

# Parents as Partners Conference

Workshop Session: C14

Room: 205A

## The Power of Play for Learning and Healthy Development

Model Schools for Inner Cities (MSIC)

Parents will learn a variety of inclusive games to play at home with their families. The workshop will also focus on how play is a natural way for children to learn and how play supports healthy physical, emotional and social development. A Right to Play Canada inclusive games manual will be given to all participants of the workshop.

**Kelly Warren, Parent**

Email: [Kwarren0810@gmail.com](mailto:Kwarren0810@gmail.com)

Kelly has been part of the school and community for over 10 years. She is currently Chair on the council of Sheppard Public School. Since volunteering at Sheppard PS she has done fundraising and taken on the role as mentor for students. She organizes an annual Family Fun Fair at her school to thank the students and their families for all their contributions for the school year. In knowing that kids do not get much time to play outside during the winter, she organized floor hockey and basketball after school leadership programs for students. Here students set goals and have weekly discussions on how to better their school/community and make it a positive healthy environment for all students and staff.

**Natarsha Douglas, Parent**

Email: [99two@live.com](mailto:99two@live.com)

Natarsha Douglas knew that motivational speaking and life coaching for others was her purpose. Today, she serves clients in Canada, United States, Europe and most recently Israel. Her compassion and non-judgmental approach is highly commended by her clientele. She is a mother of two adult sons 20 & 28 years of age and a 10 year old daughter. Her oldest is deaf and hard of hearing which forced Natarsha to become responsible and resourceful as a teenage mother. She continues to advocate and support a Positive Peer Counselling mentor program where she assists students with conflict resolution. She is an active volunteer and leader in her school and community including being a council chair.

**Kirby Davidson, Program Officer - Right to Play Canada's Youth to Youth Program**

Email: [kdavidson@righttoplay.com](mailto:kdavidson@righttoplay.com)

Kirby Davidson is a Program Officer with Right To Play's Youth To Youth program. He has been with Right To Play for 3 years. His role is to train, coach, and support both teachers and youth-leaders in TDSB Model Schools to run Right To Play's youth leadership program called Youth To Youth.

**Matthew Judd, Program Manager - Right to Play Canada**

Email: [mjudd@righttoplay.com](mailto:mjudd@righttoplay.com)

Matthew Judd works as a Program Manager at Right To Play Canada and currently oversees all programs within Toronto. Matthew is an expert in designing and delivering engaging programs for youth groups.