Dear NECDA members,

I proudly serve on NECDA’s Board. I represent NECDA in the Training and Curriculum Sub-committee, which is part of the National ECD Inter-Sectoral Forum. The sub-committee focuses on quality training and human resource planning for the ECD sector. During 2019, the committee managed to confirm that the last achievement date for the ETDP SETA ECD Level 4 qualification is 2024. We informed the SETA about the difficulties to upload qualifications in 2024. We informed the SETA about the last achievement date for the ETDP SETA ECD Level 4 qualification is 2024. We informed the SETA about the difficulties to upload qualifications in the National Learner Record Database. (1)

The development of an ECD Training Information Brochure will inform the ECD sector about accredited qualifications. The sub-committee’s agenda is jointly determined between civil society, the Department Basic Education and the SA Congress for Early Childhood Development. As a committee member, I am excited at being able to participate in this national conversation, representing the views of NECDA’s 100 members. Through NECDA’s participation we all remain informed of the latest developments in the training landscape. Warm greetings,

Puleng Motsoeneng

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**NECDA@work**

- NECDA has moved its offices from Durban to Cape Town. Thank you to help2read for sharing their space with us at Unit B13, Century Square, Heron Crescent, Century City.
- National dialogues facilitated by the Collaboration of ECD Networks around the function shift from the Department of Social Development to the Department of Basic Education have been concluded and the report is in its final stages before being distributed. Thank you to all those NECDA members who so graciously hosted meetings in the various provinces. Much was achieved in gathering valuable input and concerns from the field at large.
- NECDA Board representatives attended an ECD Think Tank, hosted by Department of Basic Education at the beginning of December 2019 followed by a strategic planning session in Stellenbosch in February 2020. This provided an opportunity for a number of critical ECD stakeholders to provide input into a framework document that outlines key activities regarding the function shift in the short term.
- The Realignment of NECDA Level 4 Materials Project for the new QCTO Occupational Certificate, as well as the Production of Learner Support Materials for the National Curriculum Project are well underway. Find out more about these projects at the NECDA AGM in June 2020.
- The Do More Foundation is working closely with NECDA on their Purpose4Repurpose project, which aims to distribute materials in support of cognitive development to marginalized ECD sites across South Africa.
- At the end of last year, NECDA hosted a five-day training of trainers for the FETC in ECD (Level 4) in East London facilitated by Colleen Osborne from Midlands Community College. Eight participants from Ashley Kriel Skills Development Centre, Loaves and Fishes and TREE were in attendance.

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**#ECDnews**

Ms Angie Motshokga, Minister of Basic Education, recently shared information on the function shift from Department of Social Development to Department of Basic Education. She outlined the immediate priorities and clarified what the function shift does not mean. Read more [here](https://www.necda.org/news/). The Minister of Finance announced in his 2020 Budget speech that the The child support grant will increase by R20 to R445 per month.

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**ECDlibrary**

Michael Rosen’s Book of Play explores why play really matters, and shares 101 ways to get more of it in one’s life. The book explores the art of play, word play, making it up as we go along, toys and playful learning, and how to make play spaces. Available at bookstores and online shops. Download PlayBook 1 from the Playful Learning project to learn more about the program’s development methodology and find a selection of playful teaching designs.

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**NECDAdiary**

- 2 April - NECDA Board meeting
- 28 May - World Play Day
- 5 June - NECDA Board meeting
- 3 & 4 June - NECDA AGM in Johannesburg
- 21-23 July - National Grade R and ECD Conference in Cape Town.
- 22 & 23 June - TLASA Toy Library Conference in Johannesburg

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**FOOD4THOUGHT**

“...we change as we grow older and develop – but all that this means is that how we play should change and develop with us.”

Michael Rosen