

## **Children's Program**

We believe in inclusion and reducing barriers to participation, so we offer a free, hands-on, engaging program for children of registered participants. This program is carefully designed for children ages 4-14 and is staffed by early childhood educators and/or qualified teachers. Opportunities to participate in both official languages are available.

This year's theme, *Promoting Child and Youth Mental Health: Moving Evidence to Action*, will see the Children's Program parallel that of the adults. Children will participate in interactive activities based on social and emotional learning principles. The emphasis on positive mental health and its relationship to physical activity and the environment will be part of the fun as the children explore local Island culture, through art, music, games and nature walks!

We have delivered a Children's Program at 10 different Atlantic Summer Institute events, with rave reviews from the kids!

### **Coordinator**

**Judy McKnight** graduated from Lakeshore Teacher's College and spent 25 years as a Primary and Kindergarten teacher. After retirement from teaching she completed a Computer Training Course and began working for The Quaich Inc. This is the eleventh year that she has been the Atlantic Summer Institute's Children's Program Coordinator. Her interests include spending winters in Florida, golfing, bridge and being "Grammy" to eight grandchildren.

### **Educators**

**Sarah Riehl** is a mommy to Wyatt, a playful 3.5 year old and a friend to her two dogs. For just over a decade she has committed herself to working with island families in various settings, such as early learning centres, schools and community programs.

She takes pride in our island and likes to give back through volunteering. Her volunteer time is spent with the Children's Wish Foundation, Big Brothers Big Sisters and most recently, Handle With Care.

**Krista Gallant** lives in Wellington, PEI. Her first language is French and after graduating from École Evangeline, she went to study at University of Moncton. She completed her Bachelor of Education in May 2016. Last year, she was a Grade 1 French Immersion teacher at Elm Street Elementary in Summerside. This coming September, she will be teaching Grade 5 French Immersion at Elm Street Elementary.

She loves working with children and looks forward to being an educator for the Atlantic Summer Institute's Children's Program.