

Compass Early Learning and Care

Outdoor Institute

September 16-18, 2026

How do we step beyond
the fence with children?

What does the land teach
us about care and connection?



An invitation to:

- Slow down, be fully present
- Build relationships
- Hear educator stories
- Engage with Indigenous pedagogies



- Two days
- Outdoors
- Local food

Bonus events

Study tours and a live podcast recording
with Lorrie McGee & Anne Marie Coughlin

Register Now!

\$500

COMPASS
EARLY LEARNING AND CARE



Keynote Speaker Bios

Grandmother Kim Wheatly

Aanishinaabe Traditional Grandmother Kim Wheatley is a band member of Shawanaga First Nation located on the shores of Georgian Bay. She is a multi-award winning public speaker for over 3 decades. Kim has appeared on television, radio, podcasts, newspapers and numerous articles locally, nationally & internationally sharing ancestral wisdom, teachings, ceremonies and songs. She currently offers Cultural consultation, is a columnist and runs a podcast called "Ancestral Voices We Belong". Kim is also working on a new book and enjoying grandmotherhood.



Anne Marie Coughlin

Anne Marie Coughlin is a pedagogical leader, speaker, and traditional herbalist whose work explores the intersections of care, leadership and our relationship with the living world.

With over 40 years in early childhood education, she has worked alongside educators and leaders to reimagine practice in ways that are responsive, reflective, and rooted in values of equity and social justice.

Her practice as a trained herbalist sits alongside her work in early childhood education, shaping how she understands relationships, growth and the conditions that allow people and communities to thrive. Drawing from both worlds, Anne Marie invites others to slow down, notice more deeply and reimagine their work in ways that feel more connected, sustainable, and alive.

