

Media Release



19 May 2009

FAMILY DAY CARE AUSTRALIA HOLDS IT'S GROUND BREAKING TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE IN HOBART

Family Day Care Australia will tomorrow, Wednesday 20 May, open the conference to some 500 family day carers from across the country in Hobart with highly renowned international and national experts in early childhood care and education.

The conference will highlight the Federal Government's agenda for early childhood, focusing on the new requirements on quality standards and higher qualifications for the child care industry.

This week will be ground breaking for the future of child care in Australia.

The schedule of key speakers includes:

Thursday 21st May –

- **8.45am, The Hon Maxine McKew, MP**, Member for Bennelong and Parliamentary Secretary for Early Childhood Education and Child Care.
- **2.00pm, Dr Susan Edwards**, Academic at the Centre for Childhood Studies, Monash University.

Friday 22nd May –

- **9.00am, Sophie Mirabella MP, Shadow Minister** for Early Childhood Education, Childcare, Women & Youth.
- **9.15am, Dr Pam Schiller**, Early Childhood Consultant and Author. Also providing a workshop on **Saturday 23rd May at 2pm** on 'The crucial role of social and emotional development right from birth'.
- **11.15am, Professor Jennifer Sumsion**, Foundation professor of early childhood education at Charles Sturt University, Bathurst.
- **1.45pm, Nadine McCrea, Assoc Professor** of ECE at University of New England, Armidale and Author of 'There's More to Food than Eating..'

Saturday 23rd May –

- **12.00 noon, Dr Adam Spencer**, ABC Radio and television presenter will be speaking on engaging children in Science.
- **2.00pm, Dr Pam Schiller**, Early Childhood Consultant and Author.
- **2.00pm, Dr Sarah Lantz**, providing a workshop on 'Chemicals and Kids: Raising Healthy Children in a Toxic World.'
- **3.30pm, Senator Sarah Hanson-Young**, The Australian Greens.

Other speakers to note are:

Terry Hawkins, Andrew McKell-Wong, Maggie Dent, Louise Dorrat, Bron Lowe, Anthony Semann, Denise Proud, Susan Perrow (M.ED).

Family day care is a quality home-based child care service that's been actively helping Australian families for over 30 years.

- ENDS -

For interviews with Rhonda Bignell, CEO or Kym Groth President of Family Day Care Australia, or to arrange photo opportunities at the conference, please contact Sis Santos on 0408 447 139.

Family Day Care Australia

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