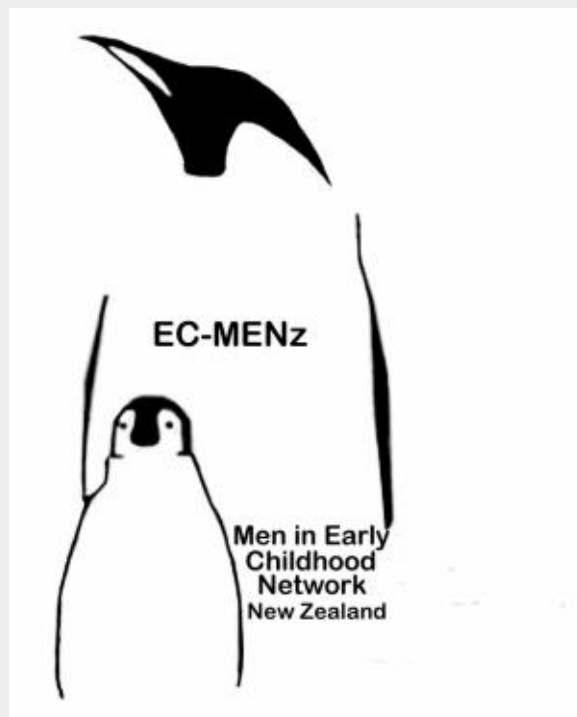


Newsletter July 2016

A new year means another EC-MENz Summit, this time held in the beautiful Bay of Plenty. As always the weekend was full of great professional development, but most importantly it brought the team of EC-MENz together for some much needed networking. A full break down of the weekends events can be found on our EC-MENz website or by hitting the link below.



2016 Summit Report

As a result for the summit in Tauranga there has been so changes in the members of the committee. We welcome Cyrus Taraporvala and Phillip Ozanne to the committee team, and thanks to those 'passing the torch; Albert Samuel, Michael Inch, and Toni Christie for their hard work over the past year.

Staying on for another year is Russell Ballantyne as President, Robin Christie as Vis-President, Stuart Miller as Treasurer and James Hamilton as Secretary.



President's Message

On behalf of EC-MENz we welcome you to a new year and a new round of endeavours in trying to help promote that teaching in the Early Childhood Education sector is a great career for men (as well as women). We know through the many stories, that no matter what path men have followed, once they enter this sector, they are hooked. They find that working with very young children is inspiring, and comes with a huge responsibility to help set healthy foundations for life long learning. We all know that young minds need the input from male experiences and perspectives and that together with our female teachers we can make this world a better place for most children. We also all know that men working with young children is something this 21st century should view as being as common as women working as judges. We know that our workforce needs to be diverse and that men and women should be able to approach any career with confidence. We now know that gender barriers to any vocation are wrong and that our diverse society needs diverse people of both genders working within every level of the workplace.

So how do we change this low percentage of men employed within ece? Our first move must to be to challenge all discrimination and any barriers to participation – and

to conversely reward those that set the example. Some ideas could be to develop a EC-menz accreditation poster – where centres and organisations are awarded certificates acknowledging their efforts to make a difference. Let us also develop a fundraising culture where supportive organisations can help us grow our financial base so that some financial support can be given to some who commence their training. Whatever we do we also need you to keep talking to people – your whanau, your work mates, your sports mates, your employers and those who take office on behalf of us all and keep asking what they can do to help us. This is the beginning of small steps. Those in umbrella organisations can ask their employers about diversity policies – do you have them and is gender included as something that needs to be considered in selection and recruitment? – are targets set and if not why not ? what evaluation of effectiveness takes place and where do accountabilities lie for this? These are the seeds that need to be tended and from these big things can propagate. This is something that we all can contribute to and not the responsibility of one.

Breaking News..... 2017 Summit to be held at Karaka Early Learning Centre (Auckland) May 5, 6, 7 !!!!

Yes we have shifted the date to coincide with the Early Childhood World Forum which is being held also in Auckland from May 9-12. This is important as each forum there is an International Men in ece group that meet and share ideas. By scheduling at the beginning of this week we are allowing a number to attend our summit and already have two who are travelling to the forum expressing interest in attending our gig. This is an opportunity to meet some great guys doing the same work as us – so for all our attendees it will make it something very memorable. More details will follow on this.....

So we look forward to continue to grow this organization – Robin has already been hard at work linking groups together and we look forward to meeting those who are planning to Hear David Brody talk in Wellington next month. We can only do what we can with the resources we have – so please help us to grow the number of great men who teach in ece....every effort is much appreciated

Russell Ballantyne
President EC-MENZ

It is that time of the year again to call of our annual subs for ECMENz. These subs allow for our awesome annual summits to take place annually, as well as general maintenance on our website.

The annual cost are \$20, with a reduced rate for students of \$5.

These subs can be paid to Non Profit Organisation Current Account Number: 06-0541-0426856-11

If you require an invoice to pass onto employers please contact our treasurer, Stuart at stuart@itocl.co.nz

Here is a breakdown of the ECMENz accounts thanks to our Treasurer Stuart Miller

**EC-MENz Annual Accounts for
1/1/15 to 31/12/15**

1/1/14 to 31/12/14

Opening Bank Balance \$1,781.75

Opening Bank Balance \$1,318.83

Income

Income

Subs \$670.00
Summit 15 \$1,192.78
Donations \$680.00
Interest \$42.83
total **\$2,585.61**

Subs \$245.00
Summit 14 \$690.00
Donations \$310.00
Interest \$12.18
total **\$1,257.18**

Expenses

Expenses

Summit 15 \$575.00
Summit 16 \$259.74
Interest \$14.14
total **\$848.88**

Summit 15 \$500.00
Website \$294.26
total **\$794.26**

Closing Bank Balance \$3,518.48

Closing Bank Balance \$1,781.75

surplus \$1,736.73

surplus \$462.92

EC-Menz Scholarships

EC-Menz Inc is delighted to be leading an initiative to offer male-only training scholarships to show men they are wanted and valued in the early childhood sector.

The initiative is called the 'Adam Buckingham Scholarship' after Adam Buckingham, president until recently of EC-Menz Inc whom died too soon at 49 years from cancer in Feb 2015 and it is important that we offer this scholarship in memory of Adam and his life's work.

This scholarship will be a great step to move towards gender diversity in early childhood education. As more men work in the sector, more children can experience male teachers working alongside women. The better representation of men in teaching would be of benefit to children's learning and social development, raise quality within the sector in various ways primarily improving staff dynamics by having a mixed gender team, and help fathers feel more comfortable staying with their child and participating in the ECE programme.

This scholarships is to acknowledge and welcome men into the early childhood care and education profession. It is to show men they are wanted and valued in the early childhood education sector and that it is a positive job choice for men.

EC-Menz Inc is planning to offer the male-only training scholarship annually to be presented at the AGM. EC-Menz Inc is asking for a minimum donation of \$30 to enable the annual scholarship to be of a size to materially help an aspiring male teacher.

To make a donation to EC-Menz Inc now:

- Make an online bank transfer to the EC-Menz Inc bank account with your name and that it's a donation as reference

EC-Menz Inc bank account is 06 0901-0394801-00

OR

- Post a cheque to EC-Menz Inc Po Box 51 055 Tawa, Wellington City 5249.

33% of your donation can be claimed as a tax rebate as EC-Menz Inc is a registered charity. To issue your receipt for a tax rebate your name and address can be emailed to stuart@itocl.co.nz or posted to the above address.

Thank you for helping EC-Menz Inc support an aspiring male teacher.

Visit our website for other scholarship information by clicking the link below.

Scholarships

Regional Chapters

EC-MENz regional chapters and associated contacts can be found by clicking the button below.

If your region is not represented and you would like to become a co-ordinator for the chapter please contact our secretary - James at ecmenzsecretary@outlook.co.nz

Regional Chapters



Kia Ora nga Taonga

We hope that you are able to read this message in strong physical and spiritual health.

Please book in on **Wednesday 31 August 2016** for a Wellington EC-MENZ gathering.

Beginning at 7pm at the Childspace Institute (45 Helston Road, Johnsonville) attendees will be welcomed by the handsome, talented, knowledgeable and articulate duo of Robin Christie and David Sinnott a.k.a the dream team or Robid Chrisnot.

From here we will explore the effect of chilled beverages (supplied by attendees to suit their own taste) on conversation quality and volume. During this experiment we will transition in to rhythmic conversation with the addition of ukulele. If you have one of these please feel free to bring it along, it will have the opportunity to meet many new friends, alternatively there will be several supplied. Please let us know any songs that you would like to include, this could be anything from a favourite song, something you have been working on or something you wonder 'what would that sound like on ukulele'?

This is a great opportunity to connect with other men working in early childhood education and to have a laugh. Any pressing topics can and will be discussed openly and honestly, without judgement. All men and women are welcome to come and join us on this evening and experience the joy of connecting with other people who love working with children and sharing their experiences.

We hope to see you there!

Kind Regards

David SInnott and Robin Christie



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