

# Laura Woodman

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## Expertise

Critical Thinking	Time Management	Public Speaking	Teamwork
Data Collection	Data Analysis	Teaching	Leadership

## Education

<b>Doctor of Philosophy, Family Science</b> University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta Doctoral candidate, continuing community-based participatory research on family day home educators and support systems	Anticipated Graduation: May 2026  2020 – 2022
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<b>Master of Science in Human Ecology, Family Science</b> University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta GPA 4.0, Convocation in November 2022 Thesis: Supporting Quality and Longevity in Alberta’s Family Day Home Educators	2016 – 2020
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**Bachelor of Child and Youth Care**  
University of Victoria, Victoria, BC

<b>Diploma of Early Learning and Child Care</b> Bow Valley College, Calgary, AB	2010 – 2014
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## Research Interests

### Early Childhood Education

- Family day home strengths, challenges, and system-wide capacity building
- Promotion of early childhood educator well-being, quality, and stability
- Program evaluation through community-based participatory research

## Research Experience

### Master’s Thesis

- Engaged nine early childhood organizations and eighteen licensed family day home agencies in a community-based participatory research approach
- Conducted qualitative research and analyzed data from five focus groups with twenty-six participants total, with REB approval

- Began data collection for the subsequent online quantitative survey, using a community-based participatory research approach

## Professional Experience

**Research Team Member** 2021 - Present

MacEwan University, Edmonton, AB

- Supporting course-takers of *Flight: Alberta's Early Learning and Care Framework* (Makovichuk et al., 2014)
- Managing and collecting course-related data
- Deepening pedagogical reflexivity in a community of practice with early childhood leaders including researchers, instructors, and facilitators of *Flight*
- Co-creating and implementing a quantitative survey for past course takers

**Pedagogical Leader** 2011 – Present

Various early childhood conferences and day home agencies in Edmonton and Calgary, AB

- Creating and implementing professional development on topics including risky play, environments, curriculum, parent engagement, and inclusivity
- Empowering Early Childhood Educators through interactive workshops at in-services and conferences throughout Alberta

**Practicum Student** 2019

Terra Centre for Teen Parents, Edmonton, AB

- Co-facilitating health care and parenting groups
- Empowering young parents in building parenting and life skills
- Reducing barriers and overcame challenges stemming from poverty and abuse
- Promoting holistic development of youth as students, parents, and citizens

**Early Childhood Educator** 2009 – 2019

Sunshine Dayhome, Edmonton, AB

- Owned and operated an accredited, award-winning day home
- Prioritized outdoor play, learning through play, rhythm and routine
- Promoted community engagement and parental involvement
- Optimized child development through enriched programming, meals, activities, and caregiving
- Implemented research-based strategies to promote self-regulation, executive functioning, and optimal child development

## Achievements and Awards

**Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship** 2021

- For scholarly achievement through academic excellence and research contributions

- Louise Davies Memorial Graduate Scholarship** 2021
- For my academic achievement and research focus in Family Ecology and systems theory

- Child Development Professional Award of Excellence** 2017
- Received an award based on the quality of my accredited day home work and leadership in providing workshops to childcare professionals

## Community Involvement

- Puppy Foster** 2019 – Present
- Volunteering with Nearly Home Animal Rescue and Infinite Woofs Animal Rescue to foster rescue puppies in pairs, groups, or as litters with dams

- 2022 Bursting into Spring Family Day Home Conference** 2022
- Collaborating with other early childhood professionals to spearhead creation of the first-ever Alberta-wide conference specific to day home educators
  - Meeting a community need for day home focused education and networking

- Program Leader** 2009 – 2015
- Song and Story Time, Edmonton, AB
- Designed and implemented a free, drop-in weekly program for parents and providers
  - Engaged children of all ages in interactive stories, songs, fingerplays, and action games

## Certificates and Skills

- Level C CPR/First Aid Certified Valid until Feb. 19, 2024
- Child Care CPR/First Aid Certified Valid until Feb. 19, 2024
- Flight Course: Exploring Early Childhood Curriculum June 2022
- Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans Course on Research Ethics (TCPS 2: CORE) May 2021
- Brain Story Certification October 2019
- Child Development Supervisor October 2014
- Microsoft Office: Word, Excel, and PowerPoint proficiency

## Activities and Interests

### Well-Being

- Yoga, Self-regulation, Gardening, Nature Walks
- Travel, to Europe, Mexico, and within Canada

### Family

- Bonding with regular creative activities and physical exercise
- Empowering six children in a blended family, ensuring needs are met