## New daycare centre focuses on childhood trauma, Indigenous culture

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Publication Date: 25 Oct 2024

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## Excerpt

A new early childcare centre focusing on childhood trauma and Indigenous culture has opened in the West Shore.

The Hulitan Early Years Centre, in Colwood, celebrated its official grand opening on Friday.

Funded through the Aboriginal Head Start Association, the centre provides 48 free childcare spaces for Indigenous families in the Greater Victoria area. Of the 48 spaces, there are 24 spots for infants and toddlers and 24 for children ages three to five.

"We are excited to have opened the doors to the Early Childhood Years Centre—a place that reflects truth and reconciliation in action," said Kendra Gage, Hulitan Family and Community Services Society executive director.

"As our fundamental focus is on the wellbeing of the children who will attend the centre, we created an environment of love and care that will make a difference in their lives—and futures."

The centre is the first trauma-informed, Indigenous-focused daycare centre in the province.

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