

Course Objectives

Join us to discover...

- ✚ The importance of play and friendships in childhood
- ✚ The nature of play and friendships in children with ASD
- ✚ The principles and practices of the Integrated Play Groups Model
- ✚ The principles and practices of the Friend 2 Friend Model
- ✚ How to assess and monitor children's social, communication, play, imagination and friendship development
- ✚ How to enhance social interaction, communication, play, imagination and friendships
- ✚ How to design quality peer play and friendship programs in school, home, community and therapy settings
- ✚ How to design quality programs and activities to support peer play and friendships

Target Audience

This seminar is designed for parents/family members, educators, therapists/and others who teach and care for children with ASD and related social communication needs.

Location

Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health
Queen Alexandra Building - Auditorium
2400 Arbutus Road, Victoria, British Columbia

Parking

Pay parking is available on site. Credit card or cash meter. \$1.00 for 1 hour & 45 minutes, \$5 daily (8 hours & 45 minutes).

Course Description

The Integrated Play Groups and Friend 2 Friend models come together in this seminar to address social, play and friendship needs of children with ASD and related special needs. These models draw upon evidence-based practices to foster children's peer play and friendships within school, home, and community settings. This seminar uses games, video, slides, art, stories, and real-life experiences to illustrate the program models.

Day 1 Conceptual foundation for the models and introduce the steps for designing peer play and friendship programs.

Day 2 Tools and techniques for implementing the practices of both models to support children's social interaction, communication, play, imagination and friendships across settings.

About the Models



The **Integrated Play Groups (IPG)** model is designed to support children of diverse ages and abilities on the autism spectrum (novice players) in play with typical peers and siblings (expert players), in school, home, and community settings. Through an individualized system of support, emphasis is placed on maximizing each child's developmental potential and intrinsic desire to play, socialize and form meaningful peer relationships.



The **Friend 2 Friend (F2F)** model is designed to foster mutual friendships for children with ASD by building awareness, empathy and understanding in their peers, siblings and classmates. F2F offers innovative educational programs that include Puppet presentations and Simulation-Games. Presented in an age-appropriate manner, F2F demystifies autism by modeling, labeling, explaining, and normalizing characteristics as well as teaches specific friendship skills.

Directions / Accommodation

From Swartz Bay Ferry Terminal:

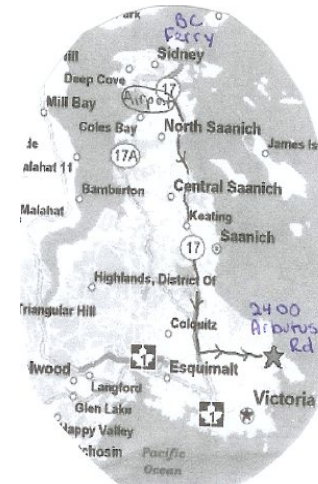
Head straight on the highway until you have gone about a half-mile past the Quadra St. exit. Take the McKenzie Ave. exit, turn left onto McKenzie, and follow approx. 6km until you pass the University of Victoria. Turn left on Finnerty Road and right onto Arbutus Road at the 3 way stop.

From Victoria International Airport:

Exit the airport, and go left on Willingdon Road. Turn left onto McTavish Road at the tee intersection. Make an immediate right onto Hwy 17 south. Follow directions listed above, starting at taking the McKenzie Ave east ramp.

From Up Island:

Travel south on Hwy 1 – Nanaimo/Trans Canada Hwy to the McKenzie Ave turnoff. Go left and head straight until you pass the University of Victoria, approx. 6km. Turn left onto Finnerty Road and right onto Arbutus Road at the 3 way stop.



Hotel closest to Queen Alexandra Centre:

<http://www.sea-viewinn.com>

Hotels in Downtown Victoria:

www.victoriahotelbureau.com

Hosted by the
Queen Alexandra Centre for
Children's Health

Fostering Peer Play and Friendships in Children on the Autism Spectrum

Blending the Integrated Play Group and Friend 2 Friend Models

Pamela Wolfberg, PH.D.
Heather McCracken,
Founder of Friend 2
Friend Social Learning
Society

Friday and Saturday
November 30, & December 1, 2007

Queen Alexandra Centre, Auditorium
2400 Arbutus Road
Victoria, BC V8N 1V7



Agenda

Day 1: Friday, November 30, 2007

- 7:45 Registration
 8:30 **Welcome & Introduction**
 8:45 What is Autism Spectrum Disorder? (Heather McCracken)
 • F2F Simulation Game • Senses and Autism
 • Communication and Autism • I Have the Kind of Mind
 • I Want Friends
 10:00 Break
 10:20 Nature of Play in Children with ASD (Pamela Wolfberg)
 • Social and Symbolic Challenges
 • Importance of Play and the Influence of Peers
 12:00 Questions & Answers (Heather and Pamela)
 12:15 Lunch (provided)
 1:15 Nature of Play in Children with ASD (Heather McCracken)
 • Importance of Friendship • Key Features of the F2F Model
 • Desire for Friendship and the Social Void
 2:30 Break
 2:45 Key Features of the IPG Model (Pamela Wolfberg)
 • Overview • Case Illustration
 • Program and Environmental Design
 4:00 Questions and Answers (Pamela and Heather)
 4:30 Adjournment

Day 2: Saturday, December 1, 2007

- 8:45 Steps for Promoting Friendship
 • Autism Demystification: Definition and Guidelines
 • 7 Basic Friendship Tips
 • 5 Key Learning Goals
 • Social Facilitation Model
 • Implementing the Puppet Presentation
 • Implementing the Simulation Game
 10:30 Break
 10:50 Applying the Practices of the F2F Model – Continued
 12:00 Questions and Answers (Pamela and Heather)
 12:15 Lunch (provided)
 1:15 Applying the Practices of the IPG Model (Pamela Wolfberg)
 • Structuring the IPG Session: Design
 • Observing Children at Play: Assessment
 • Guiding Peer Socialization and Play: Intervention
 2:30 Break
 2:45 Applying the Practices of the IPG Model – Continued
 4:00 Concluding Remarks – Questions & Answers
 4:30 Adjournment

About the Speakers



Pamela Wolfberg, Ph.D. is a special education professor at San Francisco State University and director of the **Autism Institute**

on Peer Relations and Play. As creator of the IPG model, she is an internationally renowned autism expert. She is the recipient of several distinguished awards for her scholarship, research and practice. She is widely published and the author of *Play and Imagination in Children with Autism* and *Peer Play and the Autism Spectrum: The Art of Guiding Children's Socialization and Imagination.*



Heather McCracken is the founder and executive director of the **Friend 2 Friend Social Learning Society** in Vancouver, British Columbia and a mother of

three children, one with ASD. As creator of the F2F model, she is a sought after international speaker. She actively delivers programs to children in schools and community groups as well lectures at the University of B.C., San Francisco State University and other post-secondary institutions. She has numerous publications and is the author of *That's What's Different About Me: Helping Children Understand Autism Spectrum Disorder.*

Registration Information

For registration information contact:

Rebecca Page
 Autism Early Intervention Program
 Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health

Phone: (250) 721-6806

Fax: (250) 721-6837

Email: Rebecca.Page@viha.ca

About the Queen Alexandra Centre

The Queen Alexandra Centre for Children's Health (QACCH) has been a leader in the provision of Child and Family Rehabilitation on Vancouver Island and British Columbia for over 75 years. We are a part of the Vancouver Island Health Authority. (VIHA)

Our main programs include Early Intervention (0-5) School-Aged Therapy services, Specialized Paediatric Clinics, Supported Child Development, Orthotics, Specialized Seating and Adaptive Equipment, Autism Intervention, Integrated Camps and Retreats, Family Education, Special Sitters, and Adoption Support.

Professions staffing our services include Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Speech Language Pathologists, Behavioural Consultant, Dietitian/Nutritionists, Early Childhood Educators, and Infant Development Workers, Autism Interventionists, Registered Nurses, Child & Youth Care Workers, Social Workers, Certified Orthotists & Prosthetics.

Our programs are supported through grants and contracts from various BC Gov't Ministries, and generosity of donors who give to the Queen Alexandra Foundation for Children (QAF). The QAF for Children also supports programs through the purchase of rehabilitation equipment needs of

Registration Form

Fostering Peer Play and Friendships in Children on the Autism Spectrum

Early Bird Fee (before Oct. 9, 2007) \$320

Registration Fee (from Oct 10 – 29, 2007) \$350

Registration fee includes course materials, lunch, and breaks. **Limited Seating (80 People)**

 Last Name First Name

 Title Organization

 Address: please indicate Work or Home

 City Province Postal Code

 Email address

Lunch:

Regular Vegetarian

Method of Payment

Cheque: payable to VIHA

VISA

MasterCard

 Name on card

Card Number _____

Expiry Date __ / __

 Signature Date

Please mail, fax, or email completed registration form and payment to: **Autism Early Intervention Program, Queen Alexandra Centre, 2400 Arbutus Road, Victoria BC V8N 1V7.**