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Outdoor Play Canada July 2024 Newsletter

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Outdoor Play Canada Annual Report

We have released our inaugural OPC Annual Report to share everything we have been up to in our first year as a not-for-profit organization! We are immensely proud and honoured to be leading several exciting collaborative, cross-sectoral projects both in Canada and internationally. We could not have done it without our new and growing team of staff, students, and board members.

Read the OPC Annual Report [here](#).

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Click on the link for more information: <https://activeforlife.com/active-play-in-childcare/>

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If you have a passion for the outdoors and wish to share your knowledge that evening, we are looking for additional speakers. Alternatively, if you are an Early Childhood Educator or a parent seeking information, we welcome your attendance.

Please contact: Danielle Wittick, Director of Program Development, NYAD Community Inc dwittick@nyad.org

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This table highlights nationwide efforts in promoting outdoor-focused Early Childhood Education (ECE), covering research, policy, and practice. It includes guiding documents, legislative initiatives, and professional development opportunities. The primary aim is to showcase the collective efforts of organizations, the ECE workforce, outdoor learning advocates, and policy and research specialists dedicated to advancing outdoor ECE and nature-based learning in Canada. Relevant U.S. resources are also included.

Please click here to access the document: [Outdoor ECE Initiatives](#)

A 360° Vision of Play: Creating and Diversifying Play in Public

This innovative tool was created by [Metalude](#) in collaboration with the [Centre d'écologie urbaine](#) in Montreal. Designed for municipalities, the tool aims to help public space designers and managers plan for

children's play in public space. The tool connects children's play experiences and basic needs to affordances municipalities can act on. It also provides a framework for municipalities to design and program public spaces as complementary playable spaces.

This project was made possible thanks to the concerted efforts of Metalude's partners and the financial support of Montréal-Métropole en santé as part of the 2023-2025 integrated action plan.

[Click to Access Tool \(currently only available in FR\)](#)

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1. Lean into values to drive quality and change.
2. Equip and empower people at all levels.
3. Strengthen organizational culture through collaboration.
4. Nurture an ecosystem approach for long-term impact.

The report concludes with a recommendation to tackle policy barriers to outdoor play which remain obstacles despite the excellent efforts of outdoor play advocates to change practice.

[Read the report here.](#)

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A new publication from the Lawson Foundation "[More Than a New Course: A Framework for Embedding Outdoor and Land-based Pedagogies in Post-Secondary ECE Programs.](#)" provides guidelines to help integrate Outdoor and Land-based teaching and learning in post-secondary early childhood education (ECE) programs across Canada, aiming to get faculty, students, and ultimately children outdoors and connected to nature and the Land. This framework for systemic change can transform post-secondary education in Canada, equipping Early Childhood Educators to implement Outdoor and Land-based approaches and guiding senior administrators and policymakers to support these practices through necessary policy and practice changes.

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Learn more here: https://saskoutdoors.org/outdoor_play_activities/

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Once this resource is complete it will be available at: https://saskoutdoors.org/resources/?_sft_resource_topic=outdoor-play

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Our mailing address is:

Outdoor Play Canada, 415 Corkstown Rd, Ottawa, ON, K2K 2Y1

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