



Men in Early Childhood Education (NZ) inc.

EC-MENZ Newsletter September 2009

Kia Ora Koutou

We thought it would be timely to touch base with all members and inform you of progress made so far this year.

We have just posted enrolment forms for the 2010 summit on our website www.ecmenz.org and are inviting all members along with colleagues and other interested parties to begin the enrolment for this years summit to be held at the AUT campus on the north shore on February 13/14th 2010. We have invited Bryan Nelson from the US organisation Menteach as our main speaker. Bryan follows on the footsteps of Kenny Spence and Ron Blatz and further grows the international perspective that is so important to help us understand our own context and will bring a wealth of knowledge to share with us. Check out their website at www.menteach.org

We are anticipating the largest attendance of all our summits occurring in 2010 so we ask that you encourage all your colleagues to come along and hear the stories. I believe that this is particularly pertinent following the recent debacle in the Christchurch Press and Dominion newspapers that ran the provocative article on women being better teachers in ece. The author ran a story that was somewhat angled to a very small part of a recent Teachers Council report on leadership in ece and unfortunately some members of some organizations were not as careful as they should have been and later regretted some loose comments they made. Despite the retractions made it did illustrate that we have some distance to travel yet to have male representation accepted and valued by our sector. Accordingly I ask you to invite your colleagues to share in the challenges the face us – the more we have hearing the stories, the greater the understanding will be.

If you know of any other males or supportive females who are working in our sector – encourage them to become EC–MENz members – we need to grow our membership base to become more influential in decision making in the ece sector and to develop a greater knowledge base that we can all grow from. We have many supporters in influential positions and I trust you have found the releases from the ministry that either Gerald or I have forwarded to you useful. By being an EC–MENz member you get the information at the same time as all the other influential groups in ece do. The difference is that this information is sent direct to you as opposed to being filtered through management groups. Other benefits of being an EC–MENz member are access to our website forums and information on links to other websites that support men in ece.

New links to check out are: – <http://www.tuboston.com/article-1702-reception-to-honor-men-in-early-childhood-education.html> ;

http://www.earlychildhoodnews.com/earlychildhood/article_view.aspx?ArticleID=400

http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/every_child_magazine/every_child_index/blokes_can_do_it_as_well.html

<http://www.politicalaffairs.net/article/articleview/8213/> see recommendation (6)

<http://www.neon.org.nz/newsarchive/meninearlychildhood/>

Hope you have found this useful ...please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any suggestions to add to this newsletter

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