

VENDOR APPLICATION

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

For over 25 years, the Children the Heart of the Matter Conference has welcomed over 400 early learning and child care professionals for a weekend of learning. Our conference offers a series of speakers, workshops, and keynote sessions about early childhood development, diversity, inclusion, and other topics of interest to those in the early learning and child care field. The 2026 conference focuses on the value and importance of outdoor play. We hope to inspire conversations and action on the benefits of getting children and ourselves outdoors. The conference is held each year in the Winter season, in Surrey, BC.

Our conference begins Friday evening with a welcome reception, followed by a keynote presentation for parents, guardians, and those who care for young children. Saturday's focus is for those who work with young children and their families in various settings, and includes a keynote session followed by a variety of workshops.

SUBMISSION AND SELECTION

All submissions will be considered based on the criteria of appropriateness and uniqueness of services or goods. Click [here](#) to submit your application.

Selected vendors receive one 8-foot table with two chairs, at a cost of \$135.00 for Friday and Saturday. Vendors are expected to attend their tables on both conference days. Due to space limitations we are only able to offer one table per vendor. Your payment includes one complimentary morning snack and lunch on Saturday. Additional morning snacks and lunches can be purchased for \$45.00. Electrical outlets may be requested at a cost of \$20.00 and will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. Selected vendors are required to provide a door prize donation with a minimum value of \$30.00.

Application deadline is September 17, 2025.

We will notify successful applicants by October 31, 2025 and will provide payment instructions at that time.

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY EVENING

- 5:00 PM Set-up begins
- 6:00 PM Marketplace opens
- 7:00 PM Keynote presentation
- 10:00 PM Marketplace closes

SATURDAY

- 6:30 AM Set-up begins
- 7:00 AM Marketplace opens
- 8:00 AM Panel presentation
- 10:15 AM Morning break
- 10:45 AM AM session workshops
- 12:45 PM Lunch break
- 1:45 PM PM session workshop
- Marketplace closes
- 4:00 PM Conference ends

