



## Atypical Caregiver Behaviour and Modified Interaction Guidance Training



with  
**Diane Benoit MD, FRCPC**

Diane Benoit is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto, Research Scientist in the Research Institute at the Hospital for Sick Children and Staff Psychiatrist in the Infant Psychiatry Program at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Ontario. She also has a private practice focused on conducting Parenting Capacity Assessments.

Her research, educational and clinical activities focus on parenting, child-parent attachment relationships, parents' perceptions of their children and relationship with them, attachment-based and trauma-focused interventions, and problems of early childhood such as trauma, neglect, and abuse.

Diane has published extensively in peer reviewed, scientific publications, and her research has been highly influential in the field of Infant Mental Health and Attachment. She is a focused, dynamic speaker and has trained and provided supervision to professionals across Canada.

**For more information contact:**  
**Westcoast Family Resources Society**  
**604 254 5457 admin@westcoastfamily.org**

**April 21<sup>st</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> 2010**

**9:00am – 4:00pm**

**VanDusen Botanical Gardens**

**Floral Hall**

**5251 Oak Street (at 37th Ave.)  
Vancouver, British Columbia**

### **April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> (Part One)**

Attachment Theory and Current Research  
Atypical Caregiver Behaviours Associated with  
Disorganized Attachment

### **April 23<sup>rd</sup> (Part Two)**

Modified Interaction Guidance  
Intervention Training

#### **Who Should Attend?**

- Mental Health Clinicians
- Counsellors
- Psychologists, Psychiatrists
- Family Support Workers
- Social Workers
- Family Doctors
- Other professionals working with children and families

# Training Description



## Day 1 and 2: Overview of Attachment Theory and Research

### Atypical Caregiver Behaviours Associated with Disorganized Attachment

Research findings show that a primary caregivers' role as attachment figure may be the most influential role in predicting socio-emotional outcomes of children. The purpose of this 2-day workshop is to:

- review pertinent aspects of attachment theory and findings from research
- apply the theoretical knowledge and research evidence to everyday practice.

A special emphasis will be placed on the assessment of specific caregiver behaviors associated with various types of insecure attachment in the child, including disorganized attachment. Videotaped vignettes of actual interactions between caregivers and children are used extensively throughout the 2-day workshop to allow participants to practice their observation skills and to discuss specific intervention strategies.

By the end of this 2-day workshop, participants should be able to:

- Define attachment
- Describe the major types of attachment in children and adults, their antecedents and their consequences
- Describe how to assess attachment across the life span
- Describe the effects of trauma on children, adolescents and adults
- Identify specific caregiver behaviours associated with disorganized attachment in children
- Describe general principles of interventions aimed at promoting secure attachment in children and eliminating caregiver behaviours associated with disorganized attachment.

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## Day 3: Modified Interaction Guidance

Modified Interaction Guidance (MIG) is an empirically validated attachment-based intervention that has been shown to reduce or eliminate atypical caregiver behaviors known to lead to disorganized child-caregiver attachment. Disorganized Attachment has been linked to the worst social and emotional outcomes and the most severe forms of behavioral and emotional problems and psychopathology in children.

MIG has been used successfully with caregivers of children aged 6 months to 12 years and can be adapted for use with one or more parents and one or more children. MIG can be used effectively with biological parents, foster parents, adoptive parents, grandparents and other caregivers.

MIG is brief (typically 5 sessions, with 'booster' sessions as needed) and relatively simple to learn and implement.

Modified Interaction Guidance training is designed for professionals who have completed the two day workshop on Atypical Caregiver Behaviour and are either interested in gaining a strong grounding in MIG in view of making appropriate referrals and offering ongoing support to their clients, and/or to professionals and agencies that are interested in offering the MIG intervention to their clients.

By the end of the one-day workshop, participants should be able to:

- Describe indications and contra-indications for the use of Modified Interaction Guidance
- Describe specific techniques to promote caregiver sensitivity
- Describe specific techniques to reduce or eliminate 'atypical' caregiver behavior
- Describe the importance of using individually tailored tasks to meet the specific needs of each parent-child dyad
- Implement some of the techniques of Modified Interaction Guidance in their everyday practice.

**PARTICIPANTS MAY REGISTER  
FOR EITHER OR BOTH PARTS  
OF THE TRAINING WORKSHOP**

**Register by mail with attached form & payment to  
Westcoast Family Resources Society  
604 254 5457 ext.221  
admin@westcoastfamily.org**