

OCHEC 2010 Convention – Workshops

Beware of the Pitfalls (aka Homeschooling 101) - Cheryl Burella

“Why can’t he understand division?” “Why can’t my child read yet?” “How does Mary keep her home so clean and homeschool?” “Where does she put all the stuff?” “I think it is time to put them in school!” “I don’t know what’s for dinner. Pour yourself a bowl of Cheerios, Sweetheart.” Truth is, it is a rare woman that has never said any of these things. We chuckle because we know how true it is. This workshop is packed full of practical practices for the struggling or new homeschooler to implement in his home. Special focus will be given to choosing curriculum, organizing everything, finding doable routine, motivating students, and being motivated yourself.

ADHD--Curse or Gift? - Donna Fawcett

In this hour workshop, Donna will share her own struggles with being ADHD in a family of ADHD siblings. She will offer solutions from personal experience from her learning and from her children's learning paths.

Who Knew Math Could Be This Much Fun? - Karen Gauvreau

Lego, Magnets, K’nex, Balloons and Pizza boxes...these are the items you will most likely find on Karen Gauvreau's resource shelf. Welcome to her workshop on maximizing the fun (and effectiveness) in the mathematical training of your children. She will present a myriad of unique ideas to liven up any lesson. Learn to teach a variety of mathematical concepts using classic building toys, everyday objects, and music...the things kids love! Understand how to capture the interest of the most restless student – and be amazed at what they can learn when completely engaged. And do all this on a shoestring budget! You will leave inspired, equipped with a wealth of resources and ready to play with a purpose. Who knows? Your children may beg you for five more minutes of multiplication before bedtime?

Martial Arts Demonstration - Tracey Hewitson

“Learn by example” is the philosophy behind Monkey see...Monkey do...Martial Arts. Tracey Hewitson, owner and Director of Possibilities for Monkey see...Monkey do...Martial Arts brings to the Martial Arts world a new and innovative Watch-Learn-Do approach to teaching children. Tracey has many years of parenting and teaching experience, children primarily, under her black belts. Her reputation as a positive role model to children is first and foremost in her Watch-Learn-Do teaching style. Monkey see...Monkey do...Martial Arts provides on site Monkey Business programming for children that is fun and disciplined, balancing physical, mental and emotional strengths with consistent, positive reinforcement. Building on a fit mind and a fit body!

"Home School Dad...Call Me Crazy?" - John MacKinnon

I am a homeschooling father who has children who have graduated from homeschool highschool and also have some children who are still at home. We will discuss why we home school and how fathers can be involved. As a police officer for 24 years I have some insights from policing mixed with home education that may encourage and help men who are in any stage of their home education career. I will explore the Biblical passages which talk about a father's heart being turned towards his children and how we can open our minds to what God wants for us.

The Dash of Destiny - Cory McKenna

What will people say about you, your life and your destiny when you die? As a homeschool family, are you just living your life...or are you leaving a legacy? This challenging and inspiring session takes a candid look into the life of Moses to see how vital vision and steadfastness are to running the race to win what matters most in the end.

HSLDA: A Guard at your Gate and Guide on your Journey - Cory McKenna

Have you fortified your family against the legal forces that threaten your homeschool? In this session, Cory McKenna (Vice President of Home School Legal Defence Association) will provide you with “need-to-know” legal information and the important updates affecting homeschoolers in Ontario.

Living to Die - Cory McKenna

As Christians, we live out our God-given call to leadership first and foremost in the context of our marriage and our family. As home educators, we have taken this call very seriously! However, the best way to confuse and destroy followers is to take down the leader and that is why enemy attacks are imminent in our homes and homeschools. This session will offer powerful life lessons in leadership and temptation, based on Christ's victory over the devil in the wilderness.

The Instruction Routine - Chris Pacholczak

Do your children have trouble doing what you asked them to do? Or do a half-way, half-hearted job? Are you tired of nagging? Check out this practical and energetic workshop. Parents will be equipped with a five step plan of communication for both the parent and the child, in order to increase cooperation in day-to-day life, and eliminate some frustration along the way! DO try this at home, and you'll see immediate results in the child and yourself! This session is one segment of the NCBP seminar entitled, 'Cooperation, Consequences, and Keeping Your Sanity.' Chris understands the pressure today's parents experience in raising and educating each of their own unique children. Why? He's one of them. Chris and his wife Shawnee home educate their five enthusiastic children. Chris hails from Thunder Bay, Ontario where he is the Lead Pastor of Grassroots Church (grassrootschurch.com), a growing church consisting of many young families. Chris operates a public speaking initiative under the brand enthuse (enthuse.ca). Adults of all ages have enjoyed Chris' down-to-earth and enthusiastic communication style.

The Positive Conclusion: Ending Discipline Times With Impact - Chris Pacholczak

Do your children attempt to dodge responsibility for their actions by blaming others; developing victim mentality; piling up endless excuses; justifying themselves? This type of behaviour can make things very difficult and overwhelming for parents. Even more important, it is essential for a child to learn the 'skill of confession' in order to benefit from future life lessons and develop healthy relationships in adulthood. This seminar equips parents with the ability to help children (from ages 3 to teens) take responsibility for themselves by imparting the 'skill of confession'. The Positive Conclusion is a discussion a parent has with their child to clarify, plan, and encourage. Parents just might develop a more healthy way of thinking about their mistakes too. This session is one segment of the NCBP seminar entitled, 'Cooperation, Consequences, and Keeping Your Sanity.' Chris hails from Thunder Bay, Ontario where he is the Lead Pastor of Grassroots Church (grassrootschurch.com), a growing church consisting of many young families. Also, Chris is currently launching a public speaking initiative under the brand enthuse (enthuse.ca). Adults of all ages have enjoyed Chris' down-to-earth and enthusiastic communication style. Chris and his wife Shawnee home educate their five enthusiastic children.

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Support Group Leaders and team members, Area Reps and Board members! - Beth Rockwell

As home education for the high school years becomes more common, we're seeing the need for programs or activities for these teens. Please join us for a panel discussion with chapter leaders whose groups have organized co-ops that vary in structure from laid back and relaxed social times to very structured academic class settings.

A Relational Education - Sandy Rusby-Bell

Educational Theorists have variously described children as blank slates to be written on, empty buckets to be filled and flowers to be pruned. Charlotte Mason taught something different. She believed that children were born persons created in the image of God with a desire and a right to be in relationship with Him and with all that He created. According to Mason, the purpose of education is to put a wide range of living relationships in the way of the child. "What we are concerned with is the fact that we personally have relations with all that there is in the present, all that there has been in the past and all that there will be in the future, with all above us and all about us, and that fullness of living, expansion, expression, and serviceableness for each of us depends upon how far we apprehend these relationships, and how many of them we lay hold of. Every child is heir to an enormous patrimony, heir to all the ages, inheritor of all the present."

In this session, suitable for people long familiar with Charlotte Mason and those meeting her for the first time, we will discuss how it is possible to share this kind of relational education with our children and how current research supports this methodology.

Get Ready, Get Set, Go! - Elaine Togeretz

Often, parents are so excited about starting to educate their children in the short term that they neglect to work out their goals and plans for homeschooling in the long term. This can lead to inconsistency, insecurity and burnout. In this interactive workshop, Elaine will help you Get Ready as you formulate what home education is or isn't; Get Set: begin to decide on your main goal for home education, and Go! by starting to work out plans for implementing your goals. You will leave this workshop with lots of ideas to formulate your own goals and plans that you can refer to later to remind yourself of your goals, check if you are on track, and make changes as necessary.

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Learning Disabilities: Signals and Solutions - Pauline Turton

As a classroom teacher and parent of two children with serious learning difficulties, Pauline Turton researched daily for seven years looking for ways to develop brain skills. Now, as Founder & Director of Breakthroughs in Learning, she is excited to help teaching parents identify some school room signals and apply practical solutions for children with learning disabilities.

The Changing World of Support Groups - Joanne van't Voort

Be prepared to share the victories and pitfalls you have experienced in your support groups as Joanne leads you in a town hall type of session. We will be discussing the blessings for parents as well as the students, what programs or activities have been a success and/or a disaster, conflict resolution, as well as the relevance of face to face support verses electronic support. Various support group related topics will be presented, and then you will be given time to make your comments or ask questions. We pray that God may use this as a special time of fellowship and sharing as we grow together in Him.

Improving your Financial Health – Jewell K. Williams, FIC

This workshop is a fun and interactive way to learn:

- Eight easy steps to immediately improve your financial health
- Ideas for saving money on your monthly expenses
- Practical tips for aligning your spending with what's truly important to you
- How to manage your finances on a single income
- We are but stewards of His blessings!

Scholarships 101 – Jewell K. Williams, FIC

Have you started planning for your child's post-secondary education? In this work shop you will see if there are any gaps in your Education Plan for your child/ren. You will also learn about the following: RESP's, Promoters, the leading company/organization that has paid out the most in scholarships from an RESP in the last decade; tax requirements/ implications, Scholarships offered by Christian organizations and how the federal government contributes.