





# WINTER RECHARGE

## FACILITATORS BIOGRAPHY

February 27, 2021

<p><b>Elisabeth Wells, PhD -        Research &amp; Knowledge        Broker, Our Kids Network</b></p> 	<p>Liz is an engaging speaker and facilitator with a personable and clear approach that makes research and data accessible and understandable. She works with Our Kids Network partners to help them conduct and use research to strengthen community capacity and improve life for children and youth. With over 15 years of experience in research and evaluation, she has worked in the health, government, justice, and social services sectors. Liz received her Ph.D. in Applied Social Psychology from the University of Guelph. In addition to her research experience, she has taught in university and community settings and holds a certificate in Knowledge Translation from SickKids Hospital.</p>
<p><b>Mary Tabak, Public        Speaker - Consultant –        Coach</b></p> 	<p>Mary Tabak was born in Toronto and raised on a hobby farm in Milton, Ontario. Her parents immigrated to Canada in the 1960's and she is the eldest of 5 children.</p> <p>Highlights from her childhood include horseback riding, playing soccer and a 1971 Mustang convertible. Mary has worked in the area of positive child and youth development for over 30 years. Mary has worked with schools and community partners as a Public Health Nurse, a Parenting Coach, a Project Manager, and a Consultant. She has presented to thousands of professionals and parents locally and internationally about identifying, building, and sustaining strengths in schools, neighborhoods, families and communities.</p>

<p><b>Mariana Arcila, RECE</b></p>  <p><b>Shannon Speers RECE</b></p>	<p>Mariana Arcila has been an RECE for the past 9 years. She has always been very passionate about research and supporting young children and families in becoming more comfortable with different experiences that enrich child development in any way. I have been working as an artist with ACT-Artists and Children Together for 1 year and enjoy being able to offer different kind of experiences that support young children, families and the community in becoming more comfortable in using different types of art to express themselves.</p> <p>Shannon Speer has been an RECE specializing in outdoor/natural learning spaces and arts infusion in early learning environments for more than 20 years. I have been working in the capacity of artist with ACT-Artists and Children Together for 2 years and enjoy offering new ways of thinking about creativity and introducing or reinforcing skill and comfort in using art media as individuals, educators and in early learning settings.</p>
<p><b>Dr. Diane Kashin, RECE</b></p> 	<p>Diane is a retired ECE professor. Diane’s doctoral thesis on emergent curriculum was published in 2009 and she has co-written three ECE textbooks including <i>Outdoor and Nature Play in Early Childhood Education</i> (2019). Diane is the past president of the Association for Early Childhood Educators of Ontario and current coordinator of the York Region Nature Collaborative which provides Land-based learning experiences for educators, children, and their families. Diane writes a blog to support professional learning in early childhood education, <a href="#">Technology Rich Inquiry Based Research</a> and loves to engage in continuous professional learning through social media platforms. Diane presents workshops, webinars, and keynote addresses in Ontario, across Canada and internationally.</p>