

Montessori Training Centre of British Columbia

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*In affiliation with the Association Montessori Internationale
Founded in 1929 by Dr. Maria Montessori*



Association Montessori Internationale Primary Diploma Programme

To work with children 3 to 6+ years of age

*Qualifies you for the
Early Childhood Educator Licence to Practice*

August 31, 2009 to July 2010



*Thank you for inquiring about our
Montessori Training Programme.
As you are in the process of making an
important decision in preparing yourself
to work with children, we invite you to
visit our Training Centre and learn about
the details of our programme and our
approach to working with you to become
an AMI Montessori Educator.*

Please call or e-mail to arrange an appointment.

*Montessori ...helping children develop
in harmony with life.*



The Montessori Training Centre of British Columbia is a non-profit society established in 1982 to meet the growing need for Montessori educators in Western Canada. Our purpose is to offer Montessori training courses accredited by the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI).

The MTC of BC is the only Montessori training centre in Western Canada accredited by AMI.

Website: www3.telus.net/montessori

The MTC of BC is also accredited by the Private Career Training Institutions Agency of British Columbia. (PCTIA) Financial assistance may be available to eligible students. For further information please contact the training centre.

Website. www.pctia.bc.ca

AMI Primary Diploma

This internationally recognized Diploma is awarded by the Association Montessori Internationale to graduates of recognized training courses. These courses must meet rigorous standards, both in content and teaching staff. AMI diploma holders are in great demand both nationally and internationally. Individuals must inquire what local requirements set out by governmental regulatory bodies must also be met when applying for teaching positions.

Early Childhood Educator Licence to Practice (ECE)

Upon completion of the programme, you also receive an Early Childhood Educator Certificate and qualify for an Early Childhood Educator Licence to Practice. Applications for a licence are sent to the Early Childhood Educator Registry, Ministry of Children and Family Development. For further information, please visit their website:

Website: www.mcf.gov.bc.ca/childcare/ece Telephone: 1-888-338-6622

Course Staff

Director of Training

Eduardo Cuevas, Director of Training, completed AMI Primary Training in 1973 in Mexico City. Besides having directed his own class in the school he founded, he has directed training courses in Puerto Rico, Spain and the United States, and has been with the MTC of BC since 1999. Mr. Cuevas has extensive experience as an AMI Consultant and Director of Parent Education Programmes. He holds a Master's Degree in Primary Education from Loyola College, Baltimore, USA and is a past member of the AMI Board of Directors.

Course Assistant

Frank Sun, Course Assistant, completed his AMI Primary Training in 2009 at MTC of BC. He has graduated with a Bachelor of Science from Simon Fraser University and has directed a music program for children for several years.

Administrator

Caroline Loughran, Administrator, completed her AMI Primary Training in London, England in 1972 where she worked as a Directress in the training centre's model class followed by 10 years experience in Vancouver. She is a founding member of MTC of BC.

Directress of the Model Class

Gilda Bonnet directs the Montessori Children's Community. She has 30 years experience as an AMI Montessori guide, having established model classrooms for the AMI training programmes given in Puerto Rico, Spain and presently Canada.

Montessori Children's Community (MCC)

The Montessori Training Centre of BC is very pleased to have added to its facilities a model class for children 3 to 6+ years of age. In addition to the very valuable observation and practice experience we arrange for each of our students in local Montessori schools, MCC provides the opportunity for more directed observations guided by the Director of Training with up to 30 observers at the same time. Dr. Montessori's work was based on scientific, objective observation of large groups of children in many parts of the world – observation is an important skill our students must develop.

Course Overview

The Primary AMI Diploma course trains the adult to prepare a beautiful and orderly environment for children 3 to 6 years of age according to the principles and practices of Dr. Maria Montessori and the Association Montessori Internationale. You receive the AMI Primary Diploma and an Early Childhood Education Certificate upon completing all course requirements.

- Theory lectures on the Montessori philosophy and psychology of early child development
- Reading/study of Dr. Maria Montessori's books including directed reading seminars
- Presentation lectures on the purpose and use of the variety of Montessori activities
- Supervised practice with Montessori material
- Observation in the community and in Montessori classes
- Teaching practice in local Montessori schools
- Practicum in a non-Montessori day care setting
- Written work - the student compiles a reference album for each of the four areas of the prepared environment with an essay style introduction for each album; an essay on each theory topic is written based on lecture notes and reading assignments.
- Material making assignments - the student makes activities for the classroom to keep for their own use

Requirements for Certification

The AMI Primary Diploma and the Early Childhood Educators Certificate are granted upon satisfactory completion of the course requirements in:

- attendance at lectures and supervised practice
- observation and practicum requirements
- material making assignments
- written assignments
- reference albums and resource manuals
- passing grades on written examinations
- passing grades in oral examinations conducted by Examiners of the AMI.

Course Calendar

The course lasts one academic year, from September to July, with two weeks of holiday in December and spring break in March. Written examinations take place in March or April; oral examinations are scheduled at the end of the school year. Classes and other activities are scheduled from 9:00 to 4:00, Monday to Friday.

Admission Requirements

Preferably, applicants should hold a Bachelor's degree, a community college diploma or an Early Childhood Educator certificate. Exceptions will be considered on an individual basis. The completed application form and all related information must be forwarded to the training centre with the non-refundable application fee before an interview may be scheduled.

Tuition and Schedule of Payments

Non-Refundable Application Fee:

Canadian Students: \$150
International Students: \$250

Tuition Fee for all Students: \$ 10,600

Due upon acceptance: Refundable deposit:	\$1300
First Installment due the first day of the first term:	\$4650
Second Installment due the first day of the second term:	\$4650

AMI Membership Fee: \$50
Due the first day of the first term

Examination Fee: \$250
Due the first day of second term

Additional Course Expense

Students should budget approximately \$500.00 for books, supplies and hand-made materials.

The MTC of BC reserves the right to cancel the course if minimum enrollment is not met.

Required Reading

An extensive reading list of primary sources will be given to the students at the beginning of the course. Applicants may wish to read:

- "Maria Montessori-Her Life and Work" by E.M Standing
- "Education for Human Development - Understanding Maria Montessori"
by Mario Montessori Jr.

Montessori Philosophy

Children enter the world gifted by nature. With the adult's help in preparing a beautiful, supportive environment conducive to the child's development, the child can carry out the important task of constructing his personality. It is a ceaseless and intense labor, carried out with great joy when assisted by the unconscious powers which nature bestows on the child during the first six years of life.

This was the great discovery that Maria Montessori made: *that the child creates himself as he interacts with the environment, revealing the person that he can become. That is the primary task of the child.* The universality of her discovery of the child has been proven over 100 years throughout the world, with children in all cultural, social, physical and psychological conditions.

Montessori describes education as an aid to life, as a means of supporting and nurturing the continual unfolding of each child's personality.

Based on careful, systematic observation of children and their needs and interests at each level of development, the Montessori approach to early childhood education recognizes the tremendous developmental achievements of each child.

"...education is not something which the teacher does; it is a natural process which develops spontaneously in the human being."

Dr. Maria Montessori

The Montessori Prepared Environment

The Montessori prepared environment invites the child to be an active sensorial explorer. The keys to knowledge are offered through scientifically designed materials and presentations. Activities are chosen freely and repeated frequently according to the child's developmental needs.

The three year age range fosters socialization and leadership. Freedom of choice, of movement and communication help develop self-discipline. The freedom to repeat an activity leads to concentration fundamental to true learning.

The Montessori educator will prepare a beautiful and orderly environment according to the principles and practices of the AMI. The guide will present a variety of purposeful activities to the child and use refined observation skills to recognize the child's interest and needs, and provide developmentally appropriate work.

Montessori Education is a challenging career and the rewards are high. Working in a Montessori Primary prepared environment generates constant discovery in all fields of knowledge, for both the child and the adult. Most of all, the guide experiences the fulfillment that comes from working for a better world through tomorrow's adults.

Montessori Primary classes are called Preschool/ kindergarten classes in British Columbia.

Association Montessori Internationale (AMI)

The Association Montessori Internationale was founded in 1929 by Dr. Maria Montessori in order to further the rights of the child in society and protect the integrity of the Montessori method of education. It is the recognized international authority on Montessori Education and directs studies in affiliated teacher training centres throughout Europe, Asia, North America and Australia.

What is the Montessori Method?

Montessori is an empirical discipline aiming to study and to help the development of the human individual from birth to maturity within the context of his life-situation. It is an educational method insofar as education is an integrative part of the formative process.

Dr. Montessori discovered the essential role of the child in the formation of man and became the child's helper and advocate. Around this new vision of the child, a movement has generated which offers a coordinating factor to those involved in human sciences and their application.

What are AMI's aims?

To propagate, maintain and further the Rights of the Child, more specifically by:

- propagating the Montessori method, spreading knowledge of the physical, intellectual, moral, social and mental development of the child, at home as well as at school and in society;
- demonstrating the importance of the child in, and for the progress of civilization;
- safeguarding the real objectives of the educational method of Dr. Maria Montessori;
- promoting general recognition of the Rights of the Child and this irrespective of race, religion or political conviction;
- co-operating with other bodies and organizations that work for Human Rights, for the development of the method of education and for the furtherance of peace.

AMI's activities include:

- Providing guidance for AMI training courses
- Coordinating a Training of Trainers programme
- Encouraging the creation of Montessori schools
- Guiding the manufacturers recognized by AMI in the production of approved Montessori materials
- Overseeing the publication of Dr. Montessori's books
- Organizing congresses and study conferences
- Affiliating Montessori Societies
- Publishing the AMI Bulletin, the magazine 'Communications' and a website
- Organizing Educateurs sans Frontières

AMI website: www.montessori-ami.org