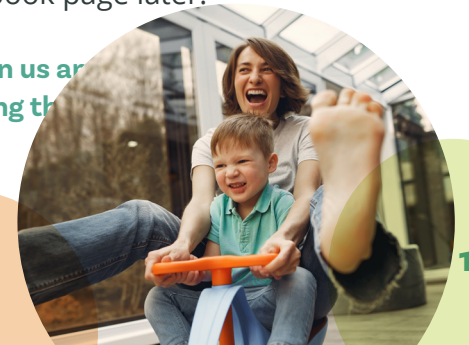
*We only authorize Visa and MasterCard payments online.

REGISTER EARLY FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A FREE IPAD!

With this year marks the 32nd anniversary of Canada's ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, we are celebrating by way of a special draw for an iPad intended to guide educator practice relating to children's learning and exploration through use of digital applications (i.e. supporting documentation, observation & reflection, developing learning stories). Everyone who has registered by the **Midnight (MST), Oct 29 2023** will be automatically entered into a drawing to win a FREE Apple iPad 64GB! The winner will be drawn at random and announced at the closing celebration on Day 3 of the conference, also on ARCQE's website and Facebook page later.



We invite you to join us at an awesome prize along the way!



Cancellation and Refund Policy

Registration fees, less a \$50 processing fee per transaction, will be refunded if a cancellation request is received in writing by **Midnight (MST), Sunday, Oct 29 2023**. After this date, registration fees are non-refundable. Non-attendance does not constitute notice of withdrawal.

If you have registered for the conference but are unable to attend and wish to have someone else attend in your place, please contact the ARCQE office by **Midnight (MST), Sunday, Nov 12, 2023** to give us time to update registration lists. If we have not received notification by the above deadline, we *can't* accommodate delegate replacements during the days of conference.

Use of Personal Information & Registration Information

ARCQE is committed to data privacy and protecting your personal information. By registering for the Conference and submitting your email address during the event registration process, you agree that ARCQE and its Conference partners may send you Conference related information. A valid email address is required for all registrations. ARCQE collects the information you have entered during registration in order to provide you with access to the Conference platform and materials for your use during and after the Conference for which you have registered, and for administering participation in this Conference. This may include information about the Conference's content, event logistics, payment, updates, and additional information related to the Conference.

By registering for the Conference, you consent and agree that

- (i) ARCQE may use this information to draw door prizes; and
- (ii) ARCQE may use this information to provide you with communications about products and services related to the subject and may provide this information to its Conference

partners, including Conference sponsors/exhibitors and third-party service providers engaged by ARCQE to assist in the delivery of the Conference (e.g., virtual platform provider), who may use this information to send communications to you; and

- (iii) this information ARCQE may be shared with those parties, and the treatment of such information is further subject to the privacy policies of those parties.

You may withdraw consent, request to review or revise information we retain about you by contacting ARCQE at info@arcqe.ca. Should you choose to have your consent withdrawn, please note you will then be ineligible for door prize draws provided for registrants by Conference partners. Except as described herein, ARCQE will not disclose an registrant's personal data to any other third party without your consent except where required to do so by law.

The above provisions are included as part of our registration process to ensure that your registration for the Conference is within the guidelines of international data protection laws. Completion of the online registration acknowledges your consent and agreement with the above provisions.



PD FUNDING INFO

ARCQE's 14th Annual NCDC conference may be approved for PD funding, plus Release Time funding for a total of 19.5 hrs!

Eligible registrants can apply to access the funds upon completion of ARCQE conference sessions.

Professional Development (PD) Funding may be available to eligible registrants to cover the cost of ARCQE conference registration, up to **\$500/year for all Early Childhood Educators certified as Level 1, 2 or 3.**

PD funding access has been expanded to all certified staff working in licensed child care programs, including **ECEs working in preschool programs, and day home providers** working in licensed family day home agencies.

Release time is now also available to ECEs so they can be paid while attending approved conferences; ECEs attending approved conferences are eligible to receive \$17.50 per hour (up to 45hrs per fiscal year).

The updated [Alberta Child Care Grant Funding Guide](#) outlines the eligibility and steps needed in order to obtain PD funding. All applications and questions regarding the new Alberta Child Care Grant Funding can be directed to:

Alberta Child Care Grant Funding Program
Phone: 780-422-1119
Toll Free 1-800-661-9754

Email: cs.childcarefunding@gov.ab.ca

We strongly encourage those interested in attending and planning on accessing PD funds to submit PD applications as early as possible, as funding might be depleted prior to application deadline.



**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ONLINE
NOVEMBER 16TH - 18TH, 2023!**

[Register here!](#)

REFLECTION NOTES:

Session: _____
Speaker: _____

Lined writing area for the first reflection session.

Session: _____
Speaker: _____

Lined writing area for the second reflection session.



REFLECTION NOTES:

Session: _____

Speaker: _____

Lined area for reflection notes (15 lines).

Session: _____

Speaker: _____

Lined area for reflection notes (15 lines).



